F Troop 8th Cavalry
articles and etc. found in the Americal Division Veteran's Association data base.

Blue Ghost artwork that appeared on the cover of the 1969 F/8th Cavalry yearbook.

F Troop Eighth Cavalry Articles and related materials compiled from the Americal Division Veteran's Association (ADVA) database.

ADVA Historian for 2022 comments. Compilation documents have been made for veterans who might not have computer skills or time to search the extensive files for materials about their unit.

This document was compiled for veterans of F Troop, 8th Cavalry and other Americal Division Veterans from the ADVA Historical Data Base.

A yearbook for the 14th combat aviation battalion was created in 1967 with a section for C Troop 7th Squadron/17th Cavalry. This unit was split into two units. One remained C Troop 7/17th Cavalry. The other became F Troop/8th Cavalry. There is also a yearbook from 1969 for F Troop Eighth Cavalry. And there was a 1970 16th Combat Aviation Group yearbook that has a small section (14 pages) for F/8th Cavalry. Then in 1972 there were two yearbooks for the Blue Ghosts. One was for Bien Hoa and the other for operations at DaNang. I have images of the 1972 albums, but I do not have a proper scanning of these albums. Electronic or printed copies may be requested from the ADVA Historian. Maps of the Americal AO are available, but not part of the compilation. Other general information that relates to all units of the Americal Division is in the ADVA data base.

The 1/1st Cavalry of Dragoons published a booklet describing their unit history in 1967. Door Gunner/Crewchief, Louis Conners, received a copy of the booklet at a 1/1st Cavalry award ceremony. There are several references and photos related to "Blue Ghost". Copies can be obtained from the ADVA historian.

A Distinguished Service Cross was awarded to James McQuade (MIA). The Distinguished Service Cross like the CMOH is a representative award. The award is made to honor not only the recipient but the men in the unit. In addition there are multiple valorous unit awards for Troop F, 8th Cavalry. This award is the equivalent of each soldier assigned to the unit during the award period receiving a Silver Star.

Included in this compilation are the results of many years of effort by Troop F, 8th Cavalry veteran, John Boyer. He dedicated five years of his life to transcribe over half of the Americal Division S2/S3 reports that are now available on the AmericalFoundation.org web-site (and the Texas Tech. Vietnam Archives). Several months of these entries for Troop F, 8th Cavalry have been prepared as examples of what is in the S2/S3 reports for Troop F, 8th Cavalry and placed near the of this document (Thanks to Vern Schleyer). Before he passed, Col. Sibert had shared materials and always his enthusiasm for "Blue Ghosts" pride.

The book and subsequent movie "Bat 21" starring Gene Hackman included "Blue Ghost" actions in their heroic rescue mission. "Blue Ghost Reveille" by John Harris is available for sale online.

There were no stories relating to the popular sitcom "F Troop" that aired 65 episodes from September 1965 through April 1967. It starred Forest Tucker, Ken Berry, Melody Patterson, Larry Storch and Frank deKova. non-the-less I imagine it helped the men keep their sense of humor.

A connection will always exist between the Americal Division veterans who often owed their very survival to the support provided by Troop F, 8th Cavalry (Air).

Stanton Order of Battle Vietnam reference book documentation on F Troop, 8th Cavalry (Air).

Pocket Patch worn by members of F Troop, 8th Cavalry soldiers in Vietnam.

Troop F, 8th Cavalry – 1 April 68 – 26 February 1973

Unit size	**1968**	**1971**
F/8th Cavalry	170	266

Troop F, 8th Cavalry was a separate air cavalry troop raised from assets of Troop C, 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry to provide aerial reconnaissance for the Americal Division. After the Americal Division stood down in November 1971, the troop became part of the 196th Infantry Brigade in December 1971. When the 196th brigade left in July 1972 the troop was attached to the 11th Aviation Group at Da Nang. In 1973 it was posted to Bien Hoa under the 12th Aviation Group.

UNIT CITATIONS AWARDED
TO F Troop, 8th Cavalry (Air)

SOURCE: Department of the Army Pamphlet 762-3

Unit Citation and Campaign Participation Credit Register
(1960-1978) Dated: May 1980

Awards:

VUA24 Aug 68 - 25 Sep 68 DAGO 53, 1970
VUA11 - 31 Aug 69 DAGO 43, 1972
RVNGC24 Aug 69 - 31 Dec 69 DAGO 42, 1972
RVNGC31 Mar 70 - 30 Jun 70 DAGO 42, 1972
RVNGC8 Feb 71 - 31 Mar 71 DAGO 42, 1972
RVNGC1 Apr 71 - 30 Jun 71 DAGO 6, 1974

ABBREVIATIONS:
DAGO: Department of the Army General Order
RVNGC: Republic Of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm

Unit Citation
VUA: U.S. Army Valorous Unit Award

Comment: In 2010 efforts by veterans of an Americal Division veteran resulted a Valorous Award made to the 14th Combat Aviation Battalion. The award citation included Troop F, 8th Cavalry.

This is information found on the 71st AHC web-site.
https://rattler-firebird.org/vietnam

71st AHC veteran, Doug Womack, discovered that the 14th Aviation Battalion along with assigned and attached units was supposed to have been submitted for the Valorous Unit Award for actions during the Lam Son 719 operation, but due to an oversight, the submission never took place. In an attempt to rectify this error, he has wrote to Department of the Army and submitted extensive documentation back in 2005. In response to that contact, the award was approved and the VUA was approved for HHC, 14th Aviation Battalion. Only HHC, 14th Avn Bn was listed because the file was limited to active units, and HHC is now 1-14th Avn Regt at Fort Rucker. After again contacting DA, he was informed that the assigned and attached units included in the recommendation were also approved, and that a General Order confirming the award is pending a final review by the Army Center of Military History to insure that the lineage and honors for all units concerned have been properly represented.

Barring any deviations from the recommendation by DA, the 71st AHC earned the Valorous Unit Award, the unit equivalent of a Silver Star, for the period 8 February 1971 to 28 March 1971, during Operation Lam Son 719. Each member assigned and present for duty during that time frame is entitled to the award. Over 1,800 soldiers, veterans of the 14th Avn Bn and current members of 1st Bn, 14th Avn Regt, share in the award.

[Historian Note: Things were pretty hectic during operation Lam Son 719. The 14th Aviation Battalion S2/S3 reporting was suspended due to the intense fighting in progress. It is not surprising that the award documentation was not submitted... I have been advised that the valorous award was approved in 2010.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY HUMAN RESOURCES COMMAND
200 STOVALL STREET
ALEXANDRIA VA 22332-0400

PERMANENT ORDERS 089-10 30 March 2010

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 14th Aviation Battalion
(8 February 1971 to 7 April 1971)
71st Aviation Company (8 February 1971 to 28 March 1971)
116th Aviation Company (5 March 1971 to 24 March 1971)
174th Aviation Company (8 February 1971 to 7 April 1971)
176th Aviation Company (5 March 1971 to 24 March 1971)
756th Medical Detachment (8 February 1971 to 7 April 1971)
Troop F, 8th Cavalry (8 February 1971 to 7 April 1971)

Announcement is made of the following award:

Award: Valorous Unit Award
Period of service: As listed above
Authority: AR 600-8-22, paragraph 7-14
Reason: For extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy and in support of military operations against hostile forces. During the period 8 February 1971 to 7 April 1971, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 14th Aviation Battalion and its subordinate units displayed extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy in support of allied combat operations in the Kingdom of Laos and along the Ho Chi Minh Trail in Southeast Asia. The unit conducted numerous combat assaults into areas congested with anti-aircraft weapons and armor. Enemy gunners were highly accurate and positioned themselves strategically so as to disrupt the helicopters' flight paths as much as possible. Although harassed by the intense enemy fire, the unit continued to fly mission after mission into the increasingly dangerous combat zone. As the operation neared completion, enemy fire intensified. Displaying unwavering courage and exceptional skill, the unit began to extract the besieged allied troops. The unmerciful enemy inflicted severe damage to numerous aircraft and continually rained a hail of rocket and mortar fire into the pickup zones. Unit personnel were undaunted by enemy fire and expertly maneuvered their aircraft into the pickup zone to extract the beleaguered friendly troops. The determined aviators repeatedly entered the dangerous battlefield and ultimately extracted the entire friendly force. Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 14th Aviation Battalion's outstanding performance of duty is in keeping with the finest traditions of military service and reflects great credit upon the unit and the United States Army.
Format: 320

PERMANENT ORDERS 089-10, U.S. Army Human Resources Command, 200 Stovall St., Alexandria, VA 22332, 30 March 2010

Additional Instructions: This order serves as official notification that a unit award has been approved for the organization(s) listed above and will serve as authority for eligible Soldiers to update their records and wear the award. The will use this permanent order to authorize the manufacture of an appropriate decoration streamer for any organization clearly entitled to display the award, and the completed streamers will be distributed by HRC.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

STEWART L. STEPHENSON, JR.
LTC, AG
Chief, Awards and Decorations Branch

MCQUADE, JAMES RUSSELL (MIA)
First Lieutenant (Infantry), U.S. Army
Troop F, 8th Cavalry, 196th Infantry Brigade,
Date of Action: June 11, 1972
Citation:

The Distinguished Service Cross is presented to James Russell McQuade, First Lieutenant (Infantry), U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam, while serving with Troop F, 8th Cavalry, 196th Infantry Brigade. First Lieutenant McQuade distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 11 June 1972 while serving in support of the 1st Army of the Republic of Vietnam Division in the Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam. Lieutenant McQuade was participating in a rescue mission of a downed helicopter crew in an extremely hostile area. Lieutenant McQuade, knowing that the downed aircraft had received intense automatic small and heavy antiaircraft fire, volunteered to go into the heavily infested enemy territory to search for possible survivors. Upon initial entry into the enemy held terrain, Lieutenant McQuade reported taking heavy automatic weapons fire from all sides. With complete disregard for his own safety, he continued flying towards the crash site. As he proceeded to the area of the downed aircraft, he reported taking further antiaircraft fire. At approximately 750 meters from the crash site and completely engulfed in hostile fire, Lieutenant McQuade reported taking numerous hits and, shortly thereafter, was hit with a missile of unknown type. His aircraft disintegrated in mid-air. Lieutenant McQuade's unselfish concern for the welfare of his fellow soldiers resulted in the loss of his own life. He was well aware of the risks involved but refused to give up the search in the face of the fanatical enemy resistance. Lieutenant McQuade's voluntary participation in a desperately dangerous mission demonstrated extraordinary heroism in the highest traditions of the United States Army and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.
Department of the Army, General Orders No. 56 (December 31, 1974)
Born: 6/3/1949 at Hoquiam, Washington
Home Town: Hoquiam, Washington

Operation participation for Troop F, 8th Cavalry:

Troop F, 8th Cavalry supported operations involving the Americal Division. In 1968 they were often supporting the 1/1st Cavalry Regiment out of Hawk Hill. Sometime after May 1969, Troop D, 1/1st Cavalry, the organic aviation unit, for the 1/1st Cavalry replaced F/8th Cavalry's role with the 1/1st Cavalry Regiment. Troop F, 8th Cavalry critically needed services were taken by other units of the division.

Operation Elk Canyon
Operation Caroline Hill
Operation Burlington Trail
Operation Hardin Falls
Operation Wheeler Wallowa
Operation Lamar Plain.
Operation Frederick Hill
Operation Russell Beach
Tet

This list is very much short of the mark. Blue Ghosts supported any unit that was in trouble. Almost every operation that the Americal Division controlled in as well as others like Lam Son 719 all received combat support from Troop F, 8th Cavalry.

Combat after action reports and named operation reports as well as Operation Reports and Lessons Learned reports exist in the Americal Division Historical Data Base that can be examined in greater detail. S2/S3 reporting is available online at AmericalFoundation.org and at the Americal Division Portal at the Texas Tech. online - Vietnam Archives web-site.

LTC Joe Loadholtes felt that materials from the last Blue Ghost Commander's speech to a reunion gathering in 2014 should be recorded for posterity. Here is an extract from Colonel John "Jack" Kennedy's speech:

In June 1966, the 7th Armored Squadron was activated at Fort Knox, Kentucky. This Squadron was comprised of Headquarters and headquarters Troop, Troop A, Troop B, Troop C, and Troop D. After equipping and training, the 7th deployed from Fort Knox in October 1967 and upon arrival in Vietnam was attached to the 17th Combat Aviation Group. On October 28, 1967, the 7th established itself at Camp Enari, near Pleiku. In November 1967, Troop C located to Chu Lai and was attached to the 14th Combat Aviation Battalion. On April 1, 1968, the Blue Ghosts of Troop C, 7th Armored Squadron became the Blue Ghosts of Troop F, 8th Cavalry, Americal. F Troop 8th Cavalry is born and the Blue Ghosts live on.

The first commander of what became F Troop was Major Richard H. Merritt (Oct 67-Apr 68). The story told is that he was responsible for the "Blueghost" name. So it is told that he was a big fan of Confederate raider, John Mosby – A.K.A. "The Ghost". Major Merritt combined the "Blue" from the "Bluegrass" state of Kentucky with Mosby's nickname to give us our callsign "Blueghost".

The troop served in the 23rd (Americal) Infantry Division, the 196th Light Infantry Brigade and in the 11th and 12th Aviation Groups of the 1st Aviation Brigade.

The troop had 11 COs – Major Merritt, Easwood, Ziltrain, Watson*, Ivey, Stalker, Sibert, Bushatz, Head, Dantzler and Yours Truly (Kennedy).

On February 14 or 26 of 1973 F/8th was inactivated in Vietnam. On the day the troop left the active roster of the U.S. Army, it proudly displayed 8 campaign battle streamers from the Indian Wars, 4 from WWII, 9 from Korea and 16 from Vietnam.

In Vietnam, the last campaign this troop participated in, 39 men of the troop were killed in combat. The unit received 3 valorous unit awards, two awards of the Vietnamese cross of Gallantry, with palm, and the Republic of Vietnam Civil Action Honor Medal, 1st Class. First Lieutenant James McQuade, a scout pilot in F Troop, received the nation's second highest valor award- The Distinguished Service Cross. Of the 39 who died, over half were 22 or younger. The oldest was Sergeant First Class Graham H. Howison who was 41. The youngest was PFC Wayne Bibbs. He was 3 days short of his 18th birthday and one just a dozen American soldiers under 18 to die in Vietnam. While the U.S. lost 58,169 killed in Vietnam, the North Vietnamese government provided casualty data in 1995 that showed that their losses exceeded 1.1 million (The ARVN lost 223,748). If the U.S. had sustained a similar loss based on population, this would have amounted to a loss of 28 million U.S. dead.

The fact is that F Troop, and the rest of the U.S. Army left Vietnam as winners. Unfortunately it took the politicians less than 2 years to lose the war without us there.

As I look around this room, I search for the young faces I used to know. But, all I see is middle aged, graying guys.

Old Soldiers we Are closer to the sunset than ever before, but remembering who we were back then .... back when, we were soldiers once, and young.

(Continued - 1)

(Continued -1) Last Commander's speech 2014 reunion

The circumstances that bring us all together here today are extraordinary. We are from all parts of the country. Many different ways of life – but we have one thing in common. And that is the remarkable fact that we were all soldiers once, and young- to steal a fashionable phrase from Hal Moore and Joe Galloway, but – more than that, we were all troopers in F Troop, 8th Cavalry.

Troop F, 8th Cavalry

I suppose it is most appropriate that we meet here in California for it was just up the coast a ways, on Angel island in San Francisco Bay where the troop was first organized in the fall of (October 27th or November 17th) 1866 as part of the newly founded 8th Cavalry Regiment. The first mission given to the 8th Cavalry Regiment was to escort settlers and fight indians in the northwest. The Regiment's activities were closely tied to the movement of people and trade along the Oregon and Santa Fe Trails.

By 1869 the 14 line companies (They weren't designated "Troops" until 1883). of the 8th Cav. were spread all over the western part of the U.S. From Washington State to Arizona Territory. F Troop was assigned to Camp Hualpaiin in Arizona Territory during the summer of 1869 when 8th Cavalry troopers from F Company received the Congressional Medal of Honor in four separate engagements. By the way, in its history, 101 soldiers form the Eighth Cavalry have received the Congressional Medal of Honor.

From Arizona, F Troop made it to Wounded Knee, SD in 1890, Camp Forse, AL; and then Cuba in November of 1898. The troop rallied at Ft. Riley, KS in 1902 and embarked for the Phillipines in 1905. The year 1915 found F Troop at Ft Bliss in time to participate in the 1916 punitive Mexican expedition led by "Black Jack" Pershing.

The troop was dismounted in 1943 and served with distinction in Australia, The Admiralty Islands, Luzon, and Leyte during WWII. (As a footnote to history, on April 18, 1934, the Saber was discontinued as an item of issue.)

In 1948, the Regiment was reorganized as infantry, but retained the cavalry designation. In 1949, F Troop became F Company again! The Regiment fought with distinction in Korea – with first Lt. James L. Stone from F Company receiving the CMOH in November of 1951. In 1957, Company F was inactivated in Japan.

Which leads us to our rendezvous with F Troop. On April 1, 1968, Company F was taken out of mothballs, dusted off, and re-designated as F Troop, 8th Cavalry, assigned for duty...

Lest we forget those who are not with us anymore. Let us take this moment to remember them and in doing so, let them know that we have not forgotten.....

Toast

(Continued -2)

(Continued -2) Last Commander's speech 2014 reunion

An email sent to John "Jack" Kennedy regarding the reading of a poem for the reunion gathering from Joe and Mary Loadholtes:

Mary and I drafted this up to be read in a short ceremony at the banquet to honor our fallen brothers who have passed away this past year.

Our thought is that a wife could stand, light a candle, and if you could/would read the poem, then blow out the candle at the end of the reading. This might become something we do each year.

When we were young we went to war.
We did our duty and most times more.
We came back home and were met with scorn,
in this great Country where we were born.
We worked and lived our daily life
never letting on about our wartime strife.
We found our brethren in a place called Rocky Mount,
finally realizing, we do no count.
We cherished our time together,
remembering our youthful escapades,
but memories of fallen soldiers will never go away.

This section is made up of articles from the Army Reporter.

The largest Army newspaper in the world
THE ARMY REPORTER is published weekly under the supervision of the Information Office. United States Army Vietnam and is an authorized Army publication. The command newspaper has a circulation of 85,000 and is printed by **PACIFIC STARS AND STRIPES** in Tokyo, Japan.
Opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army. This newspaper utilizes the facilities of the ARMED FORCES NEWS BUREAU and ARMY NEWS FEATURES. Contributions are welcome and may be sent to: THE ARMY REPORTER, USARV-IO, APO 96375 or telephone Long Binh 4204/4311.

25May68-Vietnam Communique

Americal Division

Units of the Americal Division killed 41 enemy and captured four individual and three crew-served weapons during scattered contacts.

In screening operations northwest of Tam Ky **Troop F, 8th Cavalry** and the **1st Cavalry *(1/st Cavalry Armor)*** units combined to kill 15 NVA soldiers and three VC during several small actions.

Contributed by Wayne Kielsmeier

22June68- Vietnam communique Page 2

Americal Div -

The Americal Division killed 225 enemy soldiers in a week of heavy fighting. The units captured more than 200 weapons of different variety.

Two companies of the **3rd Battalion 21st Infantry** were responsible for taking Hill 406, from which Americal units had been receiving heavy enemy fire.

The units made kills in small numbers through the week. The 196th Infantry Brigade encountered and killed 11 Viet Cong in Operation Wheeler/ Wallowa. Elements of the 11th Infantry Brigade, centered in the Tra Khuc Valley, killed 10 enemy and detained 22 suspects.

The volunteer informant program in Operation Muscatine netted 11,000 small arms rounds, the find also included grenade and mortar rounds.

Elements of **F Troop, 8th Cavalry**, supporting the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry in Operations Wheeler/Wallowa and Burlington Trail, reported killing 10 Viet Cong. the week's kills brought the helicopter troop's count to over 1,000 enemy killed in six months of combat action in Vietnam.

Army Reporter Newspaper:
27Jul68-Vietnam Communique

Americal Div

The Americal Division experienced a week of heavy fighting killing 160 enemy soldiers.

The tempo of activity picked up in the southern portion of the I Corps Tactical Zone.

Troopers of the **1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry** and gunship crews of **F Troop, 8th Air Cavalry** accounted for 12 VC killed in scattered action throughout the Wheeler/Wallowa and Burlington Trail area.

F Troop gunners reported seven of the kills during a firefight 25 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

A night assault on a village four miles north of Duc Pho by 11th Light Infantry Brigade soldiers and supporting helicopter crews resulted in nine enemy killed. A VC sapper squad had been trapped in the village.

Soldiers of the 196th Light Infantry Brigade killed eight Viet Cong and captured 65 weapons. Riflemen of the **3rd Battalion 21st Infantry** operating west of Tam Ky called in artillery on a group of enemy seen moving south of Landing Zone Center. The fire mission resulted in four enemy killed. Ground contacts accounted for the other eight.

Army Reporter Newspaper:
10Aug68-Vietnam Communique

Americal Div

In a week of scattered contacts the Americal Division took a heavy toll on the enemy, killing 197.

Troopers of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry, supported by gunship crews from **F Troop, 8th Cavalry**, killed 68 enemy during action in Operation Burlington Trail. Friendly casualties were five wounded.

Contact was first made after daybreak nine miles northwest of Tam Ky and continued into the night.

Ground troops were credited with 41 enemy killed, while gunship crews from the **8th Cavalry** unit reported another 20 enemy killed. Airstrikes called in to support the cavalrymen resulted in seven enemy killed and 15 bunkers destroyed. The soldiers also captured a variety of weapons.

A long range patrol made contact with an enemy force 25 miles of Duc Pho and killed three of the enemy while waiting for a helicopter to extract them from the area.

Soldiers operating near Duc Pho killed two enemy and found the body of one VC killed in previous action.

Army Reporter Newspaper:

12Oct68-Vietnam Communique

Americal Div

Soldiers of the Americal reported killing 470 enemy soldiers in heavy fighting during the week.

Fighting was heavy for the **1st Squadron, 1st Cav** and supporting elements in the rocky hills seven miles southwest of Tam Ky as they killed 208 NVA soldiers in one day.

In the contact which began shortly before noon troopers form A Troop were credited with 109 of the enemy dead. Their sister unit Troop B accounted 11 more NVA killed.

Two division units operation with the cavalry unit, the **1st Bn., 52nd Inf.,** and the **4th Bn., 21st Inf.,** killed a total of 42 enemy. Another 15 NVA soldiers were reported killed as gunship crews of **F Troop, 8th Air Cav**. flew six missions over the contact area. Eight airstrikes were also employed resulting in 25 NVA soldiers killed.

Soldiers of the 198th Light Infantry Brigade along with aeroscouts of the 123rd Combat Aviation Bn **(B/123rd Avn Bn)** accounted for 76 NVA soldiers killed, one crewserved and four individual weapons captured and three suspects detained.

The same days as the 198th's action soldiers of the 11th Light Infantry Brigade killed 14 VC and detained 80 suspects.

In another days action the **1st Squadron, 1st Cav**. again aided by **F Troop, 8th Cav.** and a rifle company of the **4th Bn., 21st** Inf. killed 92 NVA in contacts in the Operation Burlington Trail area.

Army Reporter Newspaper:

02Dec68-**Vietnamese Col, Americal GIs share honors**

CHU LAI, (AMERICAL) - At Hawk Hill north of Chu Lai the United States recently awarded an Air Medal for valor to Vietnamese colonel. The Republic of Vietnam, in turn, awarded 38 Crosses of Gallantry to members of the Americal Division.

Brigadier General James V. Galloway, assistant Americal Division commander, presented the Air Medal to Vietnamese Lt. Col. Wang Dinh Toe, Quang Tin Province Chief.

In part Thoe's citation read, Lt. Col. Thoe distinguished himself on June 15, 1968 while directing Republic of Vietnam Air Force elements in an operation in conjunction with American forces.

"With disregard for his own safety, Lt. Col. Thoe placed himself almost over the bursting round to effectively direct artillery fire."

After receiving his decoration, Thoe, on behalf of the Republic of Vietnam, presented 13 Gold, seven Silver, and 18 Bronze Crosses of Gallantry to members of the Americal Division for action west of Tam Ky in late August.

In that action elements of the **1st Squadron, 1st Cav.** spearheaded a three day battle with two regiments of the 2nd NVA Division.

Other units taking part in the action were companies of the 196th Infantry Brigade, 11th Infantry Brigade, **F Troop, 8th Cavalry** along with tactical air and artillery support.

At the end of the three day engagement, 473 enemy had been killed.

"I would like to honor Col. Thoe for his outstanding heroism in his position as Province Chief and commander of certain armed forces in Vietnam in the fight against our common enemy, the Communists."

Galloway went on to congratulate the men of the **1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry** for their contribution to the fight for freedom in South Vietnam.

"May I wish all of you, may I wish the Vietnamese, our friends and allies, good fortune and victory in the end against the Communists in the cause of freedom," concluded Galloway.

Army Reporter Newspaper:

Last seen heading north

Americal blasts NVA

CHU LAI (Americal) - The fierce seven day battle against a lofty NVA stronghold on the steep 924 meter high Nui Chom Mountain provided a battalion of the 196th Infantry Brigade with some of the most intense and vicious fighting in recent months in the area of operation.

Steep slopes and triple canopy jungle combined with an estimated enemy force of 1,000 NVA to make operations extremely rugged on the cloud shrouded mountain, 26 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

The week long battle cost the NVA 65 dead and netted **the 4th Bn. 31st Inf.** 25 AK-47s captured, one Chicom machine gun, 29-82mm mortar sights and 20 NVA packs.

"It was one of the hardest battles I've seen over here," said Lt. Col. Robert Wetzel, battalion commander.

"My men had to virtually crawl hand over hand up parts of the mountain. Those mountains are some of the steepest in Vietnam," he said. "Day by day they pushed back the NVA and forced them from well-entrenched bunkers."

The initial contact with the enemy was made when **Co. D** discovered an enemy base camp on the mountain.

After four hours of fighting the enemy broke contact. Five North Vietnamese bodies were found while searching the area. That night two more line companies moved in to search and clear Nui Chom Mountain.

The following morning Co. A moved through the base camp area. Tactical airstrikes were called in on enemy positions high on the mountain and were followed by gunships from **F Troop, 8th Cav**.

As night approached, **Companies A and C** pulled back to night defensive positions.

On the third day of fighting observation helicopters and airplanes had reported observing an estimated 50 bunkers encircling a compound post on the mountain.

The also reported spotting company size NVA elements in the base camp area. Tactical air strikes were again called in and the fighter bombers dropped 250 and 500-pound bombs on enemy positions.

The following morning the three infantry companies began to close on the NVA base camp from three sides. The units met strong resistance from enemy bunker positions.

Co. C destroyed 10 bunkers and killed 30 soldiers as they slowly gained ground and penetrated the enemy perimeter.

"We found that we had to eliminate each bunker one by one, because the NVA wouldn't give up," said Lt. Dickie Dixon of **Co. C** "This prevented us from moving into the enemy perimeter before the enemy withdrew," he said.

Co. C also captured a well supplied NVA medical aid station and seized an enemy doctor and two female nurses.

30Dec68-Photo layout (Americal Photos)

Photo Captions: **Americal probes for enemy near Tam Ky**

photo 1 - WORKING CLOSELY with ACAVs from the **1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry** are soldiers of the Americal Division's **(F/8th Cav)** 8th Cavalry during action in the lowlands near Tam Ky.

photo 2 - "MOVE OUT" comes the call over the radio and an ACAV from the Americal Division's **1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry** lumbers forward with weapons poised for the first sign of the enemy.

photo 3 - WITH CAREFUL AIM, an Americal Division soldier prepares to fire his M-79 grenade launcher at enemy positions.

photo 4 - STAYING ALERT, a trooper of the **(F/8th Cav)** 8th Cavalry carefully moves forward during the operation near Tam Ky and keeps a watchful eye out for the enemy.

photo 5 - A MAP OF THE AREA near Tam Ky allows Lt. Col. Richard D. Lawrence (right), commander of the **1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry,** to plan his next move against the enemy. Capt. Gerry D. Frost (left), Troop commander (left) assists.

Army Reporter Newspaper:

20Jan69-VC killed by psyops hard sell

CHU LAI - Three Viet Cong who thought the **PSYOPs** team broadcasting in their area was "all blow and no go" were in for a shock.

The team was using a Navy swift boat to patrol a portion of the coastline in the Americal Division sector of I Corps.

"We were broadcasting standard taped messages," said Capt. Banta York, the 198th Infantry Brigade PSYOPs officer.

As they were cruising back the coastline a helicopter flew out towards the swift boats and opened fire on the tree line. The Viet Cong reacted immediately by returning with a hail of automatic weapons fire.

Reacting quickly, the men in the boat placed .50 cal., M-60 and 81mm mortar fire on the enemy position. "Then the gunships from **F Troop, 8th Cav.** came in and really worked the area over," York said. The three VC were killed in the action.

Army Reporter Newspaper:
03Mar69Vietnam Communique **Feb. 10 to Feb. 16**

Americal Div

In widely action soldiers of the Americal Division killed 198 enemy.

On Feb. 14, division elements killed 44 enemy. Soldiers from the **4th Bn., 3rd Inf.** killed 26 VC in scattered actions centered seven miles northeast of Quang Ngai City. In the heaviest fighting, 16 VC were killed in a single encounter at 11 a.m. 4 miles from the city. The infantrymen detained 31 suspects in the same area.

Feb. 16, Americal soldiers supported by artillery and gunships killed 38 enemy in scattered actions, prior to the suspension of offensive operations for the 24-hour Tet truce.

In that action elements of the 196th Light Infantry Bde. accounted for 17 Viet Cong killed and found 3,300 pounds of rice in three caches. Soldiers of the **1st Bn., 46th Inf.** killed nine enemy in actions 21 miles northwest of Tam Ky. Gunship crews from **F Troop, 8th Cav.** added three VC in two encounters west of Tam Ky, while other brigade elements accounted for five additional VC.

Thirty-seven enemy were killed by Americal soldiers on Feb. 10.

Of that 37 the 11th Light Infantry Bde. and supporting units were credited with 18. A brigade forward air controller reported seven enemy killed in airstrikes nine miles north-northwest of Duc Pho. Infantrymen of the **4th Bn., 21st Inf.** killed six in actions 16 miles west of Quang Ngai City, while an elements of the **3rd Bn., 1st Inf.** added two in Operation Vernon Lake. Soldiers from the **4th Bn., 3rd Inf.** killed one VC and detained 13 others in an action northwest of the city.

Army Reporter Newspaper:

14Apr69-**Looked like tumbleweeds**

Americal chopper rakes camouflaged NVA

TAM KY- A camouflaged mass of NVA soldiers were discovered and eventually routed by the quick actions of an Americal Division helicopter crew in tan attack near here.

Twenty-nine enemy were killed, six enemy soldiers including an NVA battalion commander were captured, and numerous weapons and packs plus a .51-caliber anti-aircraft weapon were confiscated in the encounter.

A UH-1D Huey "slick" commanded by **WO Walter Seger** was flying a visual reconnaissance mission in support of the Americal Division's **1st Squadron, 1st Cav.** when he discovered a large mass of enemy soldiers being flushed from a treeline a short distance from the advancing cavalrymen.

"Enemy troops were moving down the opposite side of the hill, just out of range of the Cav," said Seger. "They all appeared to have weapons, back packs, and were well camouflaged. They had tree twigs attached to their helmets and back packs; they ran in a crouching, doubled-over position, so there appeared to be 35 or 40 tumbleweeds blowing in many directions over the side of the hill.

The chopper made its first pass through the center of the disorganized mass killing several enemy troops and continued circling the hill. By that time, having gained some semblance of order, the Communists tried to work their way down the hill to a forested area.

"They didn't have a chance of getting away," said **Spec. 4 Terry Bennet**, crew chief of the 123rd Aviation Bn., "Pelican" chopper (A/123rd Combat Aviation Battalion, 2nd Flight Platoon).

"The NVA had to cross an open rice paddy to get to the trees, but our M60 machine gun fire made it impossible."

The helicopter made several passes around the hill until Bennet had expended all of his ammunition; then the helicopter was turned around so gunner Spec. 5 Randy Parks, on the opposite side of the craft from Bennet, had a clear lane of fire. As Parks began to get low on ammunition, co-pilot WO Garry Raymond took control of the aircraft while Seger called Cobra gunships of **F Troop, 8th Cav.** to finish the operation.

Firing as they retreated, the enemy tried to hide in some hootches at the top of the hill.

The Co. A "slick" took several hits as the action continued.

"We could feel the ship shudder as the rounds hit," said Bennet. They were firing armor-piercing .30-caliber shells and it appeared as if thousands of rounds were directed at us. I took one through the sleeve of my jacket and Mr. Raymond's neck was grazed as a bullet went through the roof.

"After we expended our machine gun ammo we continued to fire with our M16 rifles until the Cobras arrived."

Crew chief Bennet continued, "they I [sic] dropped smoke grenades marking the hootches containing the NVA and the Cobras completely devastated them with rockets.

Army Reporter Newspaper:
19May69-**Vietnam Communique** **April 28 - May 4**

Americal Div

Americal Division forces killed 55 enemy in several contacts in southern I Corps on April 28.

In Operation Frederick Hill gunship crews of **F Troop, 8th Cav.** killed 22 enemy with 16 of the kills in an action 13 miles south-southeast of Hoi An. Another element of the **1st Squadron, 1st Cav.** killed two more enemy six miles south-southwest of Tam Ky.

Gunship crews of the **174th Assault Helicopter Co.** reported killing nine VC in the rice paddy area two miles southeast of Duc Pho in Operation Iron Mountain.

The remainder of the division's kills came in small engagements dispersed throughout the Tam Ky Duc Pho area.

Americal Division soldiers of **Co. A, 1st Bn., 20th Inf.** uncovered what appeared to be an enemy classroom 11 miles southwest of Duc Pho April 29.

While searching the area infantrymen found six hooches, six bunkers, 16 targets with stands, two SKS bayonets, and five crossbows.

Division forces killed one NVA soldier and nine Viet Cong during multiple contacts in the division's area of operations the same day.

Army Reporter Newspaper:
27 October 1969 - Vietnam communiqué - October 6-12
Americal Div - Men of the Americal Division killed 13 enemy soldiers Oct 10 in light ground fighting in their zone of responsibility. In the largest action of the day gunships of **F Troop, 8th Cav**., spotted and engaged five NVA soldiers and one VC in the mountains 11 miles northwest of Tam Ky, killing all six.

The next day cannoneers from **Btry. A, 3rd Bn., 82nd Arty**., blasted an area three miles northwest of Tam Ky, killing two soldiers hiding in scrub brush as Americal infantrymen killed four more in as many fire fights.

On Oct. 7, soldiers of **Co. C, 1st Bn., 52nd Inf.,** walked unopposed into an enemy base camp 20 miles southwest of Chu Lai containing one large hootch and numerous smaller structures presumed to have been used for sleeping.

Seven carbines, three MAS36 bolt action French-made rifles, one Swedish made K submachine gun, assorted clothing and medical supplies were found in the complex.

The same day, a gunship from the **123rd Aviation Bn**. killed a lone enemy soldier walking a jungle trail seven miles west of Quang Ngai City.

On Oct. 12, one VC was killed and another detained as members of the **1st Bn., 6th Inf**. ambushed five to six VC soldiers in the mountains 12 miles southwest of Quang Ngai City.

Army Reporter Newspaper:
10 November 1969- Vietnam communiqué - October 20-26
Americal Div - Soldiers of **H Troop, 17th Cav**., Americal Division, killed seven NVA soldiers in the grasslands 15 miles northwest of Quang Ngai City and captured seven RPG rounds, one RPG launcher and four AK47 rifles Oct. 26.

On Oct. 22, gunships of **F Troop, 8th Air Cav**., operating six miles northwest of Tam Ky killed four enemy soldiers.

Two days earlier, four enemy soldiers were killed in a brief fire fight four miles southwest of Duc Pho by men of **Co. C, 4th Bn., 21st Inf.**

Later in the week, a reconnaissance element of the **1st Bn., 52nd Inf.,** killed four enemy soldiers and captured an SKS rifle, an AK47 rifle, a pistol and a carbine five miles north of Quang Ngai City.

24Nov69-**Aviators Win PUC**

LONG BINH (Special) - An air cavalry team from the 1st Aviation Brigade has been awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for its efforts in a two-month-long operation against the enemy in early 1968.

Troop C, 7th Sq., 17th Air Cav. was selected for the high honor along with the unit it supported, the **Americal Div. 1st Sq., 1st Cav.** They killed 1,046 of the enemy while sustaining only 11 fatal casualties themselves in the operation.

(Troop C, 7th Sq., 17th Air Cav. was reorganized into two units. One remained Troop C, 7th Squadron, 17th Air Cav. the other became Troop F, 8th Cavalry (Air).

Army Reporter Newspaper:
22 December 1969 - **Vietnam communiqué - December 1-7**

Americal Div - Elements of **Co. A, 3rd Bn., 1st Inf**., Americal Division, operating 35 miles west of Duc Pho on Dec. 7, killed six enemy soldiers with small arms, automatic weapons and claymore mines.

On Dec. 1 men of **F Troop, 8th Cav**. killed three VC 13 miles southeast of Tam Ky.

The same day, infantrymen of **Co. D, 2nd Bn., 1st** Inf. discovered 99 blasting caps, 19 fuses and a text book in Vietnamese describing the proper procedures for teaching a class on booby trap manufacturing in an area eight miles west of Tam Ky.

A day later, three NVA sappers were killed by soldiers of **Co. B, 1st Bn., 52nd Inf**. as they tried to infiltrate FB Stinson 15 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

On Dec. 4 hunter-killer teams from **D Troop, 1st Bn., 1st Armored Cav**., supporting Americal infantrymen and a recon element of the **6th ARVN Regiment**, killed three VC and two NVA soldiers six miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

Eight VC suspects were detained and a submachine gun, pistol, two bangalore torpedoes and three homemade grenades were captured in the action.

Army Reporter Newspaper:

03Aug70- Alone, legs useless, but makes it Page 1

CHU LAI - His legs were useless, his arm broken. He was armed only with a bayonet and was stranded in the middle of a company of enemy soldiers. But he made it back.

Perhaps the luckiest man in the Americal Division is Sgt. Talamoni Talamoni, 26, who was stranded for 18 hours in "no man's land."

Talamoni, a member of Co, D, 1st Cav., was part of a aerial reconnaissance mission with **F Troop, 8th Cav.,** near Hiep Duc.

The plan called for two helicopters carrying ARPs (aerial reconnaissance patrols) to land on the hill simultaneously, while a number of other gunships provided cover.

The first helicopter, under a barrage of small arms fire, had problems because of limited space for insertion and crashed. Its tail rotor had snagged a tree stump.

With Talamoni on board, the second ship was hovering a few feet off the ground when it was hit by enemy fire. The chopper went into an uncontrollable spin, throwing Talamoni from the ship to the ground, about 50 meters away from where the ship finally crashed.

Talamoni hit a log on the side of the hill and slid to the bottom, where he unconscious.

In the frenzy of enemy fire, not knowing that Talamoni was separated from the rest of the crew, the support helicopters dropped down to recover the ARPs and took them to Tien Phuoc for medical care, leaving Talamoni alone.

When he regained consciousness, Talamoni said, "I could see nothing but LOHs (light observation helicopters) firing on enemy positions. And I couldn't see anyone from the helicopters we had been on. I thought I'd try to move back to the helicopter to get a smoke grenade to signal for help, but then the LOHs were running out of fuel and had to leave. I knew Charlie was somewhere around
so I moved so the enemy couldn't get me."

With a broken left leg and right arm, Talamoni, armed with nothing but a bayonet, dragged himself farther from the enemy, where he dug a foxhole.

Talamoni continued: "I lay in the foxhole and couldn't see anything. It was getting dark. I lay there until about 9 (p.m.) when I heard some movement. Someone was talking. It was the VC moving west. They were about 25 meters from me, but they couldn't see me because I was in my foxhole with some rocks over the top."

After the Viet Cong left the vicinity of Talamoni's foxhole, he slept until about 5 the next morning. "I crawled back to the helicopter to get some smoke grenades. My legs were no use at all. I couldn't use them. But I couldn't find any smoke. I knew if I stayed there, Charlie would find me. I moved so that if the LOHs came they could spot me in the area."

About 7:30, two LOHs from 1st Bn., 1st Cav., did come. Talamoni, who still had his cigaret lighter in his pocket, built a small fire for the observation choppers to spot. They saw it and radioed an eight-man rescue Huey, which let a rescue team down to set up a defensive position while a medevac helicopter was called in to recover Talamoni.

If the rescue helicopters by some chance hadn't spotted Talamoni, he said that he was planning to crawl to a landing zone eight miles away, where he had recently visited. "I tied two sticks around my leg." Talamoni said.
"I figured that I could make it in about 12 hours."

When asked what he did when he was finally safe, Talamoni said, "I was praying to God."

The troops who engaged the enemy on the hill the day before Talamoni's rescue thought there had been at least a company-size element of Viet Cong in the area.

Army Reporter Newspaper:
07Sep70- Scout pilot tells what he likes about his job Page 9

CHU LAI - Turtle flies helicopters, a LOH to be exact. His parents call him John, but to the officers of the of the Americal Division's **F Troop, 8th Cav**. Blueghost, WO John S. McRae is known affectionately as Turtle. The origin of his nickname is obscure, although a turtle is generally the pseudonym for a replacement or new guy in Vietnam.

For the name to have stuck with McRae over the months is paradoxical, since turtles are generally slow-moving passive, defenseless little creatures, everything a LOH pilot isn't.

Recently McRae was interviewed about his job as a scout pilot in an Air Cavalry Troop. His answers provide a real insight to the kind of man who flies the small helicopter at tree-top level through enemy-infested areas.

"Turtle, what is it that you like about being a scout? Is it the challenge of flying low over known enemy positions trying to get them to compromise themselves by shooting at you, or is it the classic challenge of the battle of man against man? The matching of wits and cunning with the winner take all?"

"No. Actually, it's the days off. We scouts get more days off than the other platoon."

""When you're down there low, Turtle, flying at 100 knots, what are you looking for? Is it trails, hootches, fighting positions or what?"

"Mostly I'm looking for an excuse to come up for altitude and go back to Chu Lai."

"Turtle, what is the biggest hazard to you while you're down there on the deck? Is it AK47 fire, 30-caliber machine guns, or .51 caliber fire?
What do you fear the most?"

"Trees. Tall thin, dead trees. They'll get you every time."

"Turtle, on your aircraft you also have an observer and a door gunner.
Beside their obvious duties of trying to spot the enemy and signs of activity, what are their secondary jobs. Just what else does the observer do for instance?"

"He prays. From the time we take off until we land. And it's not his secondary job either. It's his primary."

"And what about the door gunner?" Mostly he just screams stuff like 'Taking fire! Look out! Watch that tree! We're hit!' He prays too."

"Turtle, do you have any big operations coming up in the near future?
What are you looking forward to in the next month or so?"

"The monsoons. We don't fly much in the monsoons." "Last question, Turtle. What do you remember as your most gratifying experience as a scout?"

"It was during the battle of Hiep Duc. There were .51-cals all over and beaucoups .30s and AKs. They were even shooting RPGs at choppers. The air mission commander had just told me to go down and do my thing when my high engine oil pressure light came on and I had to go back to Chu Lai. Now that was a gratifying experience."

LZ HAWK HILL - The crash of RPG rounds shattered the still night. Almost by reflex LZ Siberia came to life, and men of **Co. D, 4th Bn., 31st Inf.**, and **Btry. C, 3rd Bn., 82nd Arty**., responded with a heavy barrage of automatic weapons fire. When the firing had ceased, 10 NVA lay dead in the wire of the perimeter.

The attack on the small 196th Inf. Bde. fire base signaled a new NVA offensive in the Hiep Duc Valley, a replay of the August holocaust nine months prior. For the next six weeks soldiers of the 196th were to be locked in a continued struggle with two NVA regiments.

"The NVA had one main goal in Hiep Duc Valley," said Lt. John Hunsinger. "They wanted to cripple and if possible, to destroy the pacification program."

On the first day the **4th Bn., 31st Inf**.-the only American ground unit facing the onslaught-killed 34 enemy. In the next five days, elements of **2nd Bn., 1st Inf**., and **3rd Bn., 21st Inf**., were combat assaulted into the area.

After six days, Americal Division soldiers had killed 255 enemy. Air strikes and helicopter gunships took a heavy toll of the enemy. Gunships from **F Troop, 8th Cav**., were credited with 61 kills in two days.

One another occasion ARVN soldiers found 76 NVA killed by gunships and U.S. Air Force jets. The 4th Bn., 31st Inf., led ground units with 62 kills, but the figures did not tell the whole story. It had been the grunts, sweltering in the heat and dust, dodging bullets and shrapnel, who had pinned the enemy down so that the gunships could unleash their terrible firepower.

The infantry had also taken the worst punishment. **Co. A, 3rd Bn., 21st Inf**., whose body count included an NVA battalion commander, had less than 40 men in the field at the end of the week.

"After the first six days the enemy began operating in small units," said Hunsinger. "Their goals were now limited to harassing U.S. and ARVN troops."

Hiep Duc Village was safe, but for 196th ground units the fight had just begun. Using hit-and-run tactics, enemy units continued to bombard 196th night laagers and fire bases with mortar and rocket fire.

"We never knew when the shells were coming in," said Spec. 4 Jim Logue**, Co. A, 4th Bn., 31st Inf**.

The enemy paid for those operations. In extremely bitter fighting north of Hiep Duc, **1st Squadron, 1st Cav.**, combined with infantry units to kill 15 NVA on one occasion and 14 more a few days later. To the south, **Co. B, 3rd Bn., 21st Inf**., supported by **Btry. B, 3rd Bn., 82nd Arty**., killed 18
NVA. Throughout the period the enemy was pounded by air strikes.

Hiep Duc Village was thriving, and 196th Bde. "Chargers" had once more overcome stifling heat and heavy casualties to drive the enemy out of the valley.

The Army Reporter Newspaper:
14Sep70- <u>Sanctuary destroyed</u> Page 12

Blue Ghosts flush out Charlie

LZ MARY ANN - Picture Cpl. Nguyen Van Dong of the Second NVA Division standing back admiring his recently finished camouflaged hootch, one of over 100 he and the other members of his unit just finished constructing in a canopied jungle area about 14 kilometers southwest of here in the
southwestern reaches of the Americal Division's 196th Inf. Bde. area of operations.

"After all these months of being exposed to the elements and the harassment of Allied attacks, ambushes, artillery fire and air strikes, it will be nice to refit and rest in a nice, dry, isolated base camp. Might even be able to put on a few of those many pounds of weight that were lost over the past months in the field," muses Nyugen. "Comrade commander is a sly, experienced soldier
to choose so cleverly concealed and inaccessible and area."

Nguyen's thoughts are suddenly interrupted by a high-pitched drone which he immediately recognizes as the sound of a rapidly approaching light observation helicopter flying at low level. Nguyen makes no attempt to retrieve his weapon which is in the hootch because his unit is under strict orders not to fire at enemy helicopters lest they betray the location of the base camp.

Through a hole in the trees he catches a glimpse of a death's head painted on the bubble of the LOH as it speeds by and he spots two Cobras and a Huey circling overhead. Nyugen recognizes an old foe: the Blue Ghosts of **F Troop, 8th Cav**. He is cheering himself with the thought that today Blue Ghost will present no problem when once again the LOH streaks over his location. This time he hears a muffled crack followed by the sound of something falling through the trees. A small gray canister trailing yellow smoke finally tumbles through the branches and comes to rest at his feet. The next sound, the last which Nyugen Van Dong hears on this earth, is the ear-splitting crack of a 2.75-inch rocket passing through the sound barrier as it races to a deadly rendezvous with the yellow smoke.

For Nguyen's comrade's-in-arms, the first rocket and the yellow smoke marked the beginning of an afternoon of rockets, 20mm cannon rounds, 500-pound bombs, napalm cans, plus 155mm and 175mm artillery rounds.

The Initiators of this holocaust were CWO Robert Drury, the Blue Ghost team leader, and WO Phillip Weiland, who was flying the ship that initially spotted the complex.

"Once we were aware of the magnitude of the base area and finally began taking heavy fire out of it, we realized it was a target for 'fast movers' and contacted the forward air controller," recalled Drury. "We stayed on station and after each set of fighters dropped its ordnance, we went back in and did a bomb assessment and marked new targets for the next set. It went on like this
all day long; I was really beat when we finally broke station for Chu Lai.

Beat the Blue Ghosts were. But nowhere near as beat as the former residents of the by-then smoldering base camp. Forty-nine of the enemy hootches had been completely destroyed.

(This is the 1/46th Inf. Bn. Area of Operations)

Army Reporter Newspaper:

21Sep70- Cav Nighthawk team accounts for 49 enemy dead

CHU LAI - Working the same area two nights in a row, a double Nighthawk team from **F Troop, 8th Cav**., accounted for 49 enemy soldiers killed during a total of 5 1/2 hours of air-to-ground battle.

The Blue ghost ships, working in support of the Americal Division, engaged a large enemy force near Ha Thanh, 26 miles west of Quang Ngai City.

On a night training mission when contact was made, some of the crew members had never seen night action.

The first night, a Nighthawk ship commanded by Capt. Larry E. Gallatin took fire from two enemy on a sampan in the river.

Pfc. Gary S. Frakes played the ship's searchlight on the small boat. Moments later, Spec. 4 William R. Holden blasted them out of the water with minigun fire.

Believing his ship had been hit, Gallatin returned to Quang Ngai to inspect the aircraft. Enroute, he requested a second two-ship team working farther north to help in the area. After a brief ground inspection, Gallatin turned his unscathed ship westward to rendezvous with WO Joseph A. Petrucci.

Both specially equipped ships and two additional standard chase ships then rolled into the narrow valley and began a search pattern.

Within minutes, ground fire again shot up at the aircraft. Descending to low altitude, the ships formed into an offensive tactic developed by Gallatin, who had guided the Nighthawk project at **F Troop** from its beginnings.

The searchlights revealed large numbers of enemy with packs and weapons running around in the area.

"We spotted some by their muzzle flashes," Gallatin added. "We were constantly receiving fire."

Both ships flew through the night sky, their searchlights and minigun flashes lighting up fragments of the valley with violent red and white bursts of light. With both ships' miniguns expended, the pilots teamed up to provide each .50-caliber machine gun with illumination from the other ship's searchlight.

The .50 on each ship tore into enemy bunkers and fighting positions. When the heavy guns paused for reloading, free M60 machine guns on each ship maintained a base of fire to keep the enemy from establishing fire superiority.

As the .50-caliber guns resumed firing, the free gunners fired in short bursts to provide additional suppressive fire to the flanks.

All the while, the two chase ships stood by at higher altitude, ready to assist if needed.

After an hour and a half of continued contact with the enemy force, the ships broke station with 16 enemy dead left in the area.

The next night, both teams returned to the same area, ready for trouble. They found it. This time, the enemy was ready with more automatic and small arms fire and fought from more and better positions in the same area.

Passing over the river valley, both ships took small arms fire. The minigunners returned fire immediately, killing one enemy in his ground position.

The two ships resumed tactics similar to the previous night's, working their way downstream. Through three miles of river valley, the enemy, applying the previous night's experience, fired from strong concealed positions, keeping his troops under cover rather than in the open.

Despite the well-prepared enemy, the ships were credited with an additional 33 confirmed enemy dead in four hours.

In an interview the morning after the action, Capt. Gallatin explained: "You can't underestimate Charlie. If you do, you're finished.

Army Reporter Newspaper:

05Oct70- Vietnam communiqué Sept. 14-20

Americal forces batter enemy unit

An element of the Americal Division made contact with enemy forces twice during the afternoon Sept. 15 and-with the help of helicopter gunships-killed 30 during the largest action of the week ending Sept. 20.

Soldiers from **Co. A, 3rd Bn., 21st Inf**., killed 10 enemy soldiers after making contact with an enemy force of undetermined size shortly after 1 p.m. seven miles southwest of Tam Ky in the division's southern I Military Region area of operations.

Air Crews of the **116th Assault Helicopter Co**., providing air support for the Americal troops, killed 10 more of the enemy.

The ground unit made contact with the Communists again at 4:50 p.m., killing all 10 members of an enemy force.

Americal Div

Men of the Americal Division's **F Troop, 8th Air Cav**., engaged and killed 10 enemy soldiers while on a routine night mission in their southern I Military Region are of operations Sept. 17.

Division soldiers uncovered a supply cache in Quang Ngai Province Sept. 16. Troops from **Co. A, 1st Bn., 20th Inf.**, found 2.3 tons of rice 14 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

12Oct70- Photo Caption Page 1

TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT, for the enemy's comfort, a light observation helicopter from **F Troop, 8th Cav**., Americal Division, dips down close to the trees for a better view while on an aerial reconnaissance mission.

Army Reporter Newspaper:

26Oct70- Experts view mini-maxi styles Page 11

CHU LAI - With the mini versus maxi controversy raging across the world, it is only natural that even in the remote corners of Vietnam the lines of battle be drawn and sides taken. In **F Troop, 8th Cav.**, known as Blueghost, both sides are well represented by outspoken supporters who are experts in the fields of minis and maxis.

"I'm definitely mini man myself," declared Spec. 4 Hector Mendoza. "The mini is really a knockout."

"The mini is all right, but the maxi has got what it takes to make me sit up and take notice," countered Spec. 4 Julio Betancourt. "Why, I've seen it take out a .51-caliber from 2,000 meters away."

Take out a .51-caliber from 2,000 meters away?

That's right. The mini and maxi that Mendoza and Betancourt are talking about and are experts in are the M134 7.62mm automatic gun and the XM35 20mm automatic gun, the mini and the maxi respectively. Both weapons are standard equipment on the AH1G Cobras of Blueghost and both have proved their value in the Americal Division area of operations.

The minigun, a six-barrel Gatling gun-type weapon that is mounted either in the turret or in pods on the stub wings, fires at either 2,000 or 4,000 rounds a minute and extremely effective as a close support weapon. As if the rate of fire weren't enough, the minigun also is easily identified by the
hideous, throaty roar that accompanies the firing and has a definite psychological effect on the enemy.

The newest addition to the Cobra weapons subsystem family, the maxi is also six-barrel gun. It is a slower firing weapon at 750 rounds a minute by has the advantage of a range of 4,000 meters and of firing an exploding round. This weapon, as Cobra team leader Capt. Tim E. Sleeth put it, "gives you the capability of standing off outside the effective range of a .51-caliber machine gun and beating the crew's brains out without having to worry about having your own mustache bloodied."

Army Reporter Newspaper:
02Nov70- VC find Professionals just like name Page 3

LZ BAYONET - In an all-night action, infantrymen from the Americal's 198th Inf. Bde., teaming up with gunships and artillery, turned back an enemy attack on their night defensive position, killed six enemy and destroyed a bunker complex northwest of Chu Lai.

Moving through heavily vegetated area, **Co. D, 5th Bn., 46th Inf**., came upon a group of well-constructed bunkers on a small hill overlooking to rice paddies below. Members of the company carefully began checking the area for booby traps and signs of enemy activity. Inside the structures, the **Professionals** found rice, other food items and clothing, and plenty of room for shelter from
allied artillery attacks.

"The bunkers were capable of housing about 20 enemy soldiers during an artillery attack," said Capt. Gary Watson, company commander of **Delta.** "They could also take a direct hit from a 105mm round without causing much damage."

The **Professionals** planted explosives in each of the bunkers and after detonating the devices, it was found that another charge was needed to destroy the bunkers.

After finally destroying the bunker complex, the company moved to lower ground to set up its night defensive position. The infantrymen set up their mortars and adjusted their positions.

Then, about dark movement was detected in the woodline. The mortar platoon was instructed to place several rounds in the area.

A short time later, Pfc. Larry Stevenson and Pfc. Michael Kruse noticed two enemy soldiers crawling toward their positions. As one enemy tried to remove and emplaced claymore mine, Stevenson detonated the triggering device, killing the enemy. At the same time, the other enemy got up and attempted to escape but Kruse brought him down.

A few minutes later more movement was detected and mortars were again called on to provide explosive rounds and illumination. When the illumination rounds went up, the presence of two more enemy soldiers was revealed a short distance from the perimeter. The enemy, realizing their positions had been compromised, attempted to evade but were killed by a barrage of small arms fire from **Delta's** position.

"They both ran into a clearing and they made easy targets," recalled Pfc. Richard McCall, a rifleman with the **Professionals**. "Our entire perimeter opened up on them."

During the remainder of the night, the enemy tried several more times to penetrate the perimeter of **Co. D**. Watson requested gunship support from **F Troop 8th Cavalry**, and illumination from **Btry. C, 1st Bn., 14th Arty**. The illumination lit up the area while the gunships pounded the enemy position with rockets and miniguns.

"Each time the gunships left station to reload and refuel, the enemy would come in closer to the perimeter and pick up the dead bodies," recalled Lt. William Kotas a platoon leader with **Delta**.

The gunships stayed on station with the **Professionals** the remainder of the night, placing suppressive fire around the perimeter and soon began to take machine gun fire from the site of the destroyed bunker complex. The gunships returned fire on the enemy killing two and bringing the total to six enemy killed.

Army Reporter Newspaper:
07Dec70 **Charlie tuna for losing 40 tons of rice** Page 3

CHU LAI - If it's true that an army travels on its stomach then Viet Cong and NVA units will be in trouble this monsoon season. Infantrymen from the 23rd Infantry Division's 198th Inf. Bde. uncovered more than 40 tons of enemy rice in one week while working south of Chu Lai.

The finding of large rice caches, totaling nearly 90,000 pounds by elements of the **1st Bn., 52nd Inf**., were the largest finds in the division's area this year.

Echo Recon of the 1st Bn., 52nd Inf., found the first large quantity while maneuvering south of Chu Lai.

The finding of the large rice caches, totaling nearly 90,000 pounds by elements of the **1st Bn., 52nd Inf**., were the largest finds in the division's area this year.

Echo Recon, of the 1st Bn., 52nd Inf., found the first large quantity while maneuvering south of Chu Lai. The recon unit found 20,000 pounds of rice stored in large tin drums. All the rice, polished and ready for use, was buried under about six inches of dirt.

When **Echo Recon** moved into the area, they received small arms fire from a nearby woodline. The Ready Rifles swept the area and found that they had killed four Viet Cong soldiers. The rice was found hidden in the bushes.

Four days later a rifle platoon from **F Troop, 8th Cav**., spotted a bin of rice south of Chu Lai. **Alpha Co. A, 1st Bn., 52nd Inf.**, moved into the area to check out the aerial rice find. A total of 35,000 pounds of polished rice was found.

"All of the rice was buried in mortar containers except for three bins which had been spotted from the air," said Staff Sgt. James Eddos, a platoon sergeant for **Alpha**. "We had to do a lot of searching to find the rest of the rice that had been buried."

The rifle platoon found 2,000 pounds of rice nearby shortly thereafter to complete the rice find for that day. It took a CH47 helicopter three trips to evacuate the 27,000 pounds of rice to the Son Tinh district headquarters.

Later in the week, **Delta Company, 1st Bn., 52nd Inf**., found 32,500 pounds of rice while working in the open terrain south of Chu Lai. The polished rice was also found buried about six inches under the surface of the earth. Over 25 large tin drums were found in the heavily booby-trapped area.

The Son Tinh district headquarters plans to redistribute the rice for the South Vietnamese cause.

Army Reporter Newspaper:
01Feb71-**Nighthawks light up sky Page 3**

CHU LAI - The Nighthawk team spots the campfire.

The helicopter makes a pass using the starlight scope to spot any enemy. On another pass the spotlight comes on. Ten rounds come buzzing up from the campfire toward the chopper. "We're receiving fire," says the crew chief. The aircraft commander gives the order to open fire from the left side of the ship.

With a bright flash the minigun spits out bullets at a speed of 4,000 rounds per minute.

No further fire is received from the ground and no further movement is sighted where the campfire once burned.

This is a common scene for the **Nighthawks** of the 23rd Infantry Division and can be expected anytime during their nightly sweeps, seeking "unfriendly" movement.

Nighthawk teams in Chu Lai are part of the **Blue Ghost** aviation section, **F Troop, 8th Cav.**, and are literally a fly-by-night operation.

The specially equipped UH1 helicopters travel in specified areas throughout the division beginning at dusk, and spend approximately five hours flying time in search of enemy movement.

The Nighthawk ship carries 1,300 pounds of special equipment, bringing its weight from 7,500 pounds up to 8,800 pounds. The equipment consists of a starlight scope and a 50,000 candlepower spotlight, plus a minigun, a .50-caliber machine gun and an M60 machine gun.

Traveling at an average speed of 50 miles per hour, the Nighthawk ship works an area scanning the ground with the starlight scope.

The chase ship is used for rescue in the event that the Nighthawk ship goes down. It also watches for ground movement and assists in calling in artillery if needed.

Nighthawks came to the 23rd Infantry Division a year ago when four UH1 helicopters were outfitted for the new operation. The first mission was flown in February.

CWO J. Petrucci, one of the founders of Nighthawk, feels that the operations have more than proved their value to the division.

"Action for the Nighthawks has slowed down lately due to the monsoon, but in better weather these ships have proved to be a valuable asset." Petrucci asserted that 178 confirmed kills have been attributed to the Nighthawks since the beginning of their operations.

Army Reporter Newspaper:
12Jul71- <u>Vietnam communiqué</u> **<u>June 21-27</u>** Page 2

23rd nets 14 in two days action

23rd Inf Div

In action June 20, 17 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai City, an encounter by the 23rd Inf. Div. with an enemy squad resulted in seven enemy killed. Three individual weapons were captured and there were no friendly casualties. (Note: from the Americal Division ORLL reports this appears to be from three contacts: 1 kill by **B/1/52**, 4 kills by **D/1/52**, & 2 more kills by **D/1/52**).

Seven more enemy deaths were recorded on June 21 when helicopter gunships of the 23rd Inf. Div.
[Historian Note: **B/123 Avn**, at location BS717496 at 0435H.] observed and engaged an undetermined size force in an early morning attack southeast of Quang Ngai City.

Helicopter gunships of the 196th Bde., 23rd Inf. Div. killed five more enemy and another indirect fire attack was reported June 26. The gunships engaged the enemy in an area six miles south of Da Nang. There were no friendly casualties. (Note: Americal Division ORLL reported **F/8th Cav** recorded 5 kills on 26 June at vic BT078687).
.....

Army Reporter Newspaper:
02Aug71- **Pointman does job** **Page 1**

Foil ambush from rear

DA NANG - If fast reactions spell the difference between life and death on the battlefield, then the men of the **Reconnaissance Platoon, 3rd Bn., 21st Inf**., will live up to their motto, "We Who Do Not Die."

Having killed an enemy soldier the previous day, the platoon was careful to expose itself as little as possible as they made a recent sweep west of LZ Hawk Hill.

Spec. 4 Art Lerma was walking point for a small patrol, when he noticed a path bordering and passing through a hedgerow. But the pointman made a new trail. After cutting through the hedgerow and pushing through a patch of elephant grass, the Texan found himself standing behind some enemy soldiers. They had set up an ambush along the regular trail.

Disregarding his own safety, Lerma stood fully exposed and fired into the enemy force. He stopped only to change magazines in his M16.

Hearing the sounds of the firefight, Lt. James F. Dowling platoon leader, radioed for air support and led a group of men from their position to support the embattled squad.

Within minutes, helicopters from **F Troop, 8th Cav,** 16th Aviation Squadron (Blue Ghost), arrived at the scene. The helicopter flight, consisting of a light observation helicopter (LOH), and a UH1H helicopter (slick) containing a five man reactionary force, began searching the area for the fleeing enemy.

Spotting a well-hidden trail, the LOH pilot radioed the recon unit. The helicopter flew in a tight circle over the trail to mark the location for the ground troops.

The fact that the trail was being used by the retreating enemy troops was soon evident. The doorgunner's bursts of suppressive fire were answered with return fire. Damaged by the enemy bullets, the chopper was forced to land.

The slick immediately landed the **Blue Ghost** reactionary force in a clearing near the downed aircraft. As the men attempted to reach the craft, they came under hostile fire.

The recon force requested the slick to pick up a group of men for insertion into the same area as the disabled helicopter and besieged reactionary force. While waiting for clearance. Downey attempted to lead his men into the area by foot.

Coming under fire, the men of **Echo Recon** pulled back to determine another approach. Suddenly, the Blue Ghost chopper radioed them to prepare for pick-up; the slick was going to transport them to the battle area.

Splitting his force, Downey and two of his men maneuvered to the downed LOH. "I've never met two men happier to see anyone in my life," the platoon leader said. "The pilot and gunner where in a bad spot, and fore awhile it looked like the first people to get to them would be the enemy."

The small rescue force soon rejoined the recon and Blue Ghost ground forces. The combined firepower of the soldiers and gunships forced the enemy to retreat.

The entire firefight had lasted only a few minutes, but during that time the recon unit had served in many capacities, from patrol, to attack force, to rescue squad. In an ever changing war, the men "who do not die" had proven their adaptability.

Action increases for 23rd & 101st

In Quang Ngai Province of Military Region 1 on the morning of July 24, helicopter gunships of the 23rd Infantry Division, 27 miles west-southwest of Quang Ngai City, observed and engaged an undetermined-size enemy force. U.S. tactical air strikes were also delivered on the target. There were 15 enemy killed in the action. (Note: Americal Division ORLL report had **B/123rd Avn Bn Warlords** as recording 18 NVA kills in two separate contacts vic BS107237 and 3 individual weapons captured).

Early the next morning, the helicopter gunships returned to the area and again engaged an undetermined-size enemy force. U.S. tactical air strikes also supported this action. Sixteen more enemy soldiers were killed, two bunkers destroyed, and two secondary explosions occurred in this action. There were no friendly casualties in either action. (Note: Americal Division ORLL report had **B/123rd Avn Bn** Warlords as recording 20 NVA kills vic BS241636.)

Earlier in the week on the morning of July 19, an element of the 196th Bde.*[Historian Note:* ***B 1/46th Inf. Bn****. at AT913638*], while operating 13 miles south-southwest of Da Nang in Quang Nam Province, found a one-ton rice cache and one individual weapon; 1,500 pounds of the rice was in good condition and was evacuated. There was no enemy contact.

Further south in Quang Tin Province that morning, an element of the 198th Bde. [*Historian Note:* ***2nd platoon A Company 4th of the 3rd Infantry Battalion*** *at BT194125,]* was engaged by an undetermined-size enemy force 10 miles southwest of Tam Ky. Small arms and automatic weapons fire was exchanged. Enemy casualties are unknown. One U.S. soldier was killed and four wounded in the action.

In Quang Ngai Province that morning helicopter gunships of the 23rd observed and engaged an undetermined-size enemy force 26 miles southwest of Quang Ngai City. Three enemy soldiers were killed. U.S. tactical air was requested and upon arrival engaged the target, killing an additional five enemy soldiers. There were no friendly casualties. (Note: Americal Division ORLL report had **B/123rd Avn Bn Warlords** as recording 3 VC kills vic BS293538).

Late in the morning of July 23 in Quang Tin Province, an element of the 198th Bde. [*Historian Note:*, ***Recon platoon of 4th of the 3rd Infantry Battalion*** *at BT127275]* engaged an unknown-size enemy force 11 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky. Five of the enemy were killed. There were no friendly casualties.

Military Region 1

On the afternoon of July 18, a U.S. Army OH6 helicopter received enemy ground fire, crashed, and was destroyed eight miles west-southwest of Thuong Duc in Quang Nam Province. There were no U.S. casualties. (Americal ORLL report: **F/8th Cav** had a LOH shot down vic ZC033500 w/ 1 WIA(E).)

On the afternoon of July 21, a U.S. Army CH47 helicopter *[Historian Note:* ***178th ASHC (Boxcars)*** *at AS962997 (100 meters from LZ Mary Ann)] with load of 77 ARVN Rangers],*crashed and was destroyed 28 miles southwest of Tam Ky in Quang Tin Province. The helicopter crashed due to a mechanical failure. Five U.S. personnel were injured; in addition, 21 RVNAF were killed and 31 RVNAF were injured.

Late in the morning of July 22, a U.S. Army light observation helicopter received small arms fire 30 miles west-southwest of Quang Ngai City. Gunships were called and engaged an estimated 10 enemy soldiers. Six of the enemy were killed and one secondary explosion occurred. There were no friendly casualties. (Note: Americal ORLL reports have **B/123rd Avn Bn** with 6 kills from 10 military aged males vic BS175667).

Early in the morning of July 23 in Quang Tin Province, the Chu Lai combat base came under an indirect fire attack when fewer than five rounds of 122mm rocket fire impacted. Light casualties with no fatalities and light materiel damage were sustained.

23rd choppers & air strikes net 21

In Quang Ngai Province on the morning of July 31, helicopter gunships of the 23rd Infantry Division, operating on a visual reconnaissance mission 33 miles west-southwest of Quang Ngai City, observed and engaged an undetermined-size enemy force. Seven of the enemy were killed. The gunships called in tactical air strikes to engage the enemy, resulting in four more enemy being killed. Two hours later, helicopter gunships again and observed an undetermined size enemy force in the same area, killing 10 of the enemy and destroying four enemy bunkers. There were no friendly casualties. (*Note: Americal Division ORLL report:* ***B/123rd Avn*** *at BS142588 while flying a Bomb Damage Assessment observed 4 KIA, 4 bunkers, 20 structures credited to air strikes.* ***B/123rd Avn*** *then engaged an unknown size enemy force and recorded an additional 21 NVA and 2 VC KIA*).

Also that morning in Quang Nam Province, helicopter gunships of the 23rd, also operating on a visual reconnaissance mission 53 miles south-southwest of Da Nang, observed and engaged an undetermined-size enemy force. Nine of the enemy were killed. There were no friendly casualties. (Note: Americal ORLL report: **D/1/1st Cav** at ZC012085 recorded 2 NVA KIA, then later at same location 6 additional NVA KIA, then at BT290068 1 NVA KIA).

During that afternoon in the same province, an element of the 196th Bde., operating eight miles southeast of An Hoa, received an indirect fire attack of an unknown number of undetermined-type fire, followed by a ground attack. Contact last sporadically for three hours. U.S. artillery, helicopter gunships, tactical air strikes supported the action. Enemy casualties are unknown. Three U.S. soldiers were killed and eight wounded in the engagement. (Note: Americal Division ORLL report: **D/3/21st Infantry** vic AT977373 received mortar, small arms fire, automatic weapons fire resulting in 3 U.S. KIA and 8 U.S. WIA(E). **F/8th Cav** recorded one VC KIA in the action.)

Military Region 1

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During the morning of July 29, a U.S. Army UH1 helicopter *[Historian Note:* ***48th AHC*** *UH-1H helicopter lost at AT947390.]* received enemy ground fire, crashed and was destroyed 25 miles south-southwest of Da Nang in Quang Nam Province. One U.S. crewman was wounded.

Later that same morning, a U.S. Army OH6 helicopter *[Historian Note:* ***D 1/1st Cav (air)*** *was shot down at AT842216.]* received enemy ground fire, crashed and was destroyed 31 miles west of Tam Ky in Quang Tin Province. There were no U.S. casualties.

06Sep71- Vietnam communiqué **August 15-21** Page 2

196th & choppers kill 14 in MR1

In Quang Nam Province of Military Region 1 shortly after noon Aug. 20, an element of the 196th Bde., 23rd Infantry Division *[Historian Note: **B 1/46** and **F/8th Cavalry** were involved in several actions on 20AUG71 that cumulated to 15 KIA and 2 captured if counting F/8th Cavalry KIAs],* on a search mission, engaged an unknown-size enemy force nine miles west of Hoi An. U.S. helicopter gunships supported the action which resulted in 14 of the enemy killed and two detained. There were no friendly casualties.

Earlier in the week in the province on Aug. 16, an artillery observer of the 23rd *[**IOS 175** from LZ Ross observed 7 enemy with packs at location AT991542, credit for 5 KBAS given to **A/3-82 Arty**]* detected an estimated enemy squad 10 miles west of Hoi An. Artillery fire was called in resulting in five of the enemy killed.

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Army Reporter Newspaper:

18Oct71- Vietnam communiqué **Sept. 26 - Oct. 2** Page 2

Action increases near FSB Pace

.....

23rd Inf Div

In Quang Nam Province of Military Region 1 on the evening of Sept. 26, an element of the 196th Bde., 23rd Infantry Division, engaged an unknown-size enemy force 11 miles southwest of Da Nang. Six of the enemy were killed. There were no friendly casualties. (*Americal ORLL report: **Recon 1/46th Inf.** engaged an unknown size enemy force vic AT888661 resulting in 6 VC KIA and 3 individual weapons captured).*

In Quang Ngai Province of the same Military Region during the afternoon of Oct. 2, an element of the 11th Bde. on a reconnaissance mission found five enemy bodies killed by previous U.S. Air Force tactical strikes. The search also uncovered 30 AK47 rifles, three cases of hand grenades, and five bunkers which were destroyed. *[Historian Note: 11 Bde, Sgt Cunia, **B/123**, (enemy location BS381797), at 021740Hours. **20 TASS** dropped 8x750lb bombs napalm and 16x500lb bombs on struc, bnkr, cave complex, also obsr supplies & trps. Res in 5xNVA KBA/S, 5xboxes of AK-47's (6xin box), 3xcases of gren (3'x2'x1'), 3xstruc, 15xcaves and 5xbnkrs dest. Ntfy: XXIV Corps, CPT Brand.]*

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Military Region 1

An Army OH6 helicopter received enemy ground fire crashed, and was destroyed four miles southeast of Thong Duc in Quang Nam Province on the morning of Oct 1. One crew member was wounded. (Americal Division ORLL report: **F/8th Cav** vic ZC181483 engaged 2 NVA, results 2 NVA KIA 1 US WIA & 1 LOH shot down).

On Oct. 2 in Quang Nam Province the Da Nang airfield received four rounds of 122mm rocket fire. There were no casualties and light materiel damage.

The following sections contains articles that were printed in the Pacific Stars and Stripes related to actions of the Troop F, 8th Cavalry:

Pacific Stars and Stripes An authorized publication of the U.S. Armed forces in the far east. Price 10 cents.

Field Enterprises
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The appearance of displays in this newspaper concerning commercial publications does not constitute an endorsement by the Department of Defense, the Military Departments or the Commander-in-Chief, Pacific.

Stars & Stripes Page 6. Thursday May 1, 1969

Attack Thwarted Near Cambodia

NVA Ambush GI Supply Convoy

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To the south, Cavalrymen from the Americal Div. killed 16 enemy soldiers while sweeping an area near Tam Ky, 40 miles southeast of Da Nang. There were no American casualties.

[Historian Note: ***B 1/1st Cav*** *with* ***F/8th Cav*** ***(air)*** *working together accumulated more than 16 enemy killed on 30 April 1969].*

Other Americal Div. soldiers killed 34 Communists in scattered clashes south of Da Nang.

.....

Pacific Stars & Stripes:
Stars & Stripes Page 6. Sunday, June 22, 1969

VC Suspect Looked for Death—Found It

By SPEC. 5 BILL ELSEN S&S Staff Correspondent

QUANG NGAI, Republic of Vietnam – A Viet Cong suspect died quickly Thursday when he grabbed a hand grenade and tried to blow up himself, a U.S. Army helicopter and its three crew members.

The light observation helicopter was flying over a wooded hillside three and a half miles from Quang Ngai city in central Vietnam with orders to "snatch any military age male for questioning."

"We saw a guy hiding in a treeline and went down to check." said Spec. 5 Cliff Weekley, crew chief on the helicopter from **F Troop, 8th Cav, 123rd** Aviation Bn. of the Americal Div.

Weekley, sitting alone in the rear of the chopper, trained his M60 machine gun on the Vietnamese, who walked out of the treeline with his hands up. The chopper flew in ever-tightening circles, keeping the suspect in one place, until the craft was low enough for Weekley to reach out and pull him in.

"We started climbing right away to avoid fire from anyone else in the area," said Spec. 4 Roger Swanson, the observer. "We were about 50 feet off the ground when the trouble started."

Weekley, with the machine gun cradled across his lap, had pulled the suspect in with his left hand, covering him with a .45-cal, pistol in his right. Awkwardly positioned, the crew chief had hooked one leg around his seat for support.

"Suddenly," Weekley said, "this character reached into a box we keep on the floor. It's full of fragmentation, phosphorus and incendiary grenades. He grabbed a frag, and I just reacted.

"I fired the .45 and kicked him out of the chopper. He didn't even have time to pull the pin. Everything happened so quickly."

Other choppers from the unit picked up five more suspects. But none tried to blow up a helicopter.

Pacific Stars & Stripes:
14Jul69-**Viet Copter Rescue Like Trapeze Act**

CHU LAI, Vietnam (Special) - To six U.S. Army Rangers on a Recon patrol a trapeze act is a wild ride through the night on a rope dangling from a Huey with a hail of enemy fire tracing their every move.

The **G Co. Rangers, 75th Inf.**, Americal Div., had spotted two Viet Cong in a woodline 20 miles west of Chu Lai. A closer check revealed about 20 of their comrades enjoying a party. The team leader Sgt. Richard Welch of St. Cloud, Minn., called in artillery.

When the rounds were on target, he radioed for a pick up from the area. A Huey from **F Troop, 8th Cavalry** arrived followed by a flare ship to illuminate the area, and a gunship to provide protective fire.

The landing zone that the patrol had moved onto was too small for the copter to set down, and with the enemy hot in pursuit there was no time to move to another one. So a rigging and a rope ladder were dropped to the Rangers.

A McGuire rigging is a wooden yoke attached to a choppers' underside with ropes dropping 120 feet.

Pfcs. John Haines of Massapequa, N.Y., and Perry Hughes of Dallas scrambled up the ladder into the **chopper** with full field gear.

Sgt. Thomas McCarthy of Massapequa Park and Spec. 4 Robert Baldwin of Freehold, N.J., grabbed the ladder and hung on.

Welch and Spec. 4 John Shenkaruk of Detroit grabbed the McGuire lines. During the lift up with the four men swinging 120 feet below, Shenkaruk was brushed against a tree, lost his balance and ended up dangling and swinging by his feet. Welch came to his aid and steadied him by grabbing him around the legs.

Shenkaruk managed to pull his radio from his back and call the pilot. "I'm hanging upside down, can you set me down anywhere?" he asked. "Impossible," said the pilot so for the next 20 minutes and 15 miles Shenkaruk rode through the dark in this position until the pilot was able to set down in a rice paddy.

The ropes had become so tangled they had to be cut away. Then the men scrambled into the rescue craft and were flown to Chu Lai.

12Mar70-**Enemy Guns Down 2 More Copters**

S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON -

.....Four Communist 122mm rockets slammed into Tam Ky City, the capital of QuangTin Province, 40 miles southeast of Da Nang early Monday evening and wounded 11 Vietnamese civilians, an official spokesman said.

12Mar70-2 Americal Units Earn Presidential Citations

SAIGON (S&S) - The Presidential Unit Citation, awarded on the basis of superior performance against the enemy was presented to two Americal Div. armored cavalry units Monday in ceremonies at Chu Lai, an official spokesman said.

The citation was given to the men of the 1st Sq., 1st Armored Cav. and F Troop 8th Cav. for their participation in over 200 actions with the enemy around Hoi An and Tam Ky during the period Jan. 1, 1968, to March 31, 1968.

During that time, the two units killed 1,046 North Vietnamese army and Viet Cong soldiers and suffered only 11 American deaths.

30Mar70-**21 Enemy Killed in A Shau After Sniping at Recon Helo**

S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON - .....Photo caption, "Troopers of the Americal Div. check out an enemy bunker while operating 10 miles northwest of Tam Ky. The **F Troop 8th Cav.,** troops found the bunker abandoned.

.....To the southwest on the coastal lowlands near Tam Ky, an Americal Div. patrol tripped an enemy booby trap made form a U.S. 105mm artillery round, killing two and wounding 19, U.S. officials said.

.....

Vietnamese officials reported 2nd Inf. Div troops sweeping through coastal lowlands seven miles west of Tam Ky in Quang Tin Province made two separate contacts with enemy troops and killed 29 with the help of artillery and air strikes.

04May70-**Allies Slay 128 Enemy in Hand-to-Hand Clash**

S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON-In savage hand-to-hand fighting, Vietnamese infantry troops backed by American armed helicopters lunged into Hiep Duc village, 33 miles south of Da Nang, Friday rooting out North Vietnamese army troops who had captured half the village earlier at dawn Saturday.

At least 128 Communists were killed in fighting in and near the village and the
hamlet was in allied hands, an official spokesman said.

According to informed sources, more than 200 troops, believed to be part of an NVA regiment operating in the Hiep Duc Valley, have been killed by Vietnamese and American forces since the start of a combined operation around the village Thursday.

The operation involving infantry troops from the **196th Light Inf. Brigade**, Americal Div., and the **5th Regt., 2nd ARVN Div.**, is intended "To lift enemy pressure in the Hiep Duc area" according to an ARVN spokesman in Saigon.

An official Americal Div. spokesman at Chu Lai Friday was uncertain as to when the NVA troops captured half of the refugee settlement, home for about 4,000 Vietnamese.

The spokesman said he believed it was sometime between Thursday and early Friday ***[01MAY70].*** A small ARVN compound was also captured he said.

At dawn Friday, UH1 and Cobra gunships *[71st AHC and F/8th Cavalry]* from the Americal Div. began pelting the enemy-occupied portions of the strung-out oblong shaped village with a steady barrage of rockets and machine gun fire which lasted until early evening. There were no U.S. casualties in the day-long air-to-ground battle, the U.S. command said.

Meanwhile, Vietnamese foot soldiers combat assaulted to the north of Hiep Duc, moved in to clear the village, meeting resistance from pockets of NVA troops who, according to early field reports killed several civilians and burned more than 50 houses, before fleeing early Friday evening. Many of the village residents, however, had fled to nearby firebase Karen earlier for protection, informed sources said.

Vietnamese losses in Friday's fighting were not immediately known, but 33 Americans were wounded early Friday evening in mortar and ground attacks on two Americal Div. temporary night infantry positions within a mile of Hiep Duc village, according to a spokesman for the U.S. command. Enemy losses in both assaults are unknown, the spokesman said.

[Historian Note: AMCAL DIV Ops Summary 01MAY70. Americal/2nd ARVN Div units rept lt to heavy contact in their combined TAOR as search, recon in force & pacification support ops coninuedt. TAC air and arty cont to support. In the most significant incident, 5th ARVN Regt units & 71st AHC & F/8th Cav eng UNSEF 1 ½ kms NE of LZ Siberia killing 94 NVA & capturing 11 IW & 2 CSWC. The Gun/Ships were credited with killing 50 of the NVA. ARVN casualties in this contact were 3 KIA & 11 WIA(E). In another incident, A/3-21 rec mort, SA, & AWF in their NDP 2 kms N of LZ Siberia wounding19 US who were all evacuated. D/4-31 in their NDP 3 kms NE of LZ Siberia, rec 82mm mort fire resulting in 14 US WIA(E). Also today, LZ's Siberia, Karen, West, Center & 411 rec mort fire causing neg cas or dam.]

29Jun70-**23 GIs Hurt In Helos**

S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON - Twenty-three GIs were wounded **Friday [27JUN70]** when enemy gunners shot down two UH1 helicopters during a combat assault 31 miles west-southwest of Tam Ky, the U.S. command reported. *[Historian Note: Operation near LZ Mary Ann with Aero-Rifle infantry from* ***D Trp 1/1 Cavalry*** *and* ***F/8th Cavalry helicopter units****.* ***D 1/46th Inf. Bn.*** *and* ***A 3/82 Artillery*** *were then placed on LZ Mary Ann.]*

Enemy casualties were listed as one killed in the assault by 11th Brigade troops of the Americal Div. No Americans were reported killed, according to the command.

.....

Americal Div. 196th Brigade elements 72 miles south-southeast of Da Nang uncovered an eight-ton cache of enemy rice which had apparently been grown locally.

11Jul70 page 6
Pacific Stars & Stripes
Saturday

ARVN
RFs Kill
18 Reds

SAIGON (S&S) – South Vietnamese forces saw most of the action Wednesday during scattered fighting across Vietnam, as a 7th ARVN Inf. Div. unit and a regional forces (RF) company killed 18 enemy.

American ground troops reported no enemy dead, but U.S. pilots killed four enemy soldiers in air strikes.

In a morning operation, the RFs scoured an area two miles south of Hoi An city, 18 miles down the coast from Da Nang. They battled an unknown number of enemy, killing 10 Reds, capturing one prisoner, and seizing four AK47 assault rifles. There were no RF casualties in the action.

Elements of the 7th ARVN Inf. Div. made several light and sporadic contacts with the enemy while operating six miles southeast of Cai Be, 48 miles southwest of Saigon.

Before the day ended, the infantrymen, involved in Operation Cuu Long 7/3, killed eight enemy soldiers without suffering any casualties.

In the same area, the 7th Div. found the bodies of 14 Communist soldiers killed by air strikes.

U.S. pilots flew 180 tactical air strikes in Vietnam Wednesday. A military spokesman said that in addition to killing four enemy soldiers, the strikes triggered 53 secondary explosions, ignited 35 fires and destroyed or damaged 38 fortifications, 139 bunkers, six fighting positions, and 395 meters of trenchline.

Downed U.S. helicopters accounted for three U.S. casualties reported Wednesday.

A U.S. Army OH6 helicopter was hit by enemy ground fire, crashed and was destroyed in Binh Dinh Province, wounding one U.S. crewman.

A second helicopter was reported to have crashed Monday after it was hit by enemy ground fire 12 miles west of Tam Ky in Quang Tin Province, 38 miles southeast of Da Nang. Two U.S. crewmen aboard the aircraft were wounded.

*(ADVA Historian Note: **71st AHC** combat assault incident regarding a rocket pod explosion, later determined to have been caused by enemy fire. **F/8th Cav** aircraft secured the downed aircraft. Operation involving **R/3/21st Inf. Bn**)*

Pacific Stars & Stripes Newspaper: 23 or 24Jul70 page ?

Americal Div. Gets Jump ON NVA, Kills 53 in I Corps

LZ HAWK HILL, Vietnam – (Special) – In a rock-throwing, grenade-tossing battle 23 miles west of Tam Ky, Americal Div. infantry, artillery and helicopter gunships recently combined to kill 53 NVA.

B and C Cos., 1st Bn., 46th Inf., 196th Inf. Brigade, were conducting search and clear operations in the rugged jungle terrain of Hiep Duc Valley.

"We sent one company to clear the high ground to the north and another to clear the valley floor," said Maj. James M. Hallinan, operations officer, 1st Bn., 46th Inf.

B Co moved out to sweep the valley floor in the early morning hours and immediately became in what proved to be the biggest firefight of the day.

"We started moving out of our night laager around 5:30 in the morning," said 1st Lt. Drake H. Erby, 2nd Platoon leader. "The **3rd Platoon was point**, mine was second, and the **1st Platoon** was drag."

As the company moved across a small grassy opening, the point platoon began receiving rifle and machinegun fire from a treeline to the front. At the same time the 1st Platoon, which was still in the night bivouac waiting for the other platoons to move across, began receiving heavy mortar and automatic weapons fire.

"We spotted some NVA in the woodline to the north and opened up on them," said S. Sgt. Charlie Hall, **1st Platoon** sergeant. "As we were blasting them, someone also noticed two attempting to sneak up on our perimeter. We threw hand frags and killed them both."

As the 1st Platoon continued its suppressive fire, the 3rd Platoon continued to receive sniper fire and mortar rounds. The 2nd Platoon spotted some communications wires on the ground and cut them. When the mortar rounds temporarily stopped the **2nd Platoon** moved up to take point and was ordered to secure a defensive position from which an assault on the dug-in NVA could be made.

"We dug in faster than I ever imagined it could be done," said Erby. By this time the 3rd Platoon had joined the 2nd and only the 1st Platoon remained to cross the open area.

Gunships from the **71st Assault Helicopter Co.** and **F Troop, 8th Cav.**, were called in to work over a ridgeline in hopes of destroying the NVA mortar emplacements. The gunships killed three NVA. Artillery was also pounding the enemy position as the 1st Platoon began to move from the old night camp.

We moved out by fire and movement and spotted the bunkers," said Hall. "We had no place to go but forward so that's what we did."

The ensuing battle was a grenade-tossing, bunker to bunker battle, as the infantrymen moved in to destroy the NVA.

As the bitter struggle progressed, the 1st Platoon found they had used all their hand grenades. One squad each from the 2nd and 3rd Platoon collected all the available grenades and moved to aid the 1st Platoon.

With the arrival of reinforcements and more grenades the assault continued.

"It was a bunker to bunker, hole to hole fight," said Erby. "We would toss a grenade into a bunker and it would come flying back out. So we resorted to first throwing in a rock to confuse the enemy and then immediately tossing in a grenade. it worked."

The infantrymen finally knocked out the last bunker in the search of the area that followed, they found that there had been a total of 14 heavily-fortified bunkers connected by a trench-line, and 29 dead NVA were counted by the Americans.

"Evidently the NVA had planned to ambush us as we moved out," said Erby, "but we moved before they were ready and caught them flatfooted."

Pacific Stars & Stripes Newspaper:

??Jul70 page ? Pacific Stars & Stripes

Photo Caption: On Top of the Situation.
Sgt. Warren L. Foster combs from a tunnel after searching it for Viet Cong while on a mission near Que Son. Foster is a member of the Americal Div.'s Aerial Recon. Patrol, **F Troop, 8th Cav.** (USA Photo by S. Sgt. L. E. Perkins).

14Oct70-Pacific Stares & Stripes
Wednesday page 6

Tunnels Lead GIs to Red Weapons

S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON – American soldiers dug into an enemy tunnel complex along a Red infiltration route in Long Khanh Province Sunday and came up with the discovery of a major weapons cache, a U.S. military spokesman reported Monday.

.....

Americal Div. soldiers, meanwhile, finished clearing out a rice cache discovered 10 miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

The enemy had stored 17 ½ tons of locally grown, unpolished rice in the cache, a U.S. military spokesman said. Members of the 198th Brigade made the find Saturday and spent two days cleaning it out. Three tons of the rice was spoiled and was destroyed, the U.S. military spokesman said, and the remainder was evacuated. ***(Historian Note: F/8th Cav operating with the 198th LIB located 2,000 lbs of rice which was secured by A/1/52nd Infantry on Saturday. The next day (11 October 1970) A/1/52nd Infantry located 35,000 lbs of rice. 6,000 pounds was spoiled, the good 29,000 lbs was extracted to Son Tin.)***

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In another action in Vietnam Sunday, enemy gunners fired six 140mm rockets into Da Nang Air Base shortly after midnight, a U.S. military spokesman said. light materiel damage was reported. There were no casualties.

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Two U.S. Army helicopters were reported down Monday the U.S. Command reported that on Oct 9 an OH6 helicopter was hit by enemy ground fire, crashed and was destroyed in Binh Duong Province just north of Saigon, causing no casualties. The following day, an AH1 Cobra gunship crashed from unknown causes in Quang Tri Province, killing one crew member and wounding on, the U.S. military spokesman said. The aircraft was destroyed.

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16Oct70-Pacific Stares & Stripes
Friday Page 7

Photo Caption: Here's Looking at You, Charlie

Here's the way a Viet Cong would see an Americal Div. light observation chopper as it operates at tree-top level in search of the enemy. The helicopter was being flown by a pilot from **F Troop, 8th Cav.**, near Chu Lai.

17Nov70-Pacific Stars & Stripes
Thurs Page 6

Reds Step Up Attacks Against U.S. Units, Kill 9

S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON – Communist forces stepped up attacks against American units Saturday, killing nine U.S. soldiers at the end of a week that saw two days pass without a U.S. combat death for the first time since at least early 1969.

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South Vietnamese infantrymen killed 22 enemy soldiers in an attack on an enemy supply base early Sunday morning southeast of Tra Bong and 65 miles southwest of Da Nang, the spokesman said. There were no ARVN casualties, he said.

.....

Air strikes by helicopter crewmen of the U.S. Americal Div. killed 10 enemy soldiers in two actions Saturday in Quang Ngai and Quang Nam Provinces. (Historian Note: There were kills recorded by the **176th, 71st, and F/8th Cav.** on this date, but I could not match these to article). .....

19Dec70-Pacific Stars & Stripes
Saturday Page 6

1 GI Killed and 8 Wounded As Reds Ambush U.S. Convoy

S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON – Communists ambushed a U.S. truck convoy Wednesday, killing one and wounding eight U.S. soldiers 15 miles west of Qui Nhon on highway 19, U.S. Command spokesmen said Thursday.

Two U.S. helicopter crews Wednesday reported killing 10 enemy soldiers in Thua Thien Province and Quang Ngai Province in I MR.

A 101st Airborne Div. observation helicopter blasted five enemy 29 miles west of Hue and an Americal chopper killed another five Reds 20 miles southeast of Quang Ngai. (Historian Note: This action not matched, although **F/8th Cav** had fewer kills than reported in this article on 16 Dec 1970 and more than the reported number on 17 Dec 1970.)

A 101st Airborne Div. observation helicopter blasted five enemy 29 miles west of Hue and an Americal chopper killed another five Reds 20 miles southeast of Quang Ngai.

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ARVN 2nd Inf. Div. soldiers killed five enemy while raiding an area eight miles northwest of Quang Ngai and five more enemy were killed by infantrymen operating 12 miles west of Quang Ngai, and four enemy soldiers were killed by a Regional Force unit 60 miles northeast of Saigon.

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Viets Push to Open Cambodia's Route 4

S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON- Action continued at a moderate level Saturday for U.S. ground forces in South Vietnam's northern provinces, while the Vietnamese push continued along Route 4 in Cambodia, allied military spokesmen said Sunday.

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In South Vietnam's northernmost province of Quang Tri Saturday, helicopters from the 101st Airborne Div. killed five Communists 12 miles southeast of Khe Sanh, U.S. command spokesmen said Sunday.

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Helicopters from the 23rd Inf. Div. (Americal) killed 13 Reds in two clashes 26 miles southwest of Quang Ngai Saturday afternoon, command spokesmen said. *(Historian Note: 196th Inf Bde Avn section recorded 2 KIA,* ***F/8th Cav*** *(Blue Ghosts) recorded 2 KIAs, for this day, but the action reported matches two incidents involving* ***B/123rd Avn Bn (Warlords)).***

Early Sunday morning Americal infantrymen killed six Communists in a fight six miles northwest of Quang Ngai, spokesmen said.

Shortly after noon Saturday GIs from the 1st Cav. Div., backed by artillery and helicopter gunships, slew five enemy soldiers in a 30-minute fight 65 miles northeast of Saigon, spokesmen said. Eight Americans were wounded, they said.

Communists killed one GI from the 1st Cav. and wounded two earlier Saturday in a skirmish 60 miles northeast of Saigon, spokesmen said. Enemy losses were unknown.

In I Military Region Saturday, Red gunners brought down an Army OH6 observation helicopter, wounding one GI 55 miles west of Da Nang, spokesmen said.

South Vietnamese forces killed 34 Communists in four battles in Vietnam Saturday, Vietnamese military spokesmen reported.

Pacific Stars & Stripes Newspaper:
07Apr71 Page centerfold story & photos Wednesday (Blue Ghost)

Flying the 'Little Bird'- It's Like Poking a Beehive

QUANG TRI, Vietnam – The Cobra pilot peered through his blue-tinted cockpit window, down upon the light observation helicopter (LOH) 1,500 feet below him.

He was reminded of a small tropical fish as the LOH darted, circled and explored the shadows and depths of the mottled, green and brown algae-like terrain below.

Occasionally the "little bird" would stop as if suspended, hovering over a single spot only to dart away or glide airily to a nearby gully or hilltop. The entire scene, when viewed from above, appeared tantalizingly tranquil, as if the pilot were watching a hummingbird drift from flower to flower on a lazy summer afternoon.

"Taking fire, breaking left!" The voice barked sharply into the headphones of the Cobra pilot. Even as the words were being transmitted, the LOH suddenly dipped its nose and then veered sharply upward and to its left as the gunships started their run, spitting death and fire down over the LOH's right side, where a white phosphorous grenade was marking the spot of contact.

Again and again the heavily-armed Cobras fired into the dense jungle, thick gray smoke billowed from explosions, and soon bright red flames liked up into the sky.

It was the gunbird's show now. The LOH, or Little Bird scout, had done its task well. It had found and exposed an enemy position and had escaped with only minor damage. One bullet hole through the rear fuselage and another in the center of the plexiglass bubble of the cockpit.

Sometimes the LOH does not get hit at all.

Nevertheless, any abstract tranquility that a LOH mission may evoke from 1,500 feet above is abruptly and repeatedly dispelled by the more realistic perspective gained from the scout pilot's seat in the cockpit.

The scout pilot can hardly help but think of a go-cart as he climbs into the small seat and straps himself in behind the stick.

The high-pitched whine of the 314-horsepower turbine engine brings the Little Bird to life as it gently vibrates with the increasingly fast revolution of the rotors. The LOH lifts off the ground from the F Troop, 8th Air Cav. pad and zips away barely skimming over the elephant grass and mud-caked water buffalo grazing contentedly below.

The pilot pulls pitch, adding power as he pushes down on the stick, and the LOH eases upward in a gradual arc until it levels off at about 2,000 feet. Cruising west at 90 m.p.h. along Highway 9, the LOH, the two gunships and a Huey slick of this visual reconnaissance team will provide escort for a convoy moving from Khe Sanh to FSB Vandergrift.

The thin dusty line of vehicles is spotted snaking its way eastward along the meandering, sandy ribbon of highway. The terrain is hills and gullies interrupted by occasional stretches of flat grassland.

Radioing that he is going in for a closer look, the scout pilot depresses the stick and dives the LOH toward the road.

The doorgunner sitting on the floor behind the pilot's seat checks his supply of smoke cannisters, hand grenades and ammunition. He adjusts his M60 machine gun in its sling and then eases himself onto the lip of the doorway, with his feet dangling out over the skids. The LOH is now a tree-top level and has slowed to about 20 m.p.h.

(Continued -1)

For a while, everything remains quiet. The convoy stirs up dust but nothing else as it inches along the road. High above a C130 cargo plane lumbers through the misty air of the pass toward Khe Sanh. The helicopters scurry out of the way like minnows darting away from a predatory pike.

The voice of the Huey pilot crackles into the headphones, advising Little Bird that the convoy is nearing a stretch of highway that harbored an enemy ambush the previous day. The road is bordered by steep hills and a dense woodline, making it ideal for hiding enemy positions.

Circling lower and lower, the pilot and gunner scan the shadows and thick underbrush. The LOH alternately darts and glides from area to area as the pilot seeks to use his maneuverability to cut down his exposure time to enemy fire- the basic rule of scout flying.

Topping a ridge and dipping down into a gully, the pilot spots a trail not more than a foot wide winding its way to a dense treeline. He hovers the LOH a scant 10 feet above the ground, using the rotor wash to seep aside the foliage. The doorgunner points to some freshly cut tree stumps at the top of the trail.

"OK, let's keep moving down there." It is more a command than a suggestion from the Huey pilot above. "We don't want you losing your feathers, Little Bird."

The LOH slowly circles the area and then dips down for another close look. The rotor wash again sweeps aside the elephant grass like parted hair- and reveals a small enemy bunker.

"Gun bird, we have a narrow trail down here leading to a bunker," the pilot relays up. "So far, no sign of Charlie."

This is typical ... An LOH can fly over an enemy position all day and not draw fire. As long as the enemy doesn't think he's been seen, he'll sit still.

"I'm going to drop a grenade down there and see if we can stir someone up," the LOH pilot says.

Watching over his shoulder as the gunner tosses the grenade, the pilot immediately pulls pitch and the LOH bobs upward to avoid the explosion.

For a moment there is nothing. The smoke from the grenade drifts away from the bunker and the scout swoops in again.

"If anybody was home, we either blew him away or else we sure made his ears ring," the pilot says.

Suddenly, a gutteral barking "ack-ack-ack" shatters the air. The pilot had been looking down and his head is snapped violently backward by the force of an AK-47 round. The doorgunner sees that the pilot is hit and immediately starts hosing down the area with a hail of M60 fire in anticipation of a forced landing.

Suddenly the LOH veers upward as the Cobras come screaming down into the fight. The LOH pilot, his head ringing as if he'd been hit with a baseball bat, radios instructions to direct the gunships' fire. the gunner looks at him and motions to his head. The pilot gingerly reaches up and his fingers brush over a gaping slash in the top of his helmet.

The Cobras continue their gun runs and finally call in air strikes to get at the well-fortified position. the LOH meanwhile has suffered a punctured fuel line, and the pilot radios that he is going back to Quang Tri for repairs.

As the LOH settles onto the pad and the whir of the rotor begins to diminish, the pilot removes helmet and pokes his finger through the shredded lining. The gunner hops out to see how badly he's injured, but smiles when the pilot points only to a small bruise on his head. Lady luck is always a welcome co-pilot.

(Continued -2)

Photo Captions: Story & Photos by SPEC. 5 HOWARD LAVICK S&S Staff Correspondent: Above a gunner stands on the LOH's skid as he and the pilot watch for Red troops. At right, the LOH crew drops marking grenade after coming under fire, and then clears out of the way as a Cobra gunship (below) comes in on its firing run.

AN LOH'S DOWNWASH FLATTENS BRUSH AS THE PILOT SKIMS ALONG AT LOW LEVEL, SEARCHING FOR SIGNS OF COMMUNIST TROOPS

(Continued)

Pacific Stars & Stripes
14Apr71 Page 1
Wednesday

15,000-Lb. 'Daisy Cutters' Used at FB-6

Communists killed 10 Americans and wounded six when an element of the Americal Div. attempted to secure a downed helicopter 13 miles south of Quang Ngai Sunday afternoon. U.S. Command spokesmen said. One American was killed and two wounded when the U.S. Army UH1 Helicopter crashed Sunday, the spokesman said. *(Historian note: The infantry unit was A/1/20th Inf Bn., the helicopter shot down was a 174th helicopter tail #67-17191. Several air strikes were applied as well has helicopters from B/123rd Avn Bn,* ***F/8th Cav****, and of course the 174th AHC which was in from the start. The report was delayed and placed in the April 12, 1971 reports although the action took place on Sunday April 11, 1971.*

From the Americal Division TOC report page 1-2 of 10 for 12 April 1971.

Entry # Time

2 0001 (C) 11 Bde, Lt Strother, A/1-20, BS628523 at 111600H. R/S acft (Tail #191) was approaching (acft commander said acft had just set down when 1st rd hit in front of acft, started off and 2d hit the fuel cell causing acft to burst into flame and set down) 3/A/1-20 field loc when hit by 1xM-79 rd. Acft attempted to fly out of LZ and was hit by second M79 rd, crashed into LZ and burned. LZ came under heavy volume of SAF, M79, B40 and MG fire from NE, E and S of perimeter at approx 75-100m. Element of 3/A/1-20 assisted crew from acft. Acft exploded 5xtimes, causing 2xKIA and 4xWIA. At same time LZ rec H/gren and satchel charges at 1610H. G/S req at 1604H, on station at 1611H. FAC on station at 1623H. Arty called in by FO at 1630H. Also at 1630H D/O on station. 3/A still rec SAF. At 1710H B/S (Gunsmoke 6, Warlord 3 & 34 and Warlord 20 on station. FAC (Helix 39) on station 1717H, called in A/S at 1730H, consisting of 4xsorties of planes w/hard bombs and napalm. D/O picked up 7xpersonnel from A Co CP and inserted them into contact LZ for assistance. At 1738H D/O extr 5xUS WIA to B/23d Med. At 1740H **F/8 Cav G/S** on station. FAC (Helix 39) put in another A/S at 1820H (4xsorties of napalm). CA fleet (1-2-5) on station at 1825H. 1/B/1-20 picked up at Liz at 1830H (29xpax). Inserted into contact LZ at 1847H. AMC rec approx 15-20 rds of SAF from BS617523 at approx 1840H. G/S expended ammo on grid w/unk res. 174 Avn (Dolphin 21) crew and 2xWIA were extr by 174 Avn (Dolphin 6) at 1850H and taken to B/23d Med. at 1855H FAC (Helix 32) on station, had A/S of 2xsorties. AMC broke station at 1901H. XXIV Corps acft (Shadow 61) on station at 1901H. FAC (Helix 32 broke station at 2130H. 174 Avn (Shark 3 & 7) and 123 Avn (Gunsmoke 6) broke station at 1950H. Res: 11x US KIA (9xbelonged to A Co, 1xwas crew chief of 174 Avn and 1xwas chaplain of 1-20 Bn), 9xUS WIA, 2xen KIA confirmed 3x KIA within sight; (will confirm at first light), 1xAK47 CIA. XXIV Corps acft (Shadow 61) will be in area all night. 155mm, 8" and 175mm will be fired all night. 2xother plat of A Co will sweep at first light. 4x officers on ground at contact area (XO A Co, 3d plat leader A Co, 1st plat leader B Co and FO B Co). D Co will move toward contact area in morning. Ntfy: XXIV Corps, 120200H; C/S, 120145H; G3, 120140H.) *(A video of this incident was on YouTube.)*

Two more helicopters were listed as downed, with one crewman wounded spokesmen said.

A U.S. Army UH1 helicopter was shot down 38 miles west of Da Nang Thursday, according to a delayed report. No casualties were reported.

Sunday morning Communist gunners downed a U.S. Army OH58 observation helicopter in Kampong Cham Province of Cambodia, they said. One crewman was wounded.

Pacific Stars & Stripes
22Jun71 Page 6
Tuesday

Reds Try to Upstage Viets – 22 Shellings on 'Forces Day'

S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON - .....

On the ground in the province South Vietnamese infantrymen killed 22 Reds in a firefight seven miles southwest of Hau Duc. A spokesman said two ARVN soldiers were wounded.

.....

Helicopter gunships from the Americal Div., backed by artillery and tactical air strikes, killed 12 Reds and destroyed 23 bunkers **Saturday *[19JUN71]*** eight miles west of Quang Ngai, the command said. *[Historian Note: 11th Brigade reported actions of B/123rd Avn Bn that most likely fit this report. There were also actions by F/8th Cav and H/17th Cav reported for this day that may have added to the numbers reported. Americal Division Tactical Operations Center report for 19JUN71 entry#45:* 11th Bde, Sgt Lane, **B/123** Avn [Warlords], BS131714, 191345H. Obsr 7xVC evad, eng w/G/S. Res: **7xVC KIA**. Obsr fr air: 1xAK-47, destroyed by rkts. 2xmort rds, rice scattered in open, several rucksacks & ammo cans, blk unif. Area too rough to insert Blues. OH-6A eng & res 1xVC KIA at BS513712. Res of A/S#1: 2xVC KIA, 2xlarge caves dest. Arty fired in area. Res: 1xVC KBA, 9xbnkrs dest..*]*

Pacific Stars & Stripes
29Jun71 Page 6
Tuesday

Reds Take Heavy Losses In Battle Close to FB Fuller

S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON – North Vietnamese infantry took heavy losses in an attack on a South Vietnamese Marine position five miles south of contested Fire Support Base Fuller Saturday night, and U.S. Strategic Air Command bombers pounded areas west and southwest of Cam Loa with six missions Saturday night and Sunday morning, allied military spokesmen said.

Seventy-nine Communist soldiers died when they assaulted the marines' position atop Ba Ho Mountain south of Fuller, spokesmen said. The marines took light casualties and captured 10 rocket launchers, 132 rocket propelled grenades and 300 blocks of TNT in the fight, they said.

B52 strikes were flown in areas 20 and 25 miles west-northwest of Quang Tri, command spokesmen said.

South Vietnamese spokesmen also said a North Vietnamese unit inflicted light casualties on a 1st Inf. Div. battalion just southeast of Fuller on Friday. Enemy casualties were unknown.

Enemy gunners hit the headquarters area of the 11th Brigade, 23rd Inf. Div., at Duc Pho Sunday morning with about 20 rounds of 60mm mortar fire, U.S. command spokesmen said. The attack reportedly caused light casualties and damage. Duc Pho is about 100 miles south-southeast of Da Nang.

Five enemy soldiers were killed **Saturday** ***[26JUN71]*** by helicopter gunships of the 23rd Div. in an area six miles south of Da Nang, spokesmen said. *[Historian Note: the 196th brigade reported five enemy killed by* ***F/8th Cav Blueghosts*** *on this day, 11th Brigade also reported 2 killed and five captured by* ***B/123rd Avn*** *on this day. Americal Division Tactical Operations Center report for 26JUN71 entry # 42:* 11 Bde reported that **B/123 Avn** , 261520H. Eng 1xbnkr at BS758323. Inserted Aero Rifle plt to check bnkrs at BS759326. Update: Aero Rifle plt fd 2xVC KIA, 5xdtn (1xWIA). All will be evac to MACV Mo Duc. Aero Rifle plt extr at 1620H from BS759326. Fd 1xNVA canteen, 1xAK-47 mag, unk amt M-16 ammo, *1xpistol belt. Also Entry#59: 196 Bde reported that* ***F/8 Cav****, BT078687, 062125H. Obsr 5xVC in sampan w/blk PJ's. Sampan contained various cooking utensils, 3xrucksacks, 2xbags rice, 1xmetal tube which they threw into swamp, neg wpns. Night/Hawk eng w/SAF. Res: 5xVC KIA.]*

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Pacific Stars & Stripes
10Jul71 Page 6
Saturday

ARVN Control FB Near DMZ Border

S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON – South Vietnamese troops Thursday took control of the northernmost American fire base in South Vietnam, according to Vietnamese military sources.

Armored Personnel Carrier units from the 1st Brigade, 5th U.S. Inf. Div. (Mech.) left Fire Base Alpha 4, less than two miles south of the demilitarized zone, early Thursday, sources said.

The APC units, which had been operating out of the base and providing perimeter security, have been replaced by ARVN units, sources said.

American artillery, radar and sensor units will continue to work with ARVN soldiers at the camp, sources said. But the sources said the base is under operational control of the South Vietnamese army.

Meanwhile the U.S. command announced that an artillery battalion from the 1st Brigade, 5th Div. began stand down Thursday.

The redeployment of the 5th Bn., 4th Field Arty., which has had elements at Alpha 4, will create 660 space reductions, according to a communique issued by the command.

The first units from the 1st Brigade, 5th Div. arrived at Alpha 4 Aug. 12, 1968 to join elements of a Marine regiment manning the base.

The fire base, formerly known as Con Thien, was part of the McNamara Line, set up by former Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara as a defensive barrier along the northern border of South Vietnam.

The 1st Brigade, 5th Div., remains the northernmost American unit in Vietnam with headquarters at Quang Tri about 13 miles south of the DMZ.

The first elements of the brigade began to stand down on July.

The U.S. command Thursday reported only two contacts involving American ground troops, and South Vietnamese spokesmen reported only seven attacks against government military units and civilians, the lowest number since 19 April.

GIs from the 3rd Brigade, 1st Cav. Div. killed seven Reds while suffering no casualties 55 miles east of Saigon, according to a command communique.

One American was killed and three wounded **Wednesday** ***[07JUL71]*** when an element from the **196th Brigade**, **Americal Div**. clashed with Communist forces 20 miles southwest of Da Nang, the command said.

The GIs, backed by artillery and helicopter gunships, killed two Reds.

[Historian Note: This action involved 196th – C/1/1st Cav and ***F/8th Cav*** *(air)]*

Pacific Stars & Stripes
21Jul71 Page 6
Wednesday

Reds Rocket U.S. Base; Damage, Casualties Light

S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON – Communist gunners hit an American aviation unit less than 15 miles from Saigon with about five 107mm rockets Monday morning, causing light casualties and damage the U.S. Command said.

It was the second attack in three days on elements of the 1st Aviation Brigade stationed at Phu Loi, 13, miles north of Saigon.

Informed sources said Monday that Communist sappers struck the position of a maintenance unit there early Saturday. Three sappers were killed in the perimeter wire, and GIs suffered light casualties.

The Monday rocketing of Phu Loi was the first indirect fire attack in six days to cause casualties among Americans, according to command records.

Elsewhere in South Vietnam action was light and scattered.

Red gunners hot down a U.S. Army OH6 observation helicopter 30 miles southwest of Da Nang Saturday. There were no American casualties, the U.S. command said. **[Historian Note: On Sunday F/8th Cav had an OH6 shot down on bomb damage assessment. 1 WIA and helicopter was a total loss.]**

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GIs from the Americal Div.'s 196th Brigade killed three North Vietnamese Army soldiers while suffering no casualties in a skirmish southwest of Da Nang Sunday, field reports said.

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Pacific Stars & Stripes
27Jul71 Page 6
Tuesday

Gunships, Jets Kill 38 Reds; Helo Downed Over Cambodia

S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON – A flurry of air activity dominated American combat action in Vietnam and Cambodia over the weekend.

The U.S. command said helicopter gunships and tactical air strikes killed 38 Communists and two Americans were killed and one wounded when a U.S. Army OH6 light observation helicopter was shot down in Cambodia.

The helicopter went down Saturday in Kratie Province, where the South Vietnamese army is conducting a new drive against enemy sanctuaries in eastern Cambodia.

Gunships from the Americal Div. and tactical air strikes killed 31 Reds 27 miles southwest of Quang Ngai in two days of action, spokesmen said. In addition, two bunkers were destroyed and there were two secondary explosions.

[Historian Note: 24th Jul: D/1/1st Cav (air) reported 3 VC KIA and secondary explosion. B/123rd Avn Bn reported 13 NVA KIA, B/123rd reported 3 NVA killed by Air Strikes working with 1/52nd Inf. Bn. B/123rd reported 1 NVA killed by Air Strikes.

25 Jul: B/123rd Avn Bn reported 1 NVA, then 11 NVA, then 1 NVA KIA as Blue team was being extracted by UH-1H; F/8th Cav reported 1 KIA, then D/1/1st Cav reported 1 KIA, then B/123rd reported 4 NVA KIA]

Further north 101st Airborne Div. helicopter gunships killed seven Communists six miles east of Khe Sanh, spokesmen said.

Meanwhile, spokesmen said B52 stratofortress bombers flew five missions in Vietnam between noon Saturday and noon Sunday. Four of the strikes were in the northern region, while one struck 27 miles northwest of Kontum in the central highlands.

About 40 U.S. helicopter sorties and 10 tactical air strikes were flown in support of the new phase of Operation Toan Thang 1/71 in eastern Cambodia Saturday, spokesmen said.

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-- Troops of the 1st ARVN Div. killed eight Communists in Quang Tri Province **and a unit of the 2nd ARVN Div. killed seven Reds in Quang Ngai Province.** ARVN losses were reported as one wounded in the Quang Tri fighting

Pacific Stars & Stripes
23Aug71 Page 6
Monday

Americal GIs Tangle With Reds, Kill 14

S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON – Americal Div. soldiers **supported by helicopter gunships** slugged it out with a Communist force nine miles west of Hoi An in Quang Nam Province **Friday** ***[20AUG71]*** and killed 14 Reds without taking a casualty, the U.S. command said Saturday. ***[Historian Note: Americal Division Tactical Operations Center report for 20AUG71 entry#50: 196 Bde, LT Bougess, F/8 cavalry (Blue Ghost]. Inserted plat of B/1-46, obsr pers in woodline at 1343H, Blues from F Troop 8th Cavalry inserted BT036597, OH-6A rec 35xrds SAF at 40', 50k w/2xhits, neg sig dam. 1357H at BT036598 LOH obsr 3-4xpers evad (NVA w/pks). Eng w/M-60. Res: 2xNVA KIA. 1415H, Blues obsr 1xNVA w/pk evad, eng w/SAF. Res: 1xNVA KIA. 1430H BT033596 LOH obsr 5-6xNVA evad, eng w/M-60. Res: 2xNVA KIA.]***

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An Army OH6 was shot down nine miles north-northwest of Cam Lo Friday, the command said. The ship crashed and burned but there were no friendly casualties.

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Pacific Stars & Stripes

04Oct71- Page 6
Monday

Photo Caption: AN INJURED SOLDIER IS RUSHED TO AN EVACUATION HELICOPTER AT FIRE BASE PACE. AP Radiophoto

Reds Kill 18 ARVNs in Delta Base Attack.

S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON – Communists stormed a South Vietnamese position in the Delta early Saturday, killing 18 ARVN soldiers and wounding 64, an informed South Vietnamese military source said.

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In Quang Nam Province Communists shot down a U.S. Army OH6 light observation
helicopter Friday, wounding one American, spokesmen said.
[Historian Note: ***Reported by 196th Bde at*** *ZC181483:* ***F/8th Cavalry (Blue Ghosts)*** *discovered a complex with 15-40 bunkers after VR LOH received fire with but no hits. Later a LOH took fire from 15-20 enemy during attack on positions at 40 feet and 50 knots. Two NVA killed before LOH went down with one wounded crewman. Blue team inserted had secured helicopter.* ***Americal Division Commanding General*** *gave permission to destroy LOH. Navy Airstrikes destroyed the LOH with secondary explosions.]*

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[Historian Notes: Americal Division Daily Newsheets were printed to be shared one to every eight soldiers in the field. For this compilation I am compiling the entire day's action of the reporting for the Division's actions for days where F/8th Cavalry actions are reported. I was surprised to find this section has grown much larger than expected. Apparently something was reported for the actions of F Troop, 8th Cavalry nearly every day that we have Daily Newsletters for. The daily reporting is reporting the actions of the previous day. However, the weather forecast is usually for the next day.

Although the 1/1st Cavalry Squadron was not as large as the infantry brigades, when it operated in the right terrain it was equivalent to a full infantry brigade. In 1968 and into 1969 F/8th Cavalry was the substitute for their organic air cavalry component. As such they were a vital component of the 1/1st Cavalry Squadron.

Blue Ghosts were based at Ky Ha peninsula (northern Chu Lai) sharing the flight line with A and B companies of the 123rd Aviation Battalion. In cases where helicopters were not available due to combat damage helicopters were borrowed between B/123rd and F/8th Cavalry. Also crews from different units were known to share crews from each others unit.

Personal comments: I had served as a crewchief doing many missions for the 1/1st Cavalry Regiment based at Hawk Hill in 1968-1969. I observed that the Blueghosts had crews stayed overnight at Hawk Hill (Hill 29) with the 1/1st Cavalrymen. In the mornings it was an inspiring sight to see the Blueghosts Cobras start up in the early morning fog at Hawk Hill. The heavy moisture in the air made these beautiful scenes with contrails of mist on the tips of the main rotors as they started up.

Many days of doing the C&C missions for the 1/1st Cav we were able to observe the Blueghosts working with a LOH and the Cobras. It was very impressive! Tanks at this time were the M-48 tanks interspersed with M-113 armored Cavalry tracks. Mines were a constant danger. The enemy initially was very vulnerable, but then armed with RPG-7s were dangerous. Actions usually centered around hillocks found in the midst of a region of rice paddies. Tracks would surround the hillock firing away. Then often heavy airstrikes would hit the enemy positions for hours.

The Blueghosts were replaced by D Troop 1/1st Cavalry in 1969. D Troop 1/1st Cavalry was designated as the organic air cavalry for the 1/1st Regiment. The unit designations for the armor units were A, B and C Troop of 1/1st Cavalry. The organic air component was designated D Troop 1/1st Cavalry, but it had not come to Vietnam with the 1/1st Cavalry Regiment. When it was discovered that D Troop had arrived in Vietnam with the 101st Airborne Division, Major General Charles Gettys petitioned to get D 1/1st Cavalry re-assigned to the 1/1st Cavalry in the Americal Division. This came to be in 1969.

The cavalrymen were not happy with D 1/1st Cavalry at first. They were not used to working gun runs with tracks, and they initially had several incidents where their fire drifted into the track vehicles. The rounds hitting the tracks were like someone hitting the tracks with a sledge hammer, but gave the cavalrymen headaches. F/8th Cavalry was then available to provide air cavalry support for other units

Volume 1 No. 272 Americal Daily New Sheet Tuesday January 17, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Thursday partly cloudy to cloudy. There will be intermittent rain throughout the day. Winds from the northeast at 5-10 miles per hour. High Thursday 80. Low Thursday night 61.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) – Gunships rained terror from the sky as they played an important role of the day's activities. In numerous air-to-ground contacts, the Americal Division helicopters reported killing 18 of the 25 enemy killed in yesterday's action. Since Jan. 1, 91 Hoi Chanhs have rallied to the government's side, under the Cheiu Hoi (Open Arms) Program. This brings the total number of Hoi Chanhs to 1,205 since Army units moved into the Chu Lai area on April 20.

In operation Wheeler/Wallowa gunships accounted for ten of the 14 VC killed yesterday by units of Americal's 196th Brigade in action west of Tam Ky. Four weapons were also captured in the fighting.

Nine of the kills recorded by **"C" troop, 7th Squadron, 17th Air Cavalry** were a result of several contacts throughout the "Chargers" area of operations.

In the largest single incident of the day, the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry observed six VC fleeing from their position. With the support of gunships overhead, the infantrymen moved against the enemy. After receiving on incoming grenade, the "Guardians" opened up with automatic weapons fire resulting in four VC kills. **"C" Troop's** "Blue Ghost" gunships engaged the other two, killing one and wounding the other. The latter was evacuated to Hill 35 for medical treatment and interrogation. A search of the area disclosed three weapons: an M-16, a Chicom bolt action rifle and a carbine. Also, two hand grenades, two AK-47 clips, four M-14 clips, a pair of field glasses and some NVA gear were uncovered. Another unit found one shotgun, one AK-47 clip, four VC ponchos, six boxes of AK-47 ammunition and some medical supplies while searching an area northwest of Tm Ky. Another "Guardian" element detained two suspects, one of which was carrying documents and an M-16 clip. In other ground action, a unit observed one VC running into a hut. Artillery was called in resulting in a secondary explosion and the death of the VC.

Gunships blasted enemy ground forces in Americal's 3rd "Garry Owen" Brigade of the 1st Air Cavalry area yesterday as the skytroopers killed five enemy and

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ground forces detained nine suspects in action in the Que Son Valley.

Brigade scout gunships killed two NVA attempting to mine the road between LZs Baldy and Ross three miles southwest of LZ Baldy. Later in the same area, the gunships pursued several guerrillas and killed two VC. The 227th Assault Helicopter Battalion killed one VC outside LZ Leslie.

The 5th Battalion, 7th Cavalry captured 600 pounds of rice one mile northeast of LZ Ross. another "Garry Owen" unit captured 600 pounds of rice and five NVA gas masks outside LZ Leslie. Various units detained the nine suspects. The "Black Horse" of the 2nd Battalion, 12th Cavalry moved into an area about three miles north of LZ Leslie and recovered a helicopter downed on January 7th.

The Air Force flew 19 tactical air strikes yesterday in support of Americal units and destroyed seven bunkers, 1 fortified structures, 30 meters of trench line, one anti-aircraft site and a suspected enemy headquarters. Four of the air strikes were flown in support of the 3rd Brigade.

Once again gunships swept down from the clear blue sky and accounted for four of the five kills during the day for Americal's 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry in Operation Muscatine.

"Aloha Airlines" of the brigade's aviation section, operating southwest of here, observed three VC with weapons and engaged them. The three VC were killed and one rifle was captured. in the other air action of the day "Sharks" gunships of the 174th Aviation Company observed one VC evading. They downed the VC with a burst of machine gun fire.

In ground action, a unit operating 12 miles southeast of here killed one VC in an early morning contact.

One VC was killed by a unit of Americal's 198th Brigade in action south own yesterday. In nine area medical visits 1,006 Vietnamese were treated—the largest in one day by the "Brave and Bold."

Elements of Americal's 11th Brigade reported killing three more VC in action around Duc Pho late Monday night.

A unit of the **1st Battalion, 20th Infantry** accounted for three kills in the "Jungle Warriors" only contact. The unit was moving a platoon-size ambush force into place five miles southeast of Duc Pho, When they received fire from an undetermined number of enemy. In three and one-half hours of fighting, the platoon reported killing three Viet Cong and detaining one suspect. The company was led by CPT Sario Caravalho (Ewa Beach, Ha). In the days only other contact, another element of the "Syke's Regulars" uncovered 250 pounds of rice, documents and an ammunition box full of medical supplies. the company, commanded by CPT Ernest Medina (Schofield Barracks, Ha), was operating three miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Americal Units reported no U.S. soldiers were killed, but six infantrymen were wounded in yesterdays fighting.

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Americal Daily News Sheets-Americal Action. Vol. 1. No. 273
Thursday January 18, 1968

A M E R I C A L N E W S

CHU LAI (AMERICAL)

--Elements of the Americal Division operating in southern I Corps Tactical Zone saw their biggest action this week, when they reported killing 120 of the enemy.

Operation Muscatine, a multi-battalion operation being conducted in Binh Son and Son Tinh Districts of northern Quang Ngai Province, reported its largest single contact since the offensive started in late December.

An Americal brigade netted 93 enemy kills and the capture of 35 weapons. Since Muscatine began on Dec. 21, 1967, 334 VC and six NVA soldiers have been killed. Ninety-five individual weapons have been captured. U.S. forces have suffered 21 infantrymen killed and 90 wounded.

Operation Wheeler/Wallowa, being conducted in Quang Tin and Quang Nam provinces, claimed 22 enemy kills. Since the offensive began in late September, 2,227 VC and 2,230 NVA soldiers have been killed. In that operation 374 US soldiers have been killed and 1,297 wounded. Other units operating south of here claimed the remaining 15 kills of the day.

Another record was set yesterday, when the Americal Division surpassed the 10,000 mark in enemy kills since April 20, when Army units moved into the Chu Lai area.

A sharp contact with the enemy in Operation Muscatine yesterday was responsible for the number of enemy kills by Americal Division forces to surpass the 10,000 mark. Americal's 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry reported killing 83 enemy, 80 of which were killed in one heavy ground action.

In the largest action of the day, a company from the 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry operating southeast of here in Operation Muscatine came under heavy automatic weapons fire, small arms fire and a grenade attack. At the end of the day 80 enemy bodies were counted, 10 suspects detained, along with 35 weapons, three B-40 rockets, 177 grenades and a large amount of ammunition captured. The weapons included 10 M-1 rifles, four BARs, four AK-47s, six M-1 carbines, four M-2 carbines, two MAT-49s, one sub-machine gun, one K-50 machine gun, four M-79 grenade launchers, and two .45 caliber pistols.

Later in the afternoon, "Aloha Airlines" observed three VC with weapons and killed them. A company of the 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry operating 18 miles south of here located one ton of rice in fortified structures.

In the fishing village of Sa Huynh the 3rd Brigade's S-5 attended a celebration marking the opening of a new market place built by the villagers with American aid.

In heavy ground fighting 20 miles southeast of here, Americal's 198th Brigade killed nine enemy. The ground saw two Americal Division brigades team up in Operation Muscatine. Americal's 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry recorded 80 enemy kills in the contact.

The operation began in the morning and by noon had put the enemy into a trap that left no avenue of escape. After contact was made early yesterday morning one U.S. officer following the action said, "The only way the VC could escape would be to walk across the South China Sea."

A company from **1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry** led by CPT Virgil Lee Cone (Fayetteville, N.C.) reported contact at 7:15 a.m., with an unknown size VC force. Supporting gunships moved into- the area and two VC were killed. A few hours later another company led by CPT Sam Booher (Chattanooga, Tenn) engaged

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three more enemy in a tunnel. The infantrymen killed two VC in the action and detained one. One M-1 carbine was also captured. An element of the company detained three more suspects later in the morning. Shortly after noon CPT Cone's company again reported contact as they killed five more enemy in three brief fire fights.

Officials reported that the ground forces blocked the enemy force from the north where they were killed by the "Bronco's" 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry. Officials also reported that most of the enemy killed in the Muscatine action yesterday were local force regulars.

Civic action soldiers of the "Brave and Bold" treated 503 Vietnamese in five area MEDCAPs yesterday.

In Operation Wheeler/Wallowa Americal's 3rd "Garry ??(Owen), of the 1st Air Cavalry killed 17 VC and captured more than ten thousand--pounds of rice in the Que Son Valley yesterday.

Brigade scouts accounted for 11 VC kills in a search of an area three miles northwest of LZ Ross. The 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry killed five enemy in three separate incidents five miles northeast of Ross and outside LZ Cole. Aerial rocket artillery accounted for the other kill. The 5th Squadron, 7th Cavalry captured 1,550 pounds of rice in an area five miles northeast of LZ Ross and the 1st Battalion, 35th Infantry captured another 9,000 pounds of rice in the same area.

In other Wheeler/Wallowa action northwest of Tam Ky yesterday, elements of Americal's 196th Brigade killed five VC and detained 15 suspects.

A unit of the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry while searching through some huts discovered a weapon and ammunition cache, which included one BAR, three bolt action rifles, one case of 30 caliber ammunition, two cases of M-1 ammunition, eleven 60mm mortar rounds, 1,000 rounds of M-60 ammunition, fifteen 2.5 rockets, some US ponchos and web gear, one NVA canteen and some medical supplies. Another company of the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry evacuated 5,000 pounds of rice from two separate locations to Hill 35. **"C" Troop's** "Blue Ghosts" accounted for two VC kills as they fled their aircraft. Another element of the "Guardians" engaged three VC evading 400 meters from their position, resulting in one VC kill. A US hand grenade was found on the body. A unit of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry and a gunship of the "Blue Ghosts" each accounted for one VC kill.

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Americal's 14th Aviation Battalion flew 590 sorties, carried 461 combat troops, hauled 166 tons of cargo in support of division units yesterday.

Volume 1 No. 275 Americal Daily New Sheet Saturday January 20, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Cloudy Sunday with occasional rain. Winds from the northeast at 9 miles per hour. High Sunday 83. Low 70.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) – Units of the Americal Division accounted for 27 enemy kills in action centered in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa being conducted in Quang Nam and Quang Tin Provinces.

Americal's 3rd "Garry Owen" Brigade, of the 1st Air Cavalry killed 13 enemy, detained 18 suspects and captured 1,400 pounds of rice in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa yesterday.

The 1st Battalion, 21st Artillery accounted for eight of the kills yesterday. Brigade scouts operating two miles northeast of LZ Baldy spotted an enemy patrol and called in artillery resulting in the eight kills. The 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry killed two enemy; one NVA one mile east of LZ Ross and one VC two miles northeast of LZ Baldy. The 1st Squadron, 7th Cavalry killed one NVA, two VC and uncovered 300 pounds of rice about one mile southeast of LZ Leslie.

The bulk of the enemy rice was captured by the 4th Squadron, 7th Cavalry at two locations; 600 pounds three miles north of LZ Ross and 500 lbs two miles north of LZ Ross.

Elements of Americal's 196th Brigade killed eight VC, two NVA and detained 12 suspects as "Charger" units participated in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa.

Gunships from **"C" Troop, 7th Squadron, 17th Air Cavalry** killed two NVA. The enemy were killed as they attempted to evade the aircraft. the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry searched the area and found one Chicom hand grenade, one M-1 rifle, two green uniforms and some documents. "Blue Ghost" gunships also killed four VC in two separate incidents and detained three suspects. A company of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry also killed four VC, who were fleeing from the infantrymen. "C" Troop, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry engaged four VC about 250 meters from the Cav position. A check of the area found one VC wounded, one hand grenade, one ammunition pouch and 30 rounds of Chicom ammunition. The wounded VC was evacuated to the 2nd Surgical Hospital for treatment and interrogation. the Cav unit also detained and evacuated one suspect who was found hiding in a bunker. "A" Troop of the same unit detained three suspects and found an M-26 hand grenade and 18 rounds of M-1 ammunition. "F" Troop (F Troop = F/17 Cavalry armor) also evacuated two more suspects and the 4th Battalion 31st Infantry detained another. An element of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry detained a suspect who had been following them on their patrol. The individual had a US bayonet and a flashlight in his possession. An element of the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry found two NVA canteens, some documents, and a diary, while on a search and destroy mission.

The "Jungle Warriors" of Americal's 11th Brigade hit enemy supply points and killed four VC in action north and south of Duc Pho.

In action seven miles north of Duc Pho a company of the **1st Battalion, 20th Infantry** commanded by CPT Ernest Medina (Schofield Barracks, Ha) spotted a small VC force in the morning. The unit called in helicopter gunships which killed two enemy. Another company of the "Syke's Regulars", commanded by Sario Caravalho (Ewa Beach, HA) located six graves five miles wet of Duc Pho. A

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reconnaissance platoon of the "Syke's Regulars" under 1LT William Adams (Madison, Ind) burned approximately 1,000 punji stakes, which they found tied in bundles six miles east of Duc Pho.

Eight miles northwest of Duc Pho an element of the 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry led by CPT Patrick M. Trinkle (Stonewall-on-the-Hudson, N.Y.) discovered a 155mm booby-trapped round, one radio and a number of documents. Two American Soldiers were wounded by a booby-trapped M-79 round. In the same area a reconnaissance element from the 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry led by 1LT John P. Nolan (Hopkinsville, Ky) found leaflets urging the Vietnamese to help kill American troops. A further search netted two radios, one Chicom grenade, and documents. Five suspects were also detained. Twenty miles northwest of Duc Pho a company commanded by CPT Joseph Rhinehart (Canton, N.C.) detained two suspects, on whom they found a number of home made bombs and ammunition. Two US soldiers were wounded by a grenade in the incident. CPT Stanley Wisniewski (Sugar Notch, Pa) led his company to an area about seven miles north of Duc Pho, where they made contact with a VC unit of unknown size. The killed two VC and detained one suspect in the action.

In Operation Muscatine, Americal's 198th reported no enemy kills as they continued operating southeast of here.

Civic action soldiers of the "Brave and Bold" treated 363 Vietnamese during five area MEDCAPs yesterday.

Three was no enemy contact in Americal's 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry's area of operation yesterday as "Bronco" units participated in Operation Muscatine.

Americal Division units reported two U.S. soldiers were killed and 10 wounded in ground action yesterday.

Americal's 14th Aviation Battalion flew 1,083 sorties, carried 1,261 combat troops, and hauled 277 tons of cargo in support of division units yesterday.

Volume 2 No. 15 Americal Daily New Sheet Saturday May 4, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT Sunday will be partly cloudy with light fog in the valleys during the early morning and scattered rain showers in the mountains in the afternoon and early evening. The winds will be from the south and the high for tomorrow 95 and the low tomorrow night 75.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - Action was sporadic yesterday as Americal units experienced minimal enemy resistance in their southern I Corps area. Division forces killed 13 VC and captured five individual weapons. Division units suffered 15 soldiers wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Elements of Americal's 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry killed six VC yesterday during fighting in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa. Four of the VC were killed by elements of **"F" Troop, 8th cavalry** in fighting five miles northeast of Thang Binh. An air strike in support of ground troops accounted for two more VC killed and the destruction of 15 fortified structures and two bunkers in the same area.

During lightly scattered contacts, Americal's 11th Brigade killed four VC and detained 27 suspects for questioning yesterday.

A company of the 4th Battalion, 3d Infantry commanded by CPT Vernon Campbell (Patten, Maine) killed a VC yesterday morning three miles west of Binh Son in Operation Muscatine. the enemy soldier was carrying documents and a hand grenade. Another "Old Guard" company located and destroyed six Chicom mortar rounds seven miles northeast of Quang Ngai.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123d Aviation Battalion killed one VC in a brief engagement eight miles northeast of Quang Ngai. Later the ground units of the Scouts apprehended 14 suspects.

Infantrymen from the 3d Battalion, 1st Infantry led by CPT Joe Rhinehart (Canton, N.C.), killed a VC during a patrol six miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Thursday evening, cavalrymen from the 1st Armored Cavalry killed an enemy soldier and found a hand grenade and some equipment four miles southwest of Duc Pho.

Nine tunnel complexes, two of them large enough to hold two VC companies, were uncovered and destroyed by 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry soldiers.

Thursday, the Volunteer Informant Program conducted by the 4th Battalion, 3d Infantry in Operation Muscatine, collected three LAWs, 49 mortar rounds, 34 anti-personnel mines, 4,800 rounds of .30 caliber ammunition.

Elements of Americal's 198th Infantry Brigade killed three VC yesterday in Operation Burlington Trail and Wheeler/Wallowa.

An Americal artillery Forward Observer, flying in support of Operation Wheeler/Wallowa ground forces, spotted two VC yesterday. The Viet Cong were killed when he accurately called in artillery fire upon them.

An element of the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry apprehended three suspects in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa yesterday. Two of the suspects were carrying hand grenades. Another unit of the same battalion engaged a group of VC in a fire fight as a Vietnamese civilian led them to a hidden weapons cache. The unit called in artillery and gunships on the enemy. There was no damage assessment made at the end of the afternoon when the unit was removed from the area.

In Operation Burlington Trail, and element of the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry killed one VC and destroyed 10 punji pits yesterday. Moments after the first contact, the unit engaged another VC who fled leaving his Chicom carbine.

Elements of the 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry operating south of Chu Lai, yesterday, discovered two tunnels, 450 pounds of corn and detained a suspect who was carrying 100 birth certificates.

Volume 2 No. 16 Americal Daily New Sheet Sunday May 5, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Monday's forecast calls for partly to mostly cloudy, scattered rain showers with southerly winds from 5-10 knots. The high for Monday will be 95 and the low tomorrow night 75.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) – Units of the Americal Division experienced scattered contacts in their area of southern I Corps yesterday. Americal forces killed 14 VC and captured two individual weapons. Division units suffered three soldiers wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Americal's 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry killed nine VC and detained nine suspects in light contacts yesterday.

"F" Troop, 8th Cavalry killed six VC and detained nine suspects in contacts five miles northeast of Thang Binh in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa. "**F" Troop** killed two more VC and another 1st Cavalry element killed one VC in operations 12 miles southeast of Tam Ky in Operation Burlington Trail.

One air strike was flown in support of 1st Cavalry ground troops yesterday but no damage assessment has been reported.

Units of the 11th Brigade killed two VC and detained 15 suspects yesterday in their area of Quang Ngai Province.

A unit of the 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry led by CPT Joe Rhinehart (Canton, N.C.) killed an enemy soldier who attempted to flee into a tunnel three miles northwest of Duc Pho. The unit also detained four suspects and found documents and a hand grenade. Another "Always First" company detained a suspect carrying a zip-gun during a patrol eight miles southeast of Quang Ngai.

Second ARVN Division soldiers spotted a group of uniformed VC during a visual reconnaissance mission four miles northeast of Quang Ngai. "Aero Scouts" of the 123rd Aviation Company [Battalion] killed one of the Viet Cong after they were called to the area.

Combat units of the Americal's 198th Infantry Brigade killed three VC and captured one weapon yesterday during scattered contacts.

Most of the action occurred in Operation Burlington Trail when a company of the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry engaged several enemy after receiving small arms fire. The unit killed one VC. Later in the afternoon, the company located a Chicom rifle.

Late in the evening, a unit of the 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry returned fire on snipers 18 miles east of Chu Lai. The infantrymen killed two VC.

In Operation Wheeler/Wallowa, engineers located and destroyed three mines during a mine sweeping mission yesterday. The mines were planted in the brigade's road between LZ Ross.

A unit of the 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry found 10 60mm mortar rounds, four satchel charges and three hand grenades that a group of VC left behind after the unit caught them in an ambush. Earlier in the afternoon another unit of the same battalion uncovered a small ammunition cache during a seep southeast of Chu Lai. More than 400 rounds of .30 caliber ammunition, three anti-tank mines and two rifle grenades were found.

A group of Vietnamese boys found that it paid to help the 198th Infantry Brigade yesterday. They were paid 1,200 piasters for turning in five 105mm rounds.

Civic action of the "Brave and Bold" soldiers treated 408 Vietnamese civilians during two medical visits yesterday.

Vol. 2. No. 17 Monday May 6, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Cloudy to mostly cloudy with rain showers in the mountains. Winds from the southeast at 10 to 15 knots. High Tuesday 95. Low Tuesday night 75.

Americal Division News

CHU LAI (AMERICAL-IO)-- After a night of mortar, rocket and ground assaults on many of the Americal Division's installations in their area of southern I Corps, only light damage was reported yesterday. Contacts included a rocket assault on the Chu Lai air base causing minimal damage. During yesterday's fighting, Americal units killed 25 VC and 18 NVA and captured 11 individual and five crew-served weapons.

Combat units of Americal's 198th Infantry Brigade killed 23 enemy yesterday in heavy fighting. The kills occurred when infantrymen fought off attacking enemy forces who were firing mortars and rockets into the brigade's fire base camps in Quang Tin Province.

Enemy attacks in the Que Son Valley, began early yesterday morning with all but one of the brigade's bases receiving rocket, mortar and ground assaults. Only light damage was reported throughout the brigade's area.

A unit of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry repulsed the heaviest attack at a fire support base center 15 miles west of Tam Ky. After receiving heavy mortar and rocket fire the company killed 18 NVA and captured eight AK-47 rifles, five RPG-2 rocket launchers and a 9mm pistol. The enemy withdrew from the area at daylight.

Elsewhere in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa, a unit of the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry killed one VC. Two more VC were killed by an air strike in support of ground troops.

Another two Viet Cong were killed in the Chu Lai area by artillery which was supporting 198th ground troops. Troops from the 17th Cavalry found the bodies while moving on Hwy#1.

Elements of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry killed 12 VC and detained 20 suspects in increased fighting yesterday. **"F" Troop, 8th Cavalry** saw the most action in contacts seven miles northwest of Tam Ky in Operation Burlington Trail. **"F" Troop** killed seven VC, captured two suspects. Another element of the 1st Cavalry killed one VC and detained 12 suspects in operations seven miles southwest of Tam Ky. Late in the evening, elements at a base camp killed three VC while turning back an attacking force.

"F" Troop killed another VC yesterday afternoon in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa two miles north of Thang Binh.

Increased activity in the Duc Pho area resulted in eight VC killed by elements of the Americal's 11th Brigade 3d Battalion 1st Infantry yesterday. A total of 33 suspects were detained for questioning by the "Jungle Warriors" throughout southern Quang Ngai Province.

"Always First" soldiers led by CPT Joe Rhinehart (Canton, N.C.) killed four VC in separate contacts during a reconnaissance patrol five miles north of Duc Pho. The unit also detained 12 suspects.

Another 3d Battalion, 1st Infantry unit led by CPT William Riggs (Houston, Tex.) killed two VC following a combat assault yesterday seven miles east of Quang Ngai. A platoon of the same company and APC personnel of the 1st Armored Cavalry flushed out to VC from rice paddies 11 miles northwest of Duc Pho. The Viet Cong were killed by door gunners of the battalion's command and control helicopter.

Division units suffered nine soldiers killed and 17 wounded and evacuated for treatment during yesterday's activity.

Volume 2 No. 18 Americal Daily New Sheet Tuesday May 7, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT Wednesday will be partly cloudy with rain showers in the mountains and fog in the valleys in the morning. The winds will be southeasterly from 5 - 10 knots. The high tomorrow 95 and the low Wednesday night 75.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) – Action tapered of in the Americal Division's area of southern I Corps yesterday. In sporadic contacts Americal's soldiers killed 18 VC and five NVA and captured five individual weapons.

Activity was heavy in the Duc Pho area yesterday as Americal's 11th Brigade killed 11 enemy soldiers, apprehended 19 suspects and captured five weapons in southern Quang Ngai Province.

A Viet Cong rallier led a unit of the 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry commanded by 2LT William T. Archibald (Union, Ill) to a tunnel containing three VC in an area three miles southeast of Mo Duc. The "Always First" unit killed the three VC during a subsequent firefight and captured two weapons and four hand grenades. Other infantrymen of the 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry killed two VC and detained three suspects yesterday during two contacts northwest of Duc Pho.

Personnel from APCs of the 1st Armored Cavalry led by SSG Riley Hester (Dexter, Mo.) found three NVA bodies, explosives, satchel charges, two AK-47s and two Chicom hand grenades during a sweep southeast of the LZ Bronco perimeter. They also detained one suspect for questioning.

Units of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry killed two VC, detained five suspects and captured a .45 caliber pistol and a box of medical supplies in operations southeast of Duc Pho yesterday.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123d Combat Aviation Battalion supporting 4th Battalion 3d Infantry soldiers, in Operation Muscatine, killed one VC and apprehended six suspects yesterday morning in action 10 miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

Americal's 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry killed seven VC and two NVA yesterday in Operation Burlington Trail. **"F" Troop, 8th Cavalry** accounted for all but one of the kills in scattered contacts throughout the day. The two NVA and five of the VC were killed during four contacts in an area nine miles west of Tam Ky. Elements of **"F" Troop** killed the other VC in a skirmish 10 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Two air strikes were flown in support of the 1st Cavalry yesterday but no damage assessment has been reported.

Combat units of Americal's 198th Infantry Brigade killed three enemy during contacts yesterday in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa.

Infantrymen of the **1st Battalion, 20th Infantry** observed three VC late yesterday and in an engagement killed two of them. Earlier, another unit of the same battalion killed one VC 20 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Also in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa, Vietnamese children turned over to the brigade's soldiers three 105mm rounds, nine 81mm mortar rounds, 28 M-79 rounds and small arms ammunition in response to the Volunteer Informant Program.

Civic action soldiers of the "Brave and Bold" Brigade treated 170 Vietnamese during two medical visits yesterday.

Division units suffered two soldiers killed and 30 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Volume 2 No. 19 Americal Daily New Sheet Wednesday May 8, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Thursday will be partly cloudy with rain showers in the mountains during the afternoon. The winds will be from the southeast from 5 – 10 knots. The high for tomorrow 95 and the low tomorrow night 78.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) – Action was scattered in the Americal Division's area of southern I Corps yesterday. During sporadic fighting, division forces killed 12 VC and two NVA and captured two individual weapons.

Elements of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry killed four VC and detained nine suspects yesterday during action in Operation Burlington Trail. **"F" Troop, 8th Cavalry** and 1st Cavalry elements combined to kill the four VC in three contacts six miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Three air strikes were flow in support of the 1st Cavalry yesterday but no assessment of damage was reported.

Units of Americal's 198th Infantry Brigade killed six enemy soldiers in the Operation Wheeler/Wallowa area west of Tam Ky yesterday.

Elements of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry found two more NVA bodies yesterday that were left behind during action Sunday when the enemy was repulsed from Fire Support Base Center. The total kills for that action now stands at 20.

After receiving sniper fire, a company of the **1st Battalion, 20th Infantry** killed two Viet Cong during action in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa. Elsewhere in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa, a unit of the **1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry** killed two VC when they received sniper fire from a hootch six miles northwest of Thang Binh.

Vietnamese civilians again respond to the Volunteer Informant Program by turning in 10 dud bombs to brigade elements.

Civic action soldiers of the "Brave and Bold" Brigade treated 412 Vietnamese in five medical visits yesterday.

Americal's 11th Brigade soldiers killed four VC, detained 13 suspects and captured two weapons in light action around the Duc Pho area yesterday.

A rifle company of the 3d Battalion, 1st Infantry commanded by CPT Joe Rhinehart (Canton, N.C.) killed two VC during a combat sweep four miles north of Duc Pho. In the same area, two suspects, who were pointed out by a village chief, were apprehended. A reconnaissance platoon of the same battalion led by 1LT James O'Herron (Winona, Minn.) killed one enemy soldier from an ambush site seven miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Elements of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry killed one VC and found two AK-47s and an assortment of equipment, including NVA uniforms, during action six miles south of Duc Pho. The "Gimlets" company led by CPT David O. Treadwell (Macon, Ga.) later uncovered two tunnels, a bunker and a sack of documents.

Americal units suffered nine soldiers killed and 19 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Volume 2 No. 20 Americal Daily New Sheet Thursday May 9, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Friday's forecast calls for fair skies, with southeasterly winds from 5 to 15 knots. High Friday 95 and low Friday night 75.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) – Action picked up yesterday as Americal forces reported 29 enemy soldiers killed and four individual and one crew-served weapons captured.

Units of the 198th Infantry Brigade killed 26 enemy yesterday in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa as contacts remained steady over a large portion of the area of operations.

A company of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry led by CPT Garland Reeves (Coolidge, Ariz.) accounted for 16 of the enemy kills. His company encountered an NA force and drove them from their prepared positions on a hill west of Tam Ky. One 12.7 anti-aircraft gun and two AK-47s were captured in the action. Another element of the battalion killed two NVA and captured one AK-47 rifle.

In other Operation Wheeler/ Wallowa action a company from the **1st Battalion, 20th Infantry** killed two VC. During a combat assault Tuesday night a company of the **1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry** closed with a VC unit. In the action that followed the "**Ready Rifles**" accounted for six enemy dead. They found four bodies on 8 May and located two more yesterday. Later yesterday they found one AK 47 and killed one VC.

A company of the 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry in Operation Burlington Trail killed one VC yesterday.

Civic action soldiers of the 198th Brigade treated 266 Vietnamese in six MEDCAPs yesterday.

Light enemy action was reported in Americal's 11th Infantry Brigade area yesterday. "Aero Scouts" of the 123d Aviation battalion killed two VC and apprehended six suspects while supporting Operation Muscatine forces 13 miles northwest of Quang Ngai. WO Gary Clark (Fairfax, Va.) and WO Marvin Stamos (Detroit, Mich.) piloted the helicopters that detained the suspects.

In other ground action a company of the 4th Battalion, 3d Infantry detained nine suspects during a sweep in the eastern portion of the Operation Muscatine area. Infantrymen from the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry evacuated five suspects and destroyed two fortified structures south of Duc Pho.

"F" Troop, 8th Cavalry aircraft accounted for the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry's only kill of the day. The cavalrymen also detained two suspects in the same action about five miles northwest of Thang Binh.

Americal units reported four soldiers killed and 23 wounded and evacuated for further medical treatment.

Volume 2 No. 23 Americal Daily New Sheet Sunday May 12, 1968
(Volume 2 No. 22 was a typo printed on this issue)

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Mostly fair to partly cloudy skies, with surface winds from the southeast at 5 to 15 knots. The high temperature for Monday 93. Low Monday night 76.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) – The Americal Division saw increased action yesterday as division forces netted 13 VC and 10 NVA captured four individual weapons in their area of southern I Corps.

A sharp increase in action was reported in Americal's 11th Brigade area yesterday as "Jungle Warriors" killed 10 enemy soldiers, detained 45 suspects for questioning, and recovered two individual weapons.

The majority of enemy contacts occurred five miles northwest of Duc Pho where infantrymen of the 3d Battalion, 1st Infantry commanded by CPT Joe Rhinehart (Canton, N.C.) killed seven VC, apprehended 12 suspects and found an M-1 rifle and other equipment in scattered contacts. "Aero Scouts" of the 123d combat Aviation Battalion killed one VC while supporting "Always First" soldiers seven miles northwest of Duc Pho.

A unit of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry led by CPT Fred H. Mowrey (San Gabriel, Calif.) killed two enemy after receiving fire yesterday afternoon six miles southeast of Duc Pho. The "Gimlet" company detained 20 suspects throughout the day's action.

In Operation Muscatine, personnel from APCs of the 1st Cavalry detained seven suspects and found an SKS rifle eight miles north of Quang Ngai.

Units of Americal's 198th Brigade killed six NVA in scattered action throughout their section of Operation Wheeler/Wallowa yesterday. One VC was killed in Operation Burlington Trail.

A company of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry found the bodies of five NVA soldiers who had been recently killed by artillery fire. They found the bodies while making a combat sweep through an area northwest of Tam Ky.

A unit of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry killed one NVA soldier and captured his AK-47 rifle in action seven miles north of Tien Phuoc in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa.

A unit of the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry operating in the Burlington Trail area killed one VC.

Civilians responding to the Volunteer Informant Program turned in nine artillery rounds to infantrymen of the "Brave and Bold" Brigade yesterday.

Elements of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry killed two VC and one NVA during scattered fighting in Operation Burlington Trail. **"F" Troop, 8th Cavalry** and other 1st Cavalry elements accounted for the kills while on a screening mission seven miles northwest of Tam Ky. The 1st Cavalry troopers also detained three suspects. Other Americal forces killed three NVA in operations yesterday.

Volume 2 No. 24 Americal Daily New Sheet Monday May 13, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Tuesday's forecast calls for continued fair skies with isolated rain showers in the mountains in the afternoon. The winds will be southeasterly from 10 – 15 knots. High for tomorrow 97 and the low Tuesday night 75.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) – The Americal Division continued with increased action yesterday as elements of the division killed 20 VC and 21 NVA and captured four individual and three crew-served weapons.

Action picked up for elements of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry as their troopers accounted for 18 enemy killed and four weapons captured in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa action yesterday.

In screening operations eight miles northwest of Tam Ky, troopers of **"F" Troop, 8th Cavalry** and other 1st Cavalry elements combined to kill 15 NVA and three VC and capture a 75mm recoilless rifle, one RPG-2, on RPG-7 and one SKS rifle.

Americal's 11th Brigade killed 11 enemy soldiers, detained 14 suspects and captured one individual weapon during action yesterday.

Helicopter gunships from the 123d Combat Aviation Battalion and the "Old Guard" command and control ship accounted for seven enemy kills after a rifle company of the 4th Battalion, 3d Infantry was combat assaulted into an area five miles west of Quang Ngai. The unit led by CPT Vernon A. Campbell (Patten, Maine) killed two more VC and captured a .38 caliber pistol, other field equipment, and documents. the unit also found an accessory kit containing three hand grenades, two mines, four 60mm rounds and other equipment.

An element of the 3d Battalion, 1st Infantry killed one VC two miles north of Duc Pho. Also in the Duc Pho area, "Gimlets" of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry killed one VC and apprehended seven suspects and destroyed several enemy bunkers and tunnels.

"Jungle Warriors" civil action personnel treated 922 Vietnamese during 19 MEDCAPs last week.

Americal's 198th Infantry Brigade killed 12 enemy soldiers and captured two weapons in steady action yesterday. Eleven of the kills and one of the weapons captured were reported by units in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa. Task Force Roach soldiers accounted for the other VC killed and the other weapon captured.

In Operation Wheeler/Wallowa a company of the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry killed three NVA while assaulting a hill west of Tam Ky. During a combat sweep west of Tam Ky, elements of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry found two enemy who had been killed by artillery fire. "Ready Rifle" soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 52d killed one VC late Saturday and three NVA yesterday during contacts in an area northwest of Tam Ky. The unit also captured one weapon. A unit of the 4th Battalion, 3d Infantry also killed two VC in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa 15 miles northwest of Tien Phuoc.

Task Force Roach soldiers of the **1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry** killed one Viet Cong and captured one weapon during an incident yesterday fifteen miles northwest of Chu Lai.

Civic action soldiers of Task Force Roach treated 169 Vietnamese during medical visits yesterday.

Volume 2 No. 25 Americal Daily New Sheet Tuesday May 14, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Wednesday will be partly cloudy with southeasterly winds from 8 – 15 knots. The high for Wednesday will be 95 and the low tomorrow night 75.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) – Americal units experienced scattered action yesterday during operations in their southern I Corps area. Division units killed seven VC and five NVA and captured one individual weapon throughout the day's fighting.

Elements of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry killed three VC and one NVA yesterday in Operation Burlington Trail. Troopers from **"F" Troop, 8th Cavalry** and other 1st Cavalry elements killed the four enemy during a screening operation seven miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Americal's 11th Infantry Brigade reported three enemy soldiers killed, five suspects detained and one weapon captured in widely scattered contacts throughout Quang Ngai Province yesterday.

A company of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry commanded by CPT Fred H. Mowrey Jr. (San Gabriel, Calif.) received sniper fire during a reconnaissance mission four miles south of Duc Pho. the unit returned the fire killing the sniper and recovering his .45 caliber pistol. Other "Gimlet" elements detained four suspects, destroyed three tunnels and found 1,600 rounds of small arms ammunition.

A reconnaissance platoon of the 3d Battalion, 1st Infantry led by 1LT James O'Herron (Winona, Minn.) killed one VC during a sweep two miles northeast of Mo Duc.

An "Aero Scout" helicopter from the 123d Combat Aviation Battalion killed another VC eight miles north of Quang Ngai in Operation Muscatine.

Units of Americal's 198th Infantry Brigade killed one VC and four NVA in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa action yesterday.

A unit of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry killed one VC in an engagement seven miles southeast of Que Son. Elsewhere in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa, artillery firing in support of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry killed three NVA in an area eight miles south of Que Son.

In response to the Volunteer Informant Program, Vietnamese civilians turned in 31 artillery and mortar rounds to soldiers of the 26th Engineers.

Volume 2 No. 26 Americal Daily New Sheet Wednesday May 15, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Thursday's forecast calls for partly cloudy skies with rain showers in the mountains in the afternoon and evening. The winds will be southeasterly from 8-15 knots. The high for Thursday 95 and the low 75.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) – Action continued to be sporadic yesterday as Americal units met moderate enemy resistance in their southern I Corps area. Division forces killed five VC and 35 NVA and captured 15 individual and eight crew-served weapons.

Elements of the 196th Brigade killed 35 NVA and captured 13 weapons during heavy fighting yesterday.

During two hours of fighting, elements of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry and the **1st Battalion, 20th Infantry** killed 35 NVA while assaulting a hill held by the enemy on Nui Hoac ridge. The Brigade took the hill and captured 13 weapons which included seven AK-47s, two semi-automatic rifles, one M-79, one RPD light machine gun, one RPG and one 60mm mortar tube.

Troopers of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry killed five VC during scattered contacts yesterday. Elements of **"F" troop, 8th Cavalry** accounted for three of the VC and other troopers of the 1st Cavalry killed two more. Two enemy were killed in Operation Burlington Trail and three were killed in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa.

Americal's 198th Infantry Brigade reported light enemy contact around the Chu Lai area yesterday. The brigade's infantrymen were led to a small arsenal by a Hoi Chanh.

The Hoi Chanh led soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry to a small hut 15 miles west of Chu Lai that turned out to be a weapons repair shop. In the hut, numerous weapons were found including three BARs, two .30 caliber machine guns, two AK-47s, one RPG-2, one 57mm recoilless rifle and one 83mm [sic] mortar tube. The cache also included numerous weapons parts. A brigade spokesman said the Hoi Chanh led infantrymen to the "exact location where the arms were found."

Americal's 11th Brigade infantrymen reported no significant contacts in their area of Quang Ngai Province yesterday. The "Jungle Warriors" apprehended 33 suspects for questioning and found an assortment of field equipment.

Americal forces suffered two soldiers killed and 30 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Volume 2 No. 27 Americal Daily New Sheet Thursday May 16, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Friday will be fair to partly cloudy with rain showers in the mountains during the afternoon. The winds will be southeasterly from 8 – 18 knots. The high for tomorrow 97 and the low Friday night 75.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) – Action remained scattered in the Americal Division's area of southern I Corps yesterday. Americal forces killed 13 VC and 17 NVA and captured nine individual and one crew-served weapons.

Americal's 11th Brigade infantrymen reported 12 enemy killed, 12 suspects apprehended and two weapons captured during action centered in the Duc Pho area yesterday.

An early morning combat assault by a unit of the 3d Battalion, 1st Infantry commanded by 1LT Kenneth Haller (Watchung, N.J.) netted six VC killed and seven suspects detained during several skirmishes five miles north of Duc Pho. The battalion's command and control helicopter killed one VC and picked up two suspects while covering the heliborne operation yesterday.

Three VC were killed south of Duc Pho yesterday by a Division Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol and infantrymen of the 4th Battalion 21st Infantry. Other "Old Guard soldiers found and destroyed three tunnels, 21 pounds of TNT and evacuated 1,300 pounds of rice.

An ambush patrol set by the brigade's security platoon led by SSG Juan Rios-Rivera (Piedrea, Puerto Rico) killed a VC yesterday morning one mile northeast of Duc Pho.

A company of the 4th Battalion, 3d Infantry operating seven miles west of Quang Ngai in Operation Muscatine, engaged and killed an enemy soldier and recovered two carbines, three hand grenades and other equipment.

Elements of the 196th Infantry Brigade killed 10 NVA and captured six weapons during action in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa yesterday.

The 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry accounted for 10 NVA killed when they called in an air strike in an area seven miles northwest of Tien Phuoc. Infantrymen of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry found six weapons including one AK-47, one M-79 and four rifles four miles north of Tien Phuoc.

Elements of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry killed one VC and seven NVA and captured two weapons yesterday during contacts in Operation Burlington Trail. **"F" Troop, 8th Cavalry** and other 1st Cavalry elements killed the eight enemy and captured one RPG-2 and one AK-47 during a screening mission 10 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Americal's 198th Infantry Brigade reported no significant contacts in their area of Quang Tin Province yesterday.

Americal forces suffered three soldiers killed and 12 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Volume 2 No. 30 Americal Daily New Sheet Sunday May 19, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT Partly cloudy Monday with possible thunderstorms in the afternoon. Winds from the southeast at 8 knots. High on Monday will be 100. Low Monday night 77.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) – The tempo of enemy activity picked up yesterday in the Americal division's area of southern I Corps. Americal forces killed 19 VC and 72 NVA and captured eight individual and one crew-served weapons.

Elements of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry, "Gimlets" led by CPT Dennis A. Leach (Fairmont, Minn) engaged and killed a VC who was running from behind a hut three miles east of Que Son. A search of the hut revealed a 105mm round which was destroyed.

Infantrymen of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry killed 55 NVA in heavy fighting when the unit assaulted an enemy position eight miles south of Que Son. Nine more NVA were killed and two AK-47's were captured by soldiers of the **1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry** during two contacts in an area eight miles southwest of Que Son.

In other Operation Wheeler/Wallowa action, infantrymen of the **1st Battalion, 20th Infantry** spotted and subsequently called in artillery on a group of NVA two miles west of Que Son resulting in four NVA killed. Artillery called in by a Division Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol accounted for three NVA killed seven miles southwest of Que Son.

Late yesterday, a unit of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry found the body of an NVA eight miles south of Que Son during a sweep operation. Earlier in the same area they found an RPD machinegun.

"Aero Scout" slicks and gunships of the 123rd Aviation Battalion commanded by Chief Warrant Officer Scott Baker ***[Historian note: In his unit he was known as "Foots" Baker.]*** (Sacramento, Calif), working as a gun team under a barrage of enemy fire, covered for a medevac helicopter which successfully evacuated wounded ground troops of the 196th Infantry Brigade in action west of Tam Ky.

Elements of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry killed 15 VC and detained four suspects during contacts in Operation Burlington Trail yesterday. Troopers of **"F" Troop, 8th Cavalry** and other 1st Cavalry elements combined to kill the enemy soldiers in 10 contacts 13 miles northwest of Tam Ky. In the action, one M-79, one AK-47 and an SKS were captured.

Two contacts in the northern and southern portions of the 11th Brigade's tactical area resulted in three VC killed, five suspects detained and one individual weapon captured.

A reconnaissance Platoon from the 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry killed two VC and captured an AK-47 rifle and equipment when the unit led by 1LT James O'Herron (Winona, Minn) engaged three enemy soldiers six miles southwest of Duc Pho.

A rifle company of the 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry killed one VC yesterday morning after receiving fire 13 miles northwest of Quang Ngai. Two suspects were detained and four anti-personnel mines wee destroyed by Operation Muscatine soldiers.

Elements of Americal's 198th Infantry Brigade encountered light activity during combat operations yesterday.

Infantrymen of the 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry captured 19 mortar rounds, 4,000 rounds of SKS ammunition and numerous explosive devices during a sweep in Operation Burlington Trail 15 miles northwest of Chu Lai.

Division units suffered five soldiers killed and 29 suffered five soldiers killed and 29 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Volume 2 No. 31 Americal Daily New Sheet MONDAY May 20, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT Fair to partly cloudy Tuesday with possible thunder storms in the mountains. Winds southeasterly at 8-15 knots. High Tuesday 102. Low Tuesday night 77.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) – Action decreased yesterday as scattered skirmishes in the Americal Division's area of southern I Corps resulted in 15 VC and 31 NVA killed and 62 individual and 16 crew-served weapons captured.

Activity in the 196th Infantry Brigade's area of operations slackened yesterday as brigade forces killed 42 enemy soldiers and captured 11 weapons in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa.

A unit of the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry killed four NVA and captured three weapons yesterday in action four miles north of Que Son. the weapons captured included two AK-47s and one K-44 rifle.

A unit of the 1st Battalion, 6th found one NVA yesterday who had been killed by an air strike and an AK-47 in an area eight miles south of Que Son. In the same area infantrymen of the battalion found 17 dead NVA who were recently killed by artillery and air strikes. A Reconnaissance Patrol called in artillery fire on a group of VC 10 miles west of Que Son resulting in three VC killed.

A unit of the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry received automatic weapons fire and subsequently killed nine NVA during a fire fight in an area seven miles southwest of Que Son. In the contact two Ak-37s and a 12.7 anti-aircraft machinegun were captured.

A company of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry, "Gimlets", led by CPT Robert E. Corregan Jr. (Arlington, Va) observed and engaged two NVA in fox holes eight miles southwest of Que Son. The infantrymen killed the two NVA and captured a BAR and an SKS. in the same area, the unit engaged and killed another NVA. Another "Gimlet" company led by CPT Dennis A. Leach (Fairmont, Minn) engaged and killed two VC in separate contacts five miles west of Que Son.

Infantrymen of the 198th Infantry Brigade uncovered a large weapons cache in Operation Burlington Trail yesterday. Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry were led to a large weapons cache by a detainee in an area 16 miles northwest of Cu Lai. The infantrymen found 65 weapons and more than 15,000 round of small arms ammunition. in the cache there were 50 individual and 15 crew-served weapons.

Civic action soldiers of the "Brave and Bold" Brigade treated 89 Vietnamese during two MEDCAPs yesterday.

Americal's 11th Infantry Brigade reported light enemy contact in their portion of the Quang Ngai Province yesterday. The "Jungle Warriors" killed four enemy soldiers, detained three suspects and captured two individual weapons.

Elements of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry killed two of the enemy and recovered a bolt action rifle yesterday in an area three miles south of Duc Pho,. The "Gimlets" also apprehended one suspect and captured some equipment.

A rifle company of the 3d Battalion, 1st Infantry commanded by CPT William Riggs (Houston, Texas) killed a VC in mountainous terrain six mils southwest of Duc Pho. The unit also recovered the soldier's AK-47 rifle and equipment.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123rd Aviation Battalion killed one VC yesterday in action six miles west of Quang Ngai in Operation Muscatine.

Civic action soldiers of the 11th Brigade treated 1342 Vietnamese during MEDCAPs last week.

Elements of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry killed two VC during scattered action in their area of operation yesterday. **"F" Troop, 8th Cavalry** reported both kills in an engagement four miles northeast of Thang Binh in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa. Other 1st Cavalry elements detained one suspect in yesterday's action.

Division units suffered two soldiers killed and 11 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Volume 2 No. 33 Americal Daily New Sheet WEDNESDAY May 22, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT Little change expected Thursday with partly cloudy skies. Thunderstorms in the mountains late in the afternoon. Winds variable at 5-10 knots. High Thursday 102. Low Thursday night 78.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) – Action remained sporadic yesterday as Americal Division forces reported eight VC and nine NVA killed and
nine NVA killed and 21 individual weapons captured during action in their southern I Corps area.

Americal's 196th Infantry Brigade accounted for nine NVA killed and two weapons captured when a brigade element called in artillery and air support yesterday in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa. Brigade soldiers also detained one suspect for questioning.

During scattered action yesterday, "F" Troop, 8th Cavalry and 1st Squadron Cavalry troopers killed six VC in Operation Burlington Trail and Operation Wheeler/Wallowa.

Units of Americal's 198th Infantry Brigade also reported light enemy contact as two VC were killed and another weapons cache was uncovered in the brigade's portion of Quang Ngai Province.

Light activity in the 11th Infantry Brigades' area around Duc Pho resulted in eight suspects apprehended and four weapons captured yesterday.

The 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, operating 13 miles wet of Tam Ky in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa, spotted and engaged a group of NVA yesterday. After artillery and gunships were called in to support the ground troops, nine dead NVA, an AK-47, a pistol and a radio were found. Elements of the same battalion also detained one suspect.

An air strike called in by a 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry element resulted in three VC killed 13 miles northwest of Tam Ky in Operation Burlington Trail. Nine miles southwest of Tam Ky, 1st Cavalry troopers engaged and killed one VC during a screening mission.

In Operation Wheeler/Wallowa, "**F" Troop, 8th Cavalry** killed two VC five miles northeast of Thang Binh.

A 198th Infantry Brigade unit from the 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry led by CPT John Sprague Jr. (Chamblee, Ga) killed one VC about 16 miles northwest of Chu Lai in Operation Burlington Trail.

The same company received the help of a grateful Vietnamese who led them to an enemy uniform and grenade factory yesterday. The Vietnamese civilian, showing his tanks to the Americans for evacuating his entire family from a VC controlled village, took the men to the factory which contained 200 uniforms, tools for making hand grenades and 15 individual weapons. The weapons included three Chicom carbines, one sub-machinegun, four Springfield rifles, five MAS-36s, two MAS-39s and 17 weapon barrels. IN addition, 3,000 rounds of ammunition and 15 rockets were also found. Yesterday's cache was the third uncovered by the brigade this week due to the help of Vietnamese civilians.

A reconnaissance unit of the 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry found the body of a VC early yesterday when they swept an area seven miles west of Chu Lai. Earlier the unit returned fire on a group in the same area.

Civic action soldiers of the "Brave and Bold" Brigade treated 472 Vietnamese in medical visits yesterday.

Infantrymen of the 11th Brigade's 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry led by 1LT John P. Nolan (Hopkinsville, Ky) found three cross-bows, 12 arrows, 100 pounds of small arms ammunition and equipment during operations southwest of Duc Pho.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123rd Aviation Battalion engaged one VC yesterday who fled leaving his K-44 rifle behind in an area eight miles northeast of Quang Ngai in Operation Muscatine.

Division forces suffered five soldiers killed and 30 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Americal Daily News Sheets-
Volume 2 No. 34 Americal Daily New Sheet THURSDAY May 23, 1968
MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT Partly cloudy Friday with afternoon and evening showers and thunderstorms. Winds east-southeasterly at 10-15 knots. High Friday 101, Low Friday night 78.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) – Action continued light in the Americal Division's area of southern I Corps yesterday. During sporadic fighting Division forces killed 19 VC and four NVA and captured four individual weapons.

Elements of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry saw the most action yesterday as the troopers killed 16 VC and captured one individual weapon in action centered northeast of Thang Binh in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa.

In scattered incidents throughout Americal's 196th Infantry Brigade's area of operation yesterday one VC and four NVA were killed and two AK-47s were captured. "Aero Scout" helicopters of the 123rd Aviation Battalion provided most of the offensive punch in the 11th Brigade's area yesterday as they killed one VC and apprehended 11 suspects for questioning.

Combat units of the 198th Infantry Brigade also experienced scattered contacts as they killed one VC and captured one weapon in their portion of Quang Tin Province.

Elements of **"F" Troop, 8th Cavalry** and other 1st Cavalry troopers combined forces to kill 15 VC and captured one weapon in six contacts 12 miles northeast of Thang Binh. Four suspects were also detained by troopers in this area. Other 1st Cavalry elements killed one VC six miles northwest of Tam Ky in Operation Burlington Trail.

Infantrymen of the 196th Infantry Brigade's 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry engaged and killed four NVA and captured two AK-47 rifles yesterday during four contacts five miles northwest of Tien Phuoc. In other action, a unit of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry killed one VC and destroyed several spider holes in an area five miles north of Tien Phuoc.

The "Aero Scouts" of the 123rd Aviation Battalion killed one VC and detained 11 suspects while supporting ground troops of the 11th Brigade's 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry in an area northeast of Quang Ngai in Operation Muscatine.

A unit of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry uncovered 26 antipersonnel mines and three M-79 rounds in a spider hole four miles south of Duc Pho. Another Gimlets" company found 950 pounds of rice, 50 pounds of peanuts and other equipment six miles southwest of Duc Pho.

Infantrymen of the 198th Brigade's 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry killed one VC and captured an AK-47 rifle when they engaged two of the enemy 17 miles northwest of Chu Lai.

Civic action soldiers of the "Brave and Bold" Brigade treated 79 Vietnamese in two medical visits yesterday.

Division forces suffered one soldier killed and 11 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Volume 2 No. 35 Americal Daily New Sheet FRIDAY May 24, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT Continued partly cloudy Saturday with rain and thunderstorms in the vicinity. Winds east southeasterly at 5-10 knots. High Saturday 101. Low Saturday night 78.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) – Among scattered enemy contacts in the Americal Division's area of southern I Corps yesterday was an attack on the Division's Chu Lai complex which resulted in no casualties and light damage. During sporadic fighting, Division forces killed 27 VC and 12 NVA and captured seven individual weapons.

Artillery from the 198th Infantry Brigade stormed down on rocket firing sites early yesterday morning disrupting the attack on the Chu Lai complex. A search of the area found the artillery to be on target. Activity slackened the rest of the day for the 198th Infantry Brigade as they reported no significant enemy contacts.

Elements of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry accounted for nine VC and six NVA killed during actions in Operation Burlington Trail and Operation Wheeler/Wallowa yesterday. First Cavalry troopers killed the six NVA and two of the VC and captured five individual weapons during a fight nine miles southwest of Tam Ky. Later in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa, an air strike in support of 1st Cavalry ground troops three miles south of Hoi An accounted for five more Viet Cong killed. In the same area, gunships of **"F" Troop, 8th Cavalry** observed two VC killed by an air strike.

Elements of the 196th Infantry Brigade killed 10 VC and six NVA and captured two weapons in sporadic action yesterday northwest of Tam Ky.

Americal's 11th Infantry Brigade killed eight VC and detained four suspects in scattered action yesterday throughout their portion of Quang Ngai Province.

After only a few enemy rockets were fired, 198th Infantry Brigade artillery bombarded the suspected positions shortly before two a.m. A search of the mountainous area west of Chu Lai by 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry soldiers revealed the artillery to be right on target. Numerous blood trails and rocket firing components were found by the infantrymen.

An element of the 196th Infantry Brigade's 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry killed five NVA in an area nine miles northwest of Tam Ky. Later the company detained one suspect.

A unit of the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry engaged two VC in a sampan resulting in two VC killed and one sampan destroyed.

Elements of the **1st Battalion, 20th Infantry** found two dead VC who had been recently killed in fighting three miles west of Que Son. Later, another unit of the same battalion killed one VC and captured a carbine and equipment.

Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry killed one NVA yesterday in action northwest of Tam Ky. Other action by units of the **1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry** resulted in four VC killed and one weapon captured.

Infantrymen of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry killed one VC in action six miles southeast of Que Son.

Infantrymen from the 11th Brigade's 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry commanded by CPT Joe Rhinehart (Canton, N.C.) engaged a group of VC six miles west of Duc Pho yesterday. In the brief fire fight, brigade soldiers killed four of the Viet Cong.

An offensive sweep around Lam Binh Lake four miles southeast of Duc Pho by a unit of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry led by CT Fred H. Mowrey (San Gabriel, Calif) resulted in one VC killed, two suspects apprehended and two booby trapped 105 rounds destroyed. Another unit of the same battalion operating five miles south of Duc Pho killed another VC yesterday afternoon.

In Operation Muscatine, "Aero Scout" gunships supporting ARVN soldiers yesterday, three miles east of Quang Ngai, unleashed numerous rockets on an unknown size enemy force. No assessment of damage has been reported.

"Aero Scout" helicopters of the 123rd Aviation Battalion also killed two VC and detained two suspects in action five miles north of Quang Ngai.

Division forces suffered eight soldiers killed and 55 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Volume 2 No. 36 Americal Daily New Sheet FRIDAY May 25, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Partly cloudy again Sunday with intermittent rain and thundershowers. Winds variable at 5 – 10 knots. High Sunday 103. Low Sunday night 78.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) – Americal Division soldiers experienced scattered action yesterday as Division forces killed 17 VC and 12 NVA and captured eight individual and one crew-served weapons in their area of southern I Corps.

In the heaviest action yesterday, elements of the 196th Infantry Brigade killed 20 enemy soldiers and captured seven weapons in the southwestern portion of Operation Wheeler/Wallowa about 15 miles west of Tam Ky.

Enemy contacts in the 11th Infantry Brigade's tactical area were concentrated eight miles northeast of Quang Ngai yesterday as 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry and "Aero Scout" helicopters combined forces to kill four VC and apprehend 10 suspects. Two VC were killed and seven suspects detained in action south of Duc Pho.

Action tapered off for elements of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry yesterday as troopers of **"F" Troop, 8th Cavalry** killed three VC in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa 15 miles north of Tam Ky.

Americal's 198th Infantry Brigade saw scattered action throughout their portion of Quang Tin Province yesterday as brigade soldiers captured two weapons in Operation Burlington Trail.

A 196th Infantry Brigade company of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry received small arms, grenade and mortar fire from an unknown size enemy force yesterday five miles north of Tien Phuoc. Air Force fighters and Division gunships called in to support the action drew fire as they bombarded their targets. In the action, six secondary explosions were observed. A search of the area after the fight revealed seven NVA kills which were accredited to the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry soldiers.

An ambush patrol of the **1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry** engaged and killed one VC and captured one AK-47 in action 10 miles north of Que Son. Earlier, another unit of the battalion killed three VC in the same area. In other Operation Wheeler/Wallow action, a company of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry engaged and killed a VC two miles northwest of Tien Phuoc. Later the company came into contact with an unknown size enemy unit and killed five NVA and captured one pistol, two AK-47s, one RPD light machine-gun and destroyed a K-44 rifle.

Infantrymen of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry killed one VC and captured a K-44 in action 10 miles north of Tien Phuoc. Division artillery called in by a Marine Reconnaissance Team killed two VC 18 miles northwest of Tien Phuoc.

"Aero Scout" gunships of the 123rd Aviation Battalion killed two enemy soldiers and took nine suspects during action yesterday morning and killed another VC later as they returned to LZ Dottie. Infantrymen of the 11th Infantry Brigade's 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry led by CPT Kenneth N. Hendrix (Lyman, S.C.) found an enemy body after engaging a sniper seven miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

Soldiers of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry commanded by CPT Barry Gasdek (Latrobe, Pa) killed a VC and captured a radio and documents while patrolling an area three miles south of Duc Pho. Also in the Duc Pho area, personnel from APCs of the 1st Armored Cavalry returned fire on a suspected RPG firing position north of Sa Huynh and killed one VC.

A unit of the 198th Infantry Brigade's 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry was led to an SKS rifle and a grease-gun yesterday by a detainee in Operation Burlington Trail.

Other action included the repulsion o fan enemy ambush of a Military Police River Patrol boat by gunships that drove the enemy from the shoreline.

Division forces suffered four soldiers killed and 18 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Volume 2 No. 37 Americal Daily New Sheet SUNDAY May 26, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT Fair Monday morning becoming partly cloudy in the afternoon. A few rain and thundershowers in the mountains in the evening. Winds southeast at 10-15 knots. High Monday 102. Low 78.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) – Americal Division soldiers met heavy enemy activity north of Chu Lai yesterday while action elsewhere in the Division's southern I Corps area remained sporadic. Division forces killed 15 VC and 110 NVA and captured 11 individual weapons.

Units of the 196th Infantry Brigade killed 110 NVA and 12 VC and captured seven weapons during heavy action in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa yesterday northwest of Tam Ky.

Troopers of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry reported four VC killed during scattered action in Operation Burlington Trail and Operation Wheeler/Wallow yesterday. Elements of **"F" Troop, 8th Cavalry** killed the four VC during three incidents in an area northwest of Tam Ky. Troopers of the 1st Cavalry detained three suspects in the days' action.

Americal's 11th Infantry Brigade units reported light enemy contact in the Duc Pho area yesterday as Brigade units apprehended eight suspects.

Units of the 198th Infantry Brigade captured two individual weapons during light activity around Chu Lai and in Operation Burlington Trail yesterday.

Elements of the 196th Infantry Brigade's **1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry** engaged an unknown size enemy force yesterday eight miles southwest of Hoi An. After receiving small arms and automatic weapons fire, artillery and air strikes were called in. A sweep of the area after the five and a half hour fight revealed 86 enemy kills accredited to soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry.

Infantrymen of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry, killed 15 NVA during a 10 hour fight 15 miles northwest of Tam Ky. Air strikes and artillery were called in against the enemy who were dug into well fortified bunkers and trenches.

In the same area, units of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry killed nine NVA in several skirmishes and captured seven individual weapons, a large assortment of equipment and medical supplies. The weapons captured included four AK-47s, one SKS rifle, on K-50 and a semi-automatic rifle.

Infantrymen of the 3d Battalion, 21st Infantry killed 21 VC after the unit returned fire on the enemy who was using automatic weapons and hand grenades in action 20 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Eight air strikes were flown yesterday in support of the 196th Infantry Brigade resulting in 19 fortified structures and four bunkers destroyed and the opening of 30 meters of trench.

Vietnamese civilians turned over an M-1 rifle, two M-79 rounds, two mortar rounds, and two artillery rounds yesterday to 11th Infantry Brigade soldiers in response to the Volunteer Informant Program conducted near LZ Dottie and LZ Thunder.

Civil action personnel of the 11th Infantry Brigade treated 1228 Vietnamese during medical visits last week.

Soldiers of the 198th Infantry Brigade 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry located two hidden K-44 rifles yesterday while on a search wets of Chu Lai.

Division units suffered 13 soldiers killed and 23 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Vol. 2. No. 38 **Americal Daily New Sheet** Tuesday May 27, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Tuesday partly cloudy with possible rain in the mountains. Winds variable at 5-10 knots. High Tuesday 102. Low Tuesday night **79.**

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action tapered off yesterday as Americal Division units killed 17 VC and captured one individual weapon in their area of southern I Corps. Scattered incidents included a rocket assault on the Division's Chu Lai complex in which light casualties were reported. Units of the 196th Infantry Brigade found 52 dead NVA and 22 weapons which were accredited to Saturday's action.

Units of the 196th Infantry Brigade killed three VC, captured one weapon and conducted a search of the battle area south of the Chang River and found 52 NVA killed and 22 weapons during the action yesterday.

Elements of **"F" Troop, 8th Cavalry** killed 12 VC during light action yesterday in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa about six miles north of Thang Binh, In Operation Burlington Trail, troopers from "F" Troop and the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry apprehended nine suspects.

Units of the 198th Infantry Brigade reported light enemy contacts yesterday as one VC was killed throughout their portion of Quang Tin Province, Infantrymen of the 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry found and destroyed the rocket firing sites from which the VC plummeted at small amount of rockets into the Division's Chu Lai complex.

Americal's 11th Infantry Brigade also reported light enemy activity yesterday as the "Jungle Warriors" killed one VC, apprehended one suspect and uncovered one bangalore torpedo and a booby-trapped 105 round in the Duc Pho area.

A unit of the 196th Infantry Brigade's **1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry** engaged and killed three VC with small arms fire yesterday and captured an31 M-1 carbine and equipment eight miles southwest of Hoi An.

Soldiers of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry commanded by CPT John R. Wolfe (Marcellus, Mich) in the search 15 miles west of Tam Ky found nine SKS rifles, four light machineguns, one RPD machinegun, one semi-automatic weapon, one 82mm mortar tube, numerous rounds of small arms ammunition, some hand grenades, mortar rounds and other munitions. Other 3rd Battalion, 31st Infantry units found three AK-47s, one K-44, two SKSs, munitions and equipment. Also found were the bodies of 52 NVA soldiers killed in action Saturday.

Also searching the same area, a company of the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry led by CPT Charles Ebert (Washington, D.C.) found three AK-47s, one RPD light machinegun, one K-53 and assorted munitions and equipment.

A 198th Infantry Brigade unit of the 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry killed one VC 12 miles south of Chu Lai.

Civic action soldiers of the 198th Infantry's "Brave and Bold" Brigade treated 131 Vietnamese during medical visits yesterday.

An 11th Brigade unit of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry engaged and killed a VC 11 miles northeast of Quang Ngai.

The Volunteer Informant Program continued in Operation Muscatine and south of Duc Pho by 11th Brigade soldiers yielded 28 anti-personnel mines, 1,165 rounds of small arms ammunition and numerous explosive devices which were turned in By Vietnamese civilians.

Division forces suffered two soldiers killed and nine wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Volume 2 No. 40 Americal Daily New Sheet WEDNESDAY May 29, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT Partly cloudy Thursday with showers in the vicinity of the afternoon and evening. Winds northeast at 10 knots. High Thursday 99. Low Thursday night 77.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) – Americal Division units saw scattered action in their portion of southern I Corps yesterday as Americal forces killed 10 VC and three NVA and captured 12 individual weapons.

Scattered incidents occurred throughout Americal's 196th Infantry Brigade's Operation Wheeler/Wallowa area yesterday as "Charger" units killed two VC and three NVA and captured seven individual weapons.

Elements of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry and **"F" Troop, 8th Cavalry** killed five VC yesterday during action in Operation Burlington Trail.

"Jungle Warriors" of the 11th Brigade killed three VC and detained 11 suspects during action in Quang Ngai province.

Units of Americal's 198th Infantry Brigade reported no significant contacts in their portion of Quang Tin Province.

A 196th Infantry Brigade company of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry received small arms fire from a group of NVA 12 miles west of Tam Ky. the infantrymen returned the fire killing three NVA and capturing four AK-47s.

A **1st Battalion, 20th Infantry** company killed two VC yesterday and captured two AK-47s three hand grenades and ammunition in a contact 15 miles northwest of Tam Ky. Other action included a 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry unit finding an individual weapon 15 miles wet of Tam Ky.

Troopers of the 1st Cavalry led by CPT Bob Kazor (Spokane, Washington) killed two VC yesterday and captured two K-44 rifles and an M-1 rifle during a sweep 10 miles south of Tam Ky. "F" Troop, 8th Cavalry helicopters, supporting troops, killed two more VC in the same area.

Another element of the 1st Cavalry led by 1LT Thomas C. Butler (Tomkinsville, Kentucky) killed one VC, captured an SKS, a Russian carbine and detained 20 suspects in action five miles northeast of Tam Ky.

A unit of the 11th Brigade's 3d Battalion, 1st Infantry led by CPT William Riggs (Houston, Texas) killed one VC and apprehended four suspects 12 miles northwest of Duc Pho. Brigade soldiers of Headquarters Company killed one VC late yesterday in an ambush north of Duc Pho.

"Aero Scout" helicopters of the 123rd Aviation Battalion killed one VC and apprehended three suspects yesterday during action on the Batangan Peninsula nine miles northeast of Quang Ngai in Operation Muscatine.

On Monday, the Volunteer Informant Program conducted in Operation Muscatine 10 miles north of Quang Ngai yielded 2,700 rounds of small arms ammunition 37 hand grenades, three M-79 rounds, two 60mm mortar rounds and one claymore mine.

"Brave and Bold" soldiers of the 198th Infantry Brigade treated 129 Vietnamese in two MEDCAPs yesterday.

Division forces suffered one soldier killed and eight wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Vol. 2 No. 41 Thursday May 30, 1968
AMERICAL

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MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Continued partly cloudy Friday with rain and thunderstorms in the evening. Winds variable at 5 knots. High Friday 97. Low Friday night 76.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL - IO)-- Action remained sporadic in the Americal Division's area of southern I Corps yesterday as Americal Forces killed 21 VC and captured five individual weapons.

Artillery fire from a battery of the 6th Battalion, 11th Artillery accounted for four of the seven enemy killed yesterday in the 11th Brigade's Duc Pho and Operation Muscatine area. Among scattered incidents was a heavy mortar attack on the 11th Brigade's Duc Pho complex which resulted in moderate damage and light casualties.

Units of the Americal's 196th Infantry Brigade killed seven VC and captured five weapons yesterday in scattered contacts throughout their Operation Wheeler/Wallowa area.

"F" Troop, 8th Cavalry killed four VC yesterday in three incidents in an area seven miles north of Thang Binh.

Scattered enemy activity was reported by the 198th Infantry Brigade elements yesterday as the Brigade's artillery accounted for three VC killed.

A Division Long Range Patrol observed a group of VC five miles southwest of Duc Pho yesterday. The patrol called for artillery from LZ Thunder and reported three enemy killed by the TOT barrage. A second mission requested by a unit of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry late yesterday resulted in one VC killed five miles south of Duc Pho.

"Always First" soldiers from the 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry commanded by CPT Federico Garcia (Union City, N.J.) killed a VC yesterday seven miles northwest of Duc Pho.

In Operation Muscatine, "Aero Scout" helicopters of the 123rd Aviation Battalion killed two VC and apprehended one suspect seven miles northeast of Quang Ngai.

In the 196th Brigade's area a unit of the **1st Battalion, 20th Infantry** (A Company) engaged and killed three VC and captured some equipment in action 12 miles west of Tam Ky.

A 196th Infantry Brigade company of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry, "Gimlets", led by CPT Cecil Oxford (Corpus Christi, Texas) engaged a group of VC and killed two of the enemy in two incidents 12 miles west of Tam Ky. Another unit of the same battalion found two individual weapons.

A 198th Infantry Brigade company from the **1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry** working in the 196th Infantry Brigade area of operation, commanded by CPT John Bierden (Minneapolis, Minnesota) received small arms fire from a group of VC while on a sweep eight miles west of Hoi An. The company returned the fire killing one VC and capturing one carbine and one M-72 LAW.

A unit of the 196th Infantry Brigade's 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry found an AK-47 with ammunition, documents and supplies 14 miles west of Tam Ky.

A Vietnamese civilian RD team called in the 198th Infantry Brigade artillery on a group of VC yesterday seven miles northwest of Chu Lai resulting in three VC killed.

Civic action soldiers of the 198th "Brave and Bold" Brigade treated 219 Vietnamese during five MEDCAPs yesterday.

Division forces suffered three soldiers killed and 15 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Vol. 2. No. 44 Sunday June 2, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT Partly cloudy Monday with intermittent rain and thundershowers in the afternoon and evening. Winds east-northeasterly at 10 knots. High Monday 96. Low Monday night 76.

-------Americal Division News-------

CHU LAI (AMERICAL-IO)-- Action tapered off yesterday as Americal Division forces killed 12 VC and nine NVA and captured two individual weapons in their area of southern I Corps.

Elements of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry and **"F" Troop, 8th Cavalry** accounted for 16 enemy killed in an area 10 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

An element of the 1st Cavalry killed seven NVA and three VC and captured 500 pounds of rice and 1,000 pounds of potatoes during a sweep yesterday in the Operation Burlington Trail area. **"F" Troop, 8th Cavalry** killed two NVA and two VC in the same area. The 3d Battalion, 16th Artillery accounted for one VC when it fired in support of the 1st Cavalry.

In Operation Wheeler/Wallowa, a 1st Cavalry element killed one VC two miles north of Thang Binh.

Americal's 196th Infantry Brigade reported light action yesterday as "Charger" units killed five VC and captured two individual weapons.

Infantrymen of the 3d Battalion, 21st Infantry led by CPT Robert E. Corrigan (Arlington, Virginia) engaged and killed two VC and captured two K-44s during action six miles southwest of Hoi An. Later, another unit of the battalion killed one VC in the same area.

An 11th Infantry Brigade unit from the **1st Battalion, 20th Infantry** (A Company) operating in the 196th Infantry Brigade's tactical area killed one VC and captured one hand grenade and equipment during a sweep 15 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Soldiers of the 2d Battalion, 1st Infantry led by CPT Ronald Welte (San Francisco, California) uncovered five holes containing 1,500 pounds of rice.

Soldiers of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry killed one VC yesterday during a sweep eight miles northwest of Tien Phuoc.

In a brief change of command ceremony held at LZ Baldy COL Fredric J. Kroesen (Trenton, New Jersey) assumed command of the "Chargers" replacing COL Louis Gelling (Carlisle, Pennsylvania) who led the brigade for the past seven months.

Elements of the 11th Infantry Brigade apprehended 13 suspects during operations in Quang Ngai Province yesterday.

Infantrymen of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry led by CPT Fred H. Mowrey (San Gabriel, California) sweeping mountainous terrain three miles south-west of Duc Pho, uncovered 2,500 rounds of small arms ammunition and three tons of rice. Other "Gimlet" units detained nine suspects.

No contacts were reported in the 198th Infantry Brigade's area.

Division forces suffered four soldiers killed and 34 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Vol. 2. No. 45 Monday June 3, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Partly cloudy to mostly cloudy Tuesday with intermittent rain and thunderstorms. Winds east-northeast at 10 knots. High Tuesday 96. Low Tuesday night 76.

-------Americal Division News-------

CHU LAI (AMERICAL-IO) -- Action in the Americal Division remained sporadic yesterday as Division forces killed 23 VC and three NVA and captured two individual weapons in their portion of southern I Corps.

Numerous small contacts in the 11th Infantry Brigade's area around Duc Pho and in Operation Muscatine resulted in 16 VC and two NVA killed and 29 suspects apprehended for questioning.

Soldiers of the 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry commanded by 1LT James O'Herron (Winona, Minn) conducted an extensive combat sweep around Hoi An hamlet six miles north of Duc Pho killing 12 VC and detaining five suspects. Another "Always First" rifle company led by 1LT John P. Nolan (Hopkinsville, Ky) killed one VC and apprehended 18 suspects in operations three miles north of Duc Pho.

A unit of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry commanded by CPT John D. Veatch (San Antonio, Tex) engaged and killed two NVA in an area 11 miles south of Duc Pho.

In Operation Muscatine, two VC were killed by a 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry company led by CPT John A. Gonzalez (Queens Village, N.Y.) from a night ambush position 13 miles northwest of Quang Ngai. "Aero Scout" helicopters of the 123rd Aviation Battalion killed another VC and detained five suspects while supporting ground operations six miles north of Quang Ngai.

A "Gimlet" unit of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry uncovered two huts three miles southwest of Duc Pho that contained 15 tons of salt. In the same area, the unit found 500 pounds of rice.

The "Old Guard" Volunteer Informant Program yielded 5,400 rounds of small arms ammunition, 29 hand grenades, eight mortar rounds and other explosives.

Brigade civic action personnel treated 1166 Vietnamese during MEDCAPs last week.

The 196th Infantry Brigade reported light activity yesterday that was centered near Fire Support Base Center. The "Chargers" killed seven enemy and captured one AK-47.

A unit of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry led by CPT John Wolfe (Marcellus, Mich) called in artillery on a group of NVA, killing one.

A unit of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry engaged and killed three VC in two incidents 11 miles northwest of Tien Phuoc. An air strike in the same area resulted in one VC killed and a secondary explosion reported. Another "Gimlet" unit engaged and killed one VC nine miles northwest of Tien Phuoc.

An 11th Infantry Brigade unit of the **1st Battalion, 20th Infantry** Brigade unit of the **1st Battalion, 20th Infantry (A Company)** operating in the 196th Infantry Brigade's area killed one VC and captured an AK-47 and equipment.

"F" Troop, 8th Cavalry, during light action yesterday, found 10 tons of rice which was booby-trapped in an area eight miles northwest of Tam Ky. **"F" Troop** also detained two suspects in the same area.

Americal's 198th Infantry Brigade reported light activity yesterday as one VC was killed and one weapon was captured. However, LZ Bayonet bristled with color as COL James R. Waldie (Omaha, Neb) passed the command of the brigade to COL Charles B., Thomas (Arlington, VA).

COL Waldie led the brigade through eight months of combat since the brigade was formed one year ago.

The lone VC was killed by infantrymen of the **1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry** when they returned fire on a sniper seven miles southeast of Tien Phuoc.

Division forces suffered six soldiers wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Vol. 2 No. 48 Thursday June 6, 1968 Americal Division Newsheet

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT Partly cloudy Friday to mostly cloudy with intermittent afternoon and evening showers and thunderstorms. Winds east-northeasterly at 10-20 knots. High Friday 94. Low Friday night 76.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL - IO)-- The Americal Division continued with increased action yesterday as elements of the Division killed 13 VC and 32 NVA and captured 80 individual and two crew-served weapons. The 198th Infantry Brigade accounted for most of the weapons captured when they uncovered a large cache in Operation Burlington Trail.

Elements of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry and **"F" Troop, 8th Cavalry** combined to kill 18 NVA and capture an AK-47 and a .50 caliber anti-aircraft gun in an area eight miles northwest of Tam Ky. An additional enemy was killed by **"F" Troop** in the Tahng Ninh area.

Elements of the 196th Infantry Brigade killed five NVA and three VC in light action in Operation Burlington Trail yesterday.

In the most significant action, units of the 3d Battalion, 21st Infantry led by CPT Robert Corrigan (Arlington, Virginia) and CPT James Humphries (Pacific Grove, California) came into contact with an unknown size enemy force eight miles west of Tam Ky. One of the units knocked out a .50 caliber machine gun position and air strikes accounted for five NVA killed.

A unit of the 11th Infantry Brigade's **1st Battalion, 20th Infantry** (A Company) operating in the 196th Infantry Brigade's area killed one VC and captured a hand grenade.

A unit of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry led by CPT John Wolfe (Marcellus, Michigan) accounted for two VC killed in separate incidents yesterday 11 miles west of Tien Phuoc.

Action in the 11th Infantry Brigade's area centered in the Tra Khuc Valley yesterday as 4th Battalion, 3d Infantry elements and "Aero Scout" Infantry elements killed six VC and two NVA, apprehended 13 suspects and captured three weapons. "Jungle Warriors" in the Duc Pho area killed to VC and apprehended nine suspects.

"Old Guard" soldiers from the 4th Battalion, 3d Infantry commanded by CPT John A. Gonzalez (Queens Village, New York) engaged and killed three VC in a sampan and destroyed the sampan 10 miles west of Quang Ngai. Moving up the river, the unit killed three more VC and captured an AK-47 in two contacts.

"Aero Scout" helicopters of the 123d Aviation Battalion, operating in the same area, inserted their ground troops who engaged and killed two NVA and recovered an M-1 carbine and a K-44 rifle.

In the Duc Pho area, a unit of the 3d Battalion, 1st Infantry killed one VC four miles northwest of Duc Pho. Another VC was killed by 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry soldiers 11 miles southeast of Duc Pho. Enemy activity increased in Operation Burlington Trail yesterday as 198th Infantry Brigade soldiers killed seven NVA, captured four weapons and found a large weapons cache containing 74 firearms. One VC was killed by the Brigade in the Chu Lai area.

Soldiers from the **1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry** engaged and killed one NVA in the jungle northwest of Chu Lai. An AK-47 and three hand grenades were captured in the action. Later, a 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry unit engaged and killed five NVA and captured three weapons in two incidents in the same area.

An element of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry engaged and killed one NVA and captured two hand grenades in fighting northwest of Chu Lai. Another unit of the Battalion located 72 individual and two crew-served weapons in one large cache 20 miles northwest of Chu Lai. The cache, "large enough to outfit an enemy company", contained 36 Soviet carbines, 15 sub-machine guns, two M-1 carbines, four 7165 bolt action rifles, three BARs, two machine guns, two M-1 rifles, two Mark # Lee Enfield rifles, one Soviet PPSH, one K-50, one French 7.5 rifle, one 45 caliber grease gun, more than 3,500 rounds of ammunition and 99 hand grenades.

5th Battalion, 46th Infantry unit killed one VC late yesterday eight miles south of Chu Lai.

Civic action soldiers of the Brigade treated 233 Vietnamese in seven MEDCAPs yesterday.

Division forces suffered three soldiers killed and 17 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Vol. 2 No. 91 Friday July 19, 1968
AMERICAL

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MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Continued fair with scattered showers in the mountains in the afternoon. Winds easterly at 10 knots. High Saturday 98. Low Saturday night 79.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL - IO)--Americal Division units reported 11 VC and two NVA killed and three crew-served weapons captured during enemy contacts yesterday in their area of Southern I Corps.

Elements of the 196th Infantry Brigade accounted for nine enemy killed and two AK-47 rifles captured in scattered action.

A company commanded by CPT Randall Lundeen (Schofield Barracks, Hawaii) from the 2d Battalion, 1st Infantry engaged and killed one VC with small arms fire 12 miles southwest of LZ Baldy.

A unit led by CPT Jay E. Pry (Sacramento, Calif.) from the 3d Battalion, 21st Infantry observed an armed NVA soldier 14 miles west of Tam Ky. The unit engaged the enemy killing him and capturing his AK-47 rifle. Later the unit killed two VC in separate contacts. Another 3d Battalion element commanded by CPT Robert E. Corrigan Jr. (Arlington, Va.) engaged and killed an armed VC and captured his AK-47.

Troopers from "F" Troop, 17th Armored Cavalry killed one VC yesterday when they engaged a small group of enemy three miles west of LZ Baldy.

An 11th Infantry Brigade element commanded by 1LT James Smith (Antigo, Wash.) from the 4th Battalion, 3d Infantry working in the 196th Infantry Brigade's tactical area killed one VC west of LZ West. In the same area, a unit of **"F" Troop, 8th Cavalry** killed two more VC."

Widely scattered contacts in the 11th Infantry Brigade's are of Quang Ngai Province resulted in one VC and one NVA killed ant three 120mm mortar tubes captured.

Infantrymen commanded by CPT John P. Nolan (Hopkinsville, Ky.) from the 3d Battalion, 1st Infantry killed the NVA soldier near an enemy base camp in the mountains 27 miles west of Duc Pho. The "Always First" soldiers found the base camp, which contained partially built bunkers, mess halls, classrooms, and communication facilities, by following strands of commo wire. The rifle company also found 12 hand grenades and assorted ammunition.

Later, soldiers led by CPT William Adams, (Madison, Ind.) from the **1st Battalion, 20th Infantry** (A Company) killed one VC while on a patrol five miles south of Duc Pho.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123d Aviation Battalion located three mortar tubes yesterday while working in an area 26 miles west of Mo Duc.

Units of the 198th Infantry Brigade reported light action again yesterday as the infantrymen killed one VC south of Chu Lai in Quang Ngai Province.

A reconnaissance platoon led by 1LT James A. Lockhart (Montpelier, Ohio) from the **1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry** spotted two enemy yesterday killing one and capturing an M-1 carbine and some documents.

Action continued scattered in the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry's area of operation yesterday as the troopers killed one VC and apprehended six suspects in contacts nine miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Division forces suffered three soldiers killed and 12 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Vol. 2 No. 126 Friday August 23, 1968
AMERICAL

news sheet

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Fair to Partly cloudy with isolated late afternoon and evening showers. Winds at 10 knots from the West-Northwest. High Saturday 90. Low Saturday night 80. (B-6)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL - IO)--Action increased in the Americal Division's southern I Corps Tactical Zone yesterday as Division forces killed ten VC, captured three individual weapons, one claymore mine, and detained four suspects.

A company of the 3d Battalion, 1st Infantry killed one VC in a carrying party and captured and AK-44 in a small valley seven miles west of Duc Pho.

A (A Company) company of the **1st Battalion, 20th infantry** ran across a weapons cache in a small cluster of hootches two miles northwest of LZ Bronco.

PFC Eugene C. Stevens (Lamar, S.C.) found and M-16, an M-1 carbine, seven M-79 rounds, and an assortment of small arms ammunition and magazines all wrapped in plastic. PFC Tommy F. Acosta (San Antonio, Tx.) found a complete NVA uniform and SGT Alfred H. Matheson (Huntingon, Long Island N.Y.) found a claymore mine near the same site.

In the 196th Infantry Brigade's area of operations "Charger" units killed five VC in light action in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa yesterday.

A command and control helicopter from the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry engaged and killed one VC evading two miles south of Hoi An.

A reconnaissance element of the same unit engaged two VC with small arms fire near Hoi An, resulting in one VC killed.

"Firebird" gunships of the 71st Aviation Company destroyed two bunkers and killed one VC in support of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry in the same area.

An OP from the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry observed three VC 18 miles west of Tam Ky. Artillery was called in, resulting in one VC killed.

Another "Gimlets" company of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry engaged and killed one VC 13 miles west of Tam Ky.

The 198th Infantry Brigade reported three VC killed and three suspects detained in its area of operation around Chu Lai yesterday.

"F" Troop, 8th Cavalry, which is OPCON to the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry, operating in the 198th's Burlington Trail area spotted a VC body in a hole 14 miles west of Tra Bong. Later two bodies were spotted by gunships of **"F" Troop, 8th Cavalry** 20 miles northwest of Chu Lai.

In action south of Chu Lai a company of the **1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry** detained three individuals during a search of an area from which it had received fire.

Other units throughout the 198th's area of operation reported several incidents of small arms and automatic weapons fire.

Civic Action soldiers of the "Brave and Bold" treated 395 Vietnamese yesterday during five medical visits.

In the 1st Squadron, 1st Armored Cavalry's Operation Wheeler/Wallowa area **"F" Troop, 8th Cavalry** accounted for two VC killed and detained one suspect 13 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Americal Division forces suffered one soldier wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Vol. 2 No. 127 Sunday August 25, 1968 Americal Newsheet

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MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Fair to Partly cloudy with isolated late afternoon showers. Winds at 10 knots from the Northeast. High Monday 100. Low Sunday night 80. (B-6)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL - IO)--Action increased yesterday in the Americal Division's southern I Corps Tactical Zone as Division forces killed 178 NVA, 30 VC, detained 18 suspects, captured 18 individual weapons and seven crew-served weapons.

In the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry's area of operations "Dragoons" and supporting elements killed 177 NVA, captured 16 individual weapons, four crew-served weapons and one flare gun.

Approximately 0910 hours yesterday morning a platoon of "A" Troop led by 1LT Thomas M. Ginz (Cheshire, CT was operation [sic] with the ARVN 3d Squadron, 4th Cavalry on a reconnaissance mission four miles west of Tam Ky. The 3d Squadron, 4th Cavalry made initial contact and the platoon engaged an unknown size enemy force. Within a few minutes it was determined that it was a main force of NVA. "C" Troop was then committed.

As the battle intensified the remainder of "A" Troop made contact approximately the same time with an estimated NVA company northwest of the initial contact.

There were numerous air strikes, artillery missions conducted and "Blue Ghost" aerial scout teams were committed.

Action continued until about 1925 when the enemy broke contact.

"A" Troop elements commanded by CPT George R. Kaczor (Seattle, WA) were credited with 89 NVA kills, "C" Troop with 9 NVA kills, "Blue Ghost" with 3 NVA kills and tactical air strikes credited for 75 NVA killed.

There were two 75mm recoilless rifles, two RPGs, two light machine guns, eight K-44s, four AK-47s, one Thompson machine gun, one 32 caliber pistol, and one flare pistol captured.

"F" Troop, 8th Cavalry engaged a group of NVA killing one.

Heavy fighting continued in the Quang Ngai Province yesterday as 11th Brigade "Jungle Warriors" reported 20 VC killed, 18 VC suspects detained, two individual weapons captured, one crew-served weapon and one hand grenade captured.

Following a mortar attack of 81mm and 82mm rounds on LZ Bronco from 0245 to 0315 a "Shark" gunship of the 174th Aviation Company with SP4 Gordon L Knight (Los Angeles, CA) as gunner, observed and killed seven VC evading from a suspected mortar position near hootches one mile north of Duc Pho.

Later in the morning a sweep was conducted by a squad of a company of the **1st Battalion, 20th Infantry** led by SGT Kermit Williams (Clinton, N.C.) resulting in the recovery of the seven VC killed by the "Shark" gunship plus the capture of an 82mm mortar, three 81mm rounds and one M-2 carbine. The squad later killed one VC dressed in a NVA uniform near the same site.

In action near Quang Ngai City, 3d Battalion, 1st Infantry killed 11 VC and detained 12 suspects yesterday.

A company of the battalion killed two VC trying to break through their southwest perimeter and captured a carbine and one home-made grenade.

During separate actions later in the day the company killed two evading VC, one of them in a sweep of an area after an air strike that left six of the enemy dead.

Another company of the battalion killed one evading VC while another company of the "Always First" detained 12 military age suspects.

Other action resulted in one VC suspect detained by a 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry company near a stream 8 miles south of Duc Pho.

(Continued -1)

The "Sykes Regulars" also captured medical supplies, documents, an AK-47 cleaning kit, one Chicom grenade, two empty AK-47 magazines and one 30 caliber ammunition belt with 65 rounds on the well armed suspect.

Troops of another 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry company detained five suspects three miles northwest of LZ Bronco. Another Battalion company found one VC body later yesterday afternoon.

Action dropped in the 196th Infantry Brigade's area of operations yesterday as soldiers accounted for 9 VC killed and three sampans destroyed.

"Polar Bears" of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry observed three sampans on a river. Mortar fire was called in destroying three sampans.

"Gimlets" of the 3d Battalion, 21st Infantry observed five VC in the open. Artillery was called in killing one VC, 15 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Another company of the 3d Battalion, 21st Infantry while following a blood trail, spotted three VC evading. The enemy was engaged with small arms fire, killing one VC 15 miles west of Tam Ky.

"Gimlets" of a 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry company observed a group of VC in the open 15 miles west of Tam Ky. An artillery fire mission was called, killing two VC.

Another 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry company observed one VC evading. The enemy was engaged with small arms fire, resulting in one VC killed.

Yet another company of the battalion observed a group of VC moving west. The group was engaged, resulting in one VC killed eight miles west of Tam Ky.

A reconnaissance element of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry received small arms fire. Three enemy were spotted. The element returned the fire, killing three VC four miles south of Hoi An.

Action slowed down yesterday in the 198th Infantry Brigade's area as one VC and one NVA were killed.

An element of "H" Troop, 17th Cavalry on Highway 1 spotted a group of NVA. The NVA opened fire and fled. "H" Troop returned the fire killing one NVA.

A company of the 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry commanded by Cpt John Sprague (Atlanta, GA) killed one enemy in the jungle highlands of the Operation Burlington Trail area. The enemy was found following a search through an area of a one hour battle between the "Professionals" and an unknown size VC force.

Other units of the Brigade reported several sniper incidents.

Division forces suffered two soldiers killed and 26 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Vol. 2. No. 131 Wednesday August 28, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Fair to partly cloudy skies. Winds at 10 knots from the Northeast. High Thursday 100. Low Thursday night 80 (B-6).

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)- Action slowed in the Americal Division's southern I Corps Tactical Zone yesterday as Division forces accounted for 16 NVA and 14 VC killed, three NVA detained, two crew-served weapons and seven individual weapons captured.

Action in the 1st Squadron, 1st Armored Cavalry's area of operations slowed yesterday as "Dragoons" and supporting elements accounted for 16 NVA and two VC killed, three NVA detained, two crew-served weapons and six individual weapons captured in an area centered seven miles west of Tam Ky.

"A" Troop accounted for eight of the NVA killed, three AK-47s and two 12.7mm anti-aircraft guns captured.

A company of the 2d Battalion, 1st Infantry engaged a group of NVA late yesterday, killing four NVA 13 miles west of Tam Ky.

A company of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry accounted for two NVA killed, three AK-47s and one NVA detained.

"F" Troop, 8th Cavalry killed two NVA and two VC.

In scattered light action yesterday the 196th Infantry Brigade killed six VC.

A company of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry received two hand grenades on their perimeter early yesterday morning. Flares were fired and the enemy was engaged with small arms fire and hand grenades, resulting in four VC killed 23 miles west of Tam Ky.

A company of the 3d Battalion, 21st Infantry observed two VC evading 13 miles west of Tam Ky. The enemy was engaged with small arms fire, killing both VC.

198th Infantry Brigade soldiers killed two VC during light scattered action yesterday.

"H" Troop, 17th Cavalry found the body of one VC yesterday morning. The cavalrymen had killed the VC earlier in a brief contact south of Tam Ky.

A company of the 39th Engineer Battalion, working in support of the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry killed one VC attempting to evade south of Chu Lai.

11th Brigade infantrymen reported four VC killed and two suspects apprehended as light action continued yesterday in the Duc Pho area.

"Always First" rifle platoons of the 3d Battalion, 1st Infantry led by 1LT Vincent Satriano (Chicago,IL) and SSG Raymond Sampier (Valley, Station, KT) killed two VC in separate contacts while conducting combat sweeps north of Duc Pho.

A company of the **1st Battalion, 20th Infantry** killed two VC south of Chu Lai.

"Shark" gunships from the 174th Aviation Company responding to a call from 2d ARVN Division soldiers in contact with an estimated VC company yesterday six miles east of Quang Ngai, destroyed ten fortified structures and two machine gun positions with rockets and machine gun fire.

Division forces suffered two soldiers killed and 17 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Vol. 2. No. 132 Thursday August 29, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Fair to partly cloudy skies. Winds at 10 knots from the Northeast. High Friday 100. Low Friday night 80. (B-6)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action remained steady in the Americal Division's southern I Corps Tactical Zone yesterday as Division forces and supporting elements accounted for 16 VC and 16 NVA killed and nine individual weapons captured.

Action remained steady yesterday in the 198th Infantry Brigade's area of operations as "Brave and Bold" soldiers and supporting elements reported four VC and eight NVA killed and eight individual weapons captured.

Brigade artillery units were credited with the eight NVA killed by artillery Tuesday night.

The eight NVA bodies were found northeast of Chu Lai by a company of the 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry. The "Professionals" also found three M-16 rifles, three M-1 rifles, one carbine and one AK-47 with the bodies.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123d Aviation Company killed one VC near Chu Lai.

A company of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry killed three VC near Chu Lai.

Civic Action soldiers of the 198th Infantry Brigade treated 68 Vietnamese yesterday during two medical visits.

In action centered in an area nine miles north-northwest of Tam Ky "Dragoons" of the 1st Squadron, 1st Armored Cavalry and supporting elements accounted for eight NVA and one VC killed yesterday.

"B" Troop accounted for one NVA killed, "C" Troop killed five of the NVA, **"F" Troop, 8th Cavalry** killed one of the NVA and one VC and the 2d Battalion, 1st Infantry "Guardians" killed the other NVA.

In the 196th Infantry Brigade's area of operations "Charger" units killed eight VC and captured one AK-47 in scattered action.

"F" Troop, 17th Cavalry called in artillery on a group of VC resulting in three VC killed 16 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

A reconnaissance element of the 4 Battalion, 21st Infantry engaged and killed two evading VC seven miles south of Hoi An.

The command and control helicopter of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry in two separate incidents killed a total of three VC and captured one AK-47 four miles south of Hoi An.

Scattered enemy contact in the 11th Brigade's area around Duc Pho yesterday resulted in three VC killed.

A fire team led by PFC Edward L Zimmerly (Ambey, IL) from a company of the **1st Battalion, 20th Infantry** killed one VC when two VC leaped from a tree and attempted to evade.

Later yesterday a squad from the same company led by SP4 Charles N. Schell (St. Paul, MN) killed two evading VC.

Americal Division forces suffered four soldiers killed and 22 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Vol. 2. No. 134 Saturday August 31, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Fair to partly cloudy skies. Winds at 10 knots from the northeast. High Sunday 95. Low Sunday night 72. (B-6)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) --- Action increased in the Americal Division southern I Corps Tactical Zone yesterday as Division forces and supporting elements accounted for 23 VC and one NVA killed and five individual weapons captured.

Elements of the 196th Infantry Brigade killed nine VC and captured three individual weapons in their area of operations yesterday.

A reconnaissance element of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry killed one evading VC with small arms fire yesterday 10 miles south of Hoi An. Later the element killed another VC with grenades in the same area.

In an area centered eight miles south of Hoi An a company of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry killed a total of four VC in three separate incidents. Another company of the battalion found one carbine in bushes 11 miles south of Hoi An.

A company of the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry engaged a group of NVA with small arms fire, killing one NVA four miles northeast of Que Son.

A company of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry engaged two evading VC with small arms fire killing one VC 25 miles west of Tam Ky. Later another company of the battalion spotted a group of VC in the open. Artillery was called in, killing one VC 26 miles west of Tam Ky.

A reconnaissance element of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry found one M-1 carbine and one SKS rifle in a hut 24 miles west of Tam Ky.

Infantry and Cavalrymen of 198th Infantry combined with "Aero Scouts" of the 123d Aviation Battalion, killed six VC and captured one individual weapon yesterday in the Operation Burlington Trail area.

"Aero Scouts" flying in support of the 198th Infantry Brigade yesterday killed three VC in the Operation Burlington Trail area. Later the "Aero Scouts" killed another VC southwest of Chu Lai.

A company of the 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry killed one VC and captured one M-1 carbine when they returned fire on a sniper in the Operation Burlington Trail area.

Yesterday morning "H" Troop, 17th Cavalry engaged a group of VC south of Vinh Son, killing one VC.

Action in the 11th Infantry Brigade's area of operations remained scattered yesterday as the "Jungle Warriors" and supporting elements killed six VC, captured one weapon, and detained two suspects.

A gunship from "Primo Aviation Limited" killed one evading VC 12 miles north of LZ Bronco.

In the jungle eight miles southwest of Duc Pho, SP4 Alberto Rodriguez (Kerrelville, Texas), point man for a reconnaissance element of the **1st Battalion, 20th Infantry,** encountered two VC. The two VC fired at Rodriguez and fled. Rodriguez returned fire, killing one of the VC. One K-44 rifle was taken from the dead enemy.

Yesterday afternoon the Command and Control helicopter from the 3d Battalion, 1st Infantry detained one VC suspect 11 miles north of the "Jungle Warrior's" home.

The 11th Brigade's 52nd Military Intelligence Detachment killed two evading VC in rice paddies four miles north of Duc Pho.

Action in the 1st Squadron, 1st Armored Cavalry's area of operations increased slightly yesterday as **"F" Troop, 8th Cavalry** killed two VC and detained two VC suspects.

Americal Division forces suffered one soldier killed and two wounded and evacuated for medical treatment.

Vol. 2. No. 137 Tuesday September 3, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT Cloudy skies with occasional light rains. High 94, low 78. Winds northeast at 10 knots. (B-6)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action in the Americal Division's southern I Corps Tactical Zone remained scattered yesterday as Division forces accounted for 18 VC killed, five NVA killed, and three individual weapons captured.

Yesterday in the 198th Inf. Bde's area of operations "Charger" units killed 12 VC and captured 1100 pounds of rice.

"F" Troop, 17th Cav. in three separate contacts killed a total of three VC with small arms fire six miles south of Hoi An.

Reconnaissance elements of the 4th Bn., 21st Inf. in three separate contacts killed a total of three VC five miles south of Hoi An.

In an area centered seven miles south of Hoi An, "Gimlets" of the 4th Bn., 21st Inf. killed a total of two VC with small arms fire in two separate contacts yesterday.

Another company of the 4th Bn., 21st Inf found a total of two VC that had recently been killed by artillery seven miles south of Hoi An.

A company of the 3d Bn., 21st Inf. engaged a group of evading VC 20 miles northwest of Tam Ky with small arms fire. Killing one VC. Later the unit killed one additional VC in the same area.

A company of the 4th Bn., 31st Inf. found 1100 pounds of rice in a hut 27 miles west of Tam Ky.

Action was scattered in the 198th Inf. Bde. yesterday as "Brave and Bold" soldiers killed four VC, five NVA, captured three individual weapons, and detained four suspects.

A "Professionals" unit of the 5th Bn., 46th Inf. led by CPT. Lawrence G. Johnson (Westchester, ILL.) killed two VC and detained one suspect when the unit engaged a group of VC while patrolling in the Burlington Trail area northwest of Chu Lai.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123rd AVN. Bn. killed one VC and detained three suspects while flying in support of **1st Bn., 52nd Inf.** soldiers south of Chu Lai.

"Regulars" from a 1st Bn., 6th Inf. company found the fresh grave of one NVA yesterday afternoon while patrolling southwest of Chu Lai.

Later another company of the battalion found two M-16 rifles in the same area.

A unit of the 4th Bn., 3rd Inf. found the body of one VC late yesterday afternoon north of Chu Lai. The unit later found the bodies of four NVA in freshly dug graves in the same area.

Action remained light and scattered in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav's area of operations yesterday as **"F" Troop, 8th Cav**. killed one VC and "B" Troop, 1st Sqdn, 1st Cav. killed one VC. "C" Troop 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. detained four VC suspects yesterday.

In the 11th Inf. Bde's area of operations "Jungle Warriors" reported four VC suspects detained yesterday. No significant contacts were reported.

Division forces suffered five soldiers wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Vol. 2. No. 138 Wednesday September 4, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT Cloudy skies with intermittent light rains will continue throughout the forecast. High 92, low 78. Winds variable at 8 knots. (B-6)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action in the Americal Division's southern I Corps Tactical Zone increased slightly yesterday as Division forces and supporting elements accounted for 30 VC killed, 16 NVA killed, and six individual weapons captured.

In scattered action throughout the 196th Inf. Bde's area of operations yesterday, "Charger" units killed 16 VC, two NVA, and captured three individual weapons.

A company of the 3d Bn., 21st Inf. killed two VC in two separate incidents 18 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

In an area 17 miles northwest of Tam Ky, another 3d Bn., 21st Inf. company killed four VC and two NVA in four separate contacts.

Reconnaissance elements of the 4th Bn., 21st Inf. killed two VC in two separate contacts yesterday four miles south of Hoi An.

A company of the 4th Bn., 21st Inf. engaged and killed one VC six miles south of Hoi An. The unit later killed five VC in the same area.

A company of the 2d Bn., 1st Inf. found the body of one VC killed by small arms fire and one M-79 grenade launcher 13 miles south of Hoi An.

Another company of the same battalion was led by a VC female to a K-44 rifle concealed in a hut 24 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

A company of the 4th Bn., 31st Inf. was fired on by snipers. The unit returned fire killing one VC and capturing one AK-47 33 miles west of Tam Ky.

Scattered action in the 11th Inf. Bde's. area of operations yesterday resulted in nine VC killed, eight NVA killed, and three individual weapons captured in Quang Ngai Province.

A company of the 1st Bn., ***[20th]*** ~~21st~~ Inf. killed eight VC south of Quang Ngai yesterday. ***(The 1/20th Inf. reported 8 enemy KIAs, then updated to 12 enemy KIAs.)***

Yesterday morning troops of a company of the 3d Bn., 1st Inf. killed one VC, detained one suspect, and captured two hand grenades and ammunition ***----Not Readable------***

Yesterday afternoon soldiers of another 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company killed three NVA and captured two AK-47 rifles and a pistol belt with grenades five miles west of Quang Ngai City. Later the same unit killed five NVA and captured one AK-47 seven miles west of Quang Ngai.

In the 196th Inf. Bde's. area of operations around Chu Lai yesterday "Brave and Bold" soldiers and supporting air power reported six NVA killed, and five VC killed.

A search through an area west of Chu Lai by a company of the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. uncovered the bodies of five dead NVA yesterday. The five NVA were killed by fighter bombers flying in support of the battalion Sunday.

In the same area a reconnaissance patrol killed two VC.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123rd Avn. Bn. and helicopters of "F" Troop 8th Cav engaged and killed two VC in separate action south of Chu Lai yesterday.

The reconnaissance platoon of the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. located four enemy bunkers containing three 60mm mortar rounds and 350 AK-47 rounds south of Chu Lai yesterday. Later the platoon found the body of one NVA in a grave in the same area.

A company of the 5th Bn., 46th Inf. killed one VC east of Tien Phuoc yesterday.

Civic Action soldiers of the 196th treated 170 Vietnamese during three MEDCAPS yesterday.

Division forces suffered two soldiers killed and 15 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Vol. 2. No. 141 Saturday September 7, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT SUNDAY **Cloudy skies with occasional light rain this morning continuing last this afternoon and tonight. High 95, low 79. Winds northwest at 8 to 12 knots. (B-6)**

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action increased in the Americal Division's southern I Corps Tactical Zone yesterday as Division forces and supporting elements killed 23 VC, one NVA and captured one crew-served and five individual weapons.

Fighting erupted west of Quang Ngai City yesterday as 11th Inf. Bde. "Jungle Warriors" and supporting elements killed 20 VC, detained 14 suspects and captured one crew-served and four individual weapons.

"E" Troop, 1st Sqdn, 1st Cav. killed one evading VC six miles west of Quang Ngai City.

"Sharks" of the 174th Aviation Company killed two VC in separate actions eight and 10 miles west of the Province Capital.

A 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company killed three VC and captured two AK-47 rifles near a tunnel complex eight miles southwest of Quang Ngai City. Another company of the battalion killed two more VC in a small valley 10 miles west of metropolitan Quang Ngai.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123rd Aviation Bn., led the day's total with 11 VC killed. Ten of the VC killed in action nine miles northwest of Quang Ngai were wearing Khaki uniforms. In that contact one M-1 carbine, one RPG, one AK-50, and documents were captured. "Aero Scouts" killed the other VC near highway 58 in the same site. The "Aero Scouts" also detained five suspects in the area west of Quang Ngai City.

A reconnaissance element of the 4th Bn., 3d Inf. detained six suspects in separate actions. Three of the suspects were captured near a large tunnel complex near a trail seven miles northwest of the Province Capital. Later a 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company killed one VC in the same area.

A 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company detained two suspects west of Quang Ngai. In the same area a 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company detained one VC suspect.

Light action in the 196th Inf. Bde's area of operations accounted for one VC killed and one individual weapon captured.

An Americal Division reconnaissance patrol observed a group of VC evade into a hut. An artillery fire mission called, resulting in one VC killed 25 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

A 4th Bn., 31st Inf. company found one French SMG 36 miles west of Tam Ky.

Action slowed down yesterday as 198th Inf. Bde. soldiers reported one NVA killed.

Yesterday morning a 1st Bn., 6th Inf. company discovered an NVA grave west of Chu Lai. Another "Regulars" company operating in the same area found a small unit base camp.

Yesterday afternoon a 1st Bn., 46th Inf. company found an NVA pack containing documents and detained one suspect.

Two other 198th Inf. Bde. units detained two additional suspects during search and clear operations.

A 5th Bn., 46 Inf. company found three small tunnels while checking and area after receiving sniper fire.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported two VC killed by **"F" Troop 8th Cav.**, one in the Burlington Trail area and one in the Operation Wheeler/Wallowa area.

Division forces suffered 6 soldiers killed and six wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Americal Division Daily Newsheets:

Vol. 2. No. 145 Tuesday September 11, 1968 (Vol 2. No. 144 was a typo on this issue) MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT WEDNESDAY Partly cloudy skies with scattered showers. High 95, low 79. Winds northeasterly at 8 to 10 knots. (B-6)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action remained scattered in the Americal Division's southern I Corps Tactical Zone yesterday as Division forces accounted for 18 VC and one NVA killed and 19 crew-served and 44 individual weapons captured.

Light enemy contacts in Quang Ngai Province resulted in 11 VC killed, eight suspects detained and four weapons captured by 11th Inf. Bde.s "Jungle Warriors" yesterday.

In the area west of Quang Ngai City a 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company received sniper fire. The "Old Guard" soldiers returned the fire, killing three VC.

Near the same area troops of another 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company killed two evading VC and detained one suspect.

Soldiers of a **1st Bn., 20th Inf.** company killed two VC and captured one VC suspect and carbine 10 miles north of Duc Pho. The suspect later lead the **"Sykes Regulars"** to a tunnel near huts in the same area where a VC identified as a platoon leader was killed and four more suspects detained.

Troops of a 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company killed a VC in their perimeter west of the Province Capital and captured one AK-47 rifle and one Chicom flare pistol.

In other action west of Quang Ngai City, another 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company killed a VC in a hole, In the same area one 4th Bn., 3rd Inf. company found a 7.62mm pistol, and another 4th Bn., 3rd Inf. company detained two suspects who were trying to hide in a crowd.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123rd Avn. Bn. killed one evading VC 12 miles south of LZ Bronco.

Units of the 196th Inf. Bde. killed four VC and one NVA and captured 17 crewserved and 39 individual weapons in scattered action throughout the "Chargers" Operation Wheeler/Wallowa area yesterday.

"Polar Bears" of a 4th Bn., 31st Inf. company commanded by 1LT Dickie Dickson (North Liberty, Ind.) found a large enemy weapons cache and a NVA base camp in a thick double and triple canopy jungle valley 27 miles west of Tam Ky.

The company along with a reconnaissance element of the battalion was conducting a thorough search of the area when they found the weapons and equipment with about 25 huts.

In the weapons cache there were ten B-40 rocket rounds, 31 SKS carbines, five AK-47 rifles, seven RPD light machine guns, nine portable flame throwers, one RPG-7, two US carbines, one K-44 rifle, and a box of maps, overlays, documents, and about 100 pounds of explosives. All the equipment and weapons were evacuated.

"F" Troop 8th, CAV. observed one evading VC 17 miles southwest of Tam Ky. The enemy was engaged, resulting in one VC killed.

A 2d Bn., 1st Inf. company found 2000 pounds of rice in five gallon cans eight miles southwest of Hoi An. The rice will be evacuated and distributed to needy villagers.

A 4th Bn., 31st Inf. company engaged and killed one evading VC with small arms fire 20 miles west of Tam Ky.

(Continued -1)

A reconnaissance element of the 4th Bn., 21st Inf. engaged a group of evading VC six miles west of Hoi An, resulting in two VC killed.

A 3d Bn., 21st Inf. company engaged two evading NVA eight miles west of Tam Ky, killing one NVA and capturing two NVA ponchos, two pair of black pajamas, and 15 pounds of rice.

A continuing search through the rocket ridge area again provided the highlight for yesterday's action by the 198th Inf. Bde. Two VC were reported killed and one individual and two crewserved weapons captured in the Operation Burlington Trail and Chu Lai area.

A unit of the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. commanded by CPT Francis X. Brennan (Boston Mass.) located two 122mm rockets and additional warheads hidden in holes.

The "Regulars" discovered one carbine and several documents in the jungle highlands four miles west of Chu Lai.

Near Chu Lai a 198th aerial observer spotted one VC killed by artillery.

Early yesterday afternoon a "**Blue Ghost**" of **"F" Troop, 8th Cav.** returning from a reconnaissance mission northwest of Chu Lai spotted one VC. The enemy was engaged and killed.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported one VC killed and one suspect detained by their "A" Troop and one suspect detained by "C" Troop in the Operation Burlington Trail area.

Division forces suffered one soldier killed and 13 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Vol. 2. No. 146 Thursday September 12, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT FRIDAY Partly cloudy skies with scattered afternoon and evening showers. High 92, low 77. Winds northeast at 10 knots. (B-6)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)---Action remained scattered in the Americal Division's southern I Corps Tactical Zone yesterday as Division forces and supporting elements accounted for 22 VC killed and one weapon captured.

Operation Champaign Grove began on 4 Sept. in an area 20 miles west of Quang Ngai City. Elements of the 11th Inf. Bde. and the 2nd ARVN Div. have killed 110 VC and 13 NVA, detained 27 suspects, and captured one crew-served and 14 individual weapons in the combined operations.

Light action in Quang Ngai Province yesterday resulted in eight VC killed, one suspect detained and one weapon captured during operations by 11th Inf. Bde. "Jungle Warriors".

The U.S. Air Force accounted for two VC killed yesterday morning when a forward Air Control plane returned fire on two ground gunners, killing both nine miles west of Quang Ngai.

Troops of a 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company found three VC killed by air strikes 10 miles west of Quang Ngai City.

Infantrymen of a **1st Bn., 20th Inf.** company detained two VC who led them to a near tunnel near huts nine miles north of Quang Ngai City. Soon after the two VC entered the tunnel there was a large explosion, killing both VC. Later they killed another VC in the same vicinity.

"Old Guard" soldiers of another 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company found one automatic weapon in bushes by a trail 11 miles west of Quang Ngai City.

Cavalrymen of "E" Troop, 1st Cav. detained one VC suspect by a trail near a mortar site which had been used to attack LZ Bronco. The mortar site was less than two miles west of the "Jungle Warriors" home.

Elements of the 196th Inf. Bde. killed nine VC yesterday in the Operation Wheeler/Wallowa area.

A reconnaissance element of the 4th Bn., 21st Inf. in three separate actions yesterday killed a total of six VC nine miles south of Hoi An.

Two 3d Bn., 21st Inf. companies killed three more VC in the same area in two separate contacts.

Two air strikes were flown in support of the 196th yesterday resulting in one secondary explosion.

Action centered west and northwest of Chu Lai yesterday in the 198th Inf. Bde's. area of operations as one light contact, the discovery of a rice cache, and one VC killed highlighted activity.

A 5th Bn., 46th Inf. company commanded by 1LT Nicholas Holmes (St. Cloud Minn.) found 400 pounds of rice yesterday during a search and clear mission in the Burlington Trail area. The rice was booby-trapped with two M-26 grenades which were discovered and destroyed.

A reconnaissance element of the 5th Bn., 46th Inf. accounted for one VC killed yesterday.

In other action a 1st Bn., 6th Infantry company commanded by CPT. Francis X. Brennan (Boston, Mass.) ran into an unknown size enemy force in bunkers on the "rocket ridge" west of Chu Lai. Two air strikes were called in on the NVA unit which was firing on the "Regulars" with automatic weapons and rolling grenades down a hill into the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. soldier's positions. Results of the contact are unknown at this time.

The remainder of the Bde's action centered south of Chu Lai where a **1st Bn., 52nd Inf.** company commanded by CPT Peter L. Lawson (Taunton, Mass.) discovered two M-16 anti-personnel mines, several spider holes, and documents during a search and clear mission.

"H" Troop, 17th Cav. soldiers operating with the "Ready Rifles" found and destroyed one 8 inch dud round.

Civic Action soldiers of the Bde. treated 301 Vietnamese yesterday during five MEDCAPs.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported four VC killed yesterday in the Burlington Trail area. **"F" Troop, 8th Cav.** accounted for three of the VC killed and "C" Troop, 1st Cav. accounted for the other VC killed.

Division forces suffered two soldiers killed and 35 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Vol. 2. No. 147 Friday September 13, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT SATURDAY Mostly cloudy to cloudy with intermittent showers. High 90, low 77, Winds northeast at 8 to 10 knots. (B-6)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action remained scattered in the Americal Division's southern I Corps Tactical Zone yesterday as Division forces and supporting elements accounted for 29 VC and four NVA killed, two crew-served and three individual weapons captured.

Fighting in the 11th Inf. Bde's. area of operations yesterday resulted in 14 VC and four NVA killed, two suspects detained, and two crew-served and three individual weapons captured.

A Vietnamese national recently escaped from the Viet Cong (who had used him as impressed labor) led troops of a 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company to a complete 105mm howitzer buried near the base of a hill eight miles west of Quang Ngai City. The Vietnamese had been forced to help bury the howitzer during the last TET offensive.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. killed a total of eight VC in four separate contacts yesterday 15 miles west of Quang Ngai City. Later the "Aero Scouts" killed an NVA and captured his AK-47 on mile southwest of the Ha Thanh Special Forces Camp. The "Aero Scouts" also detained two suspects west of Quang Ngai City. One of the suspects had blood on his clothing, but no wounds.

Soldiers of a 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company killed three NVA and captured two AK-47 rifles and one RPD light machine gun in separate actions near the Ha Thanh Special Forces Camp yesterday.

Yesterday morning two evading VC were killed by a **1st Bn., 20th Inf.** company eight miles north of Duc Pho. Later in the day the "**Sykes Regulars**" killed another VC in a firefight 11 miles north of LZ Bronco.

In other action yesterday the U.S. Air Force killed three VC during an air strike 12 miles west of Quang Ngai City.

"Charger" units of the 196th Inf. Bde. killed 12 VC yesterday in the Operation Wheeler/Wallowa.

"Legionnaires" of a 2d Bn., ~~2~~1st Inf. company engaged and killed one evading VC 25 miles northwest of Tam Ky. *(This is a typo, this should have been "2d Bn., 1st Inf.")*

"Polar Bears" of a 4th Bn., 31st Inf. company called an air strike on an area where an aircraft previously received fire, killing one VC 31 miles west of Tam Ky.

In an area centered 15 miles west of Tam Ky, Gimlets" of two 3d Bn., 21st Inf. killed four VC in two contacts 12 miles southwest of Hoi An.

A reconnaissance element of the 4th Bn., 21st Inf. killed four VC in two contacts 12 miles southwest of Hoi An.

A 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company engaged a group of VC hiding in a tunnel 29 miles west of Tam Ky, killing three of them.

Three VC were killed in light scattered activity in the 198th Inf. Bde. area yesterday.

A force from a 5th Bn., 46th Inf. company led by CPT Lawrence G. Johnson (Westchester, Ill.) engaged two VC yesterday afternoon 23 miles northwest of Chu Lai. One VC was killed by the "Professionals" in that jungle skirmish.

An element of the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. "Regulars" discovered a series of six spider holes while sweeping the ridge line west of Chu Lai.

Gunships of **"F" Troop, 8th Cav**. supporting 198th ground troops, reported killing two VC and destroying four camouflaged enemy huts yesterday afternoon 15 miles west of Chu Lai.

"Brave and Bold" soldiers and medics of the 198th treated 545 Vietnamese yesterday during five MEDCAPs.

No significant contacts were reported in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav's. area of operations yesterday.

Division forces suffered two soldiers killed and eight wounded and evacuated for medical treatment.

Vol. 2. No. 150 Monday September 16, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT TUESDAY **Mostly fair to partly cloudy with showers in the afternoon and evening. High 95, low 78. Winds variable at 5 knots. (B-6)**

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action remained steady in the Americal Division's southern I Corps Tactical Zone yesterday as Division forces and supporting elements accounted for 38 VC killed and three individual weapons captured.

Action remained steady in the 198th Inf. Bde's. area of operations yesterday as "Brave and Bold" soldiers and supporting gunships accounted for 29 VC killed, three weapons captured, and nine suspects detained during action centered south of Chu Lai.

The first action yesterday morning netted one VC suspect detained as the "Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. swooped down to detain the single suspect attempting to avoid detection. Later that morning "**Ready Rifles**" of the **1st Bn., 52nd Inf.** located and detained two more suspects.

As the "Scouts" continued their search for enemy, they spotted and killed one VC as he attempted to evade the helicopter.

A company of the **1st Bn., 52nd Inf.** commanded by 1LT Jack W. Sorensen (Council Bluffs, Iowa) while making a sweep south of Chu Lai, engaged a group of VC, killing two.

In later action the "Aero Scouts" engaged and killed four VC in the same area.

North of Chu Lai a 5th Bn., 46th Inf. company detained four suspects late yesterday.

"Regulars" of a 1st Bn., 6th Inf. company detained two suspects west of Chu Lai.

Late yesterday evening "Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. engaged an estimated VC company, resulting in 22 VC killed and three carbines captured approximately nine miles south of Chu Lai.

"Charger" of the 196th Inf. Bde. killed six VC in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa yesterday.

In an area centered 15 miles west of Tam Ky, "Gimlets" of two 3d Bn., 21st Inf. companies killed three VC in three separate actions.

Later one of the 3d Bn., 21st Inf. companies called artillery, gunships, and air strikes on numerous sniper positions in the same area. A thorough search of the area disclosed numerous enemy fighting positions destroyed and one VC killed.

The "Chargers" command and control helicopter observed two VC evading eight miles south of Hoi An. The enemy was engaged with M-60 machinegun fire, killing one VC.

Bde. aerial observers called in artillery on a group of VC who evaded into a hut. A check of the area disclosed one VC killed nine miles southwest of Hoi An.

In Operation Champaign Grove yesterday Americal Division units reported three VC killed and 17 suspects detained during operations.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav's. "Blue Ghost" of **"F" Trp., 8th Cav.** killed two VC yesterday after receiving automatic weapons fire near the Tra Khuc River 12 miles west of Quang Ngai.

A 4th Bn., 3d Inf. artillery observation post nine miles northwest of Quang Ngai confirmed one VC killed by artillery in that area.

In the 11th Bde's Duc Pho area of operations an intelligence source led Vietnamese National Police and their advisor, SSG Lones R. Warren (Taylors, S.C.) of the 11th Bde. MPs, to a large tunnel complex two miles west of Duc Pho where an estimated 15 tons of rice were stored. MACV personnel from Duc Pho will distribute the rice to needy villagers.

"It's the most elaborate tunnel system I've seen in my three years in Vietnam," said SSG Warren. "Probably 150 meters long and constructed by engineers, with caverns as big as tent kits."

Division forces suffered one soldier killed and six wounded and evacuated for medical treatment.

Vol. 2. No. 152 Wednesday September 18, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT THURSDAY Mostly fair with scattered showers. High 95, low 77 Winds from north northeast at 10 knots.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action was scattered yesterday in the Americal Division's southern I Corps Tactical Zone as Division forces and supporting elements accounted for 11 VC and eight NVA killed and one crew-served and four individual weapons captured.

"Charger" units of the 196th Inf. Bde. and supporting elements killed eight VC and captured one individual weapon in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa yesterday.

The 2d Bn., 1st Inf. command and control helicopter killed two VC 17 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

A 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company in two separate incidents nine miles south of Hoi An killed two VC and captured one M-16 rifle. The battalion command and control helicopter later killed two VC in the same area.

A 3d Bn., 21st Inf. "Gimlet" company killed one evading VC 15 miles west of Tam Ky.

"F" Trp., 8th Cav. killed one VC four miles east of Thang Binh.

Scattered enemy contacts yesterday resulted in eight NVA and three VC killed, two suspects detained, and three individual and one crew-served weapon captured during operations by 11th Bde. infantrymen in Quang Ngai Province.

Troops of a (A Company) **1st Bn., 20th Inf.** company killed three NVA and then discovered a weapons and supply cache containing one RPD light machinegun, two AK-47 rifles, six RPG-7 rocket rounds, six Chicom hand grenades, one M-26 hand grenade, three RPD machinegun drums, over 1500 rounds of AK-47 ammo., 600 rounds of M-16 ammo., pouch, nine NVA packs, one U.S. trip flare, three NVA first aid packs, two NVA helmets, and assorted documents. The cache was found near a trail 20 miles west of Quang Ngai City.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. killed two VC in separate actions near huts located near the Tra Khuc river 15 and 16 miles west of Quang Ngai City. The "Scouts" also captured an M-1 carbine and detained one suspect in that action.

11th Bde. MPs from Duc Pho killed an evading VC near a hut four miles northwest of the "Jungle Warriors" home.

A 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company killed five NVA yesterday after receiving automatic weapons fire about three miles southwest of Ha Thanh.

In action late Monday night troops of a 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company detained one suspect among huts near the Tra Khuc River 15 miles west of Quang Ngai City.

Action was light and scattered in the 198th Inf. Bde. area of operations yesterday as "Brave and Bold" soldiers denied the enemy supplies and destroyed booby traps.

"Professionals" of a 5th Bn., 46th Inf. company found 400 pounds of rice the VC had cached in the hills northwest of Chu Lai. Later the company found and destroyed three booby traps.

Three M-79 rounds were found by a company of the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. as they searched a ridge line west of Chu Lai.

Another "Regulars" unit of the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. treated 426 Vietnamese during five MEDCAPs north of Chu Lai yesterday.

1st Bn., 52nd Inf. Civic Action soldiers brought the total of civilians treated yesterday to 472 as the "Ready Rifles" attended to 46 more Vietnamese civilians.

"Dragoons" of the 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported no significant contacts in their area of operations yesterday.

Division forces suffered six soldiers killed and 31 wounded and evacuated for medical treatment.

Vol. 2. No. 153 Thursday September 19, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT FRIDAY Fair to partly cloudy skies with showers and thunderstorms. High 92, low 78. Winds northeast at about 5 to 8 knots. (B-6)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action increased slightly in the Americal Division's southern I Corps Tactical Zone yesterday as Division forces reported 30 VC and seven NVA killed and two individual and one crew-served weapon captured.

In the 196th Inf. Bde's Operation Wheeler/Wallowa area yesterday "Charger" units killed 17 VC and captured one individual weapons.

Two 3d Bn., 21st Inf. companies killed two VC seven miles west of Tam Ky in two separate incidents. Another company of the battalion killed on evading VC with small arms and M-79 fire in the same area.

An OP for the 3d Bn., 21st Inf. called in artillery, killing one VC in an area seven miles west of Tam Ky.

In numerous small contacts yesterday the recon platoon of the 4th Bn., 21st Inf. killed 13 VC seven miles south of Hoi An.

Enemy contacts in the 11th Inf. Bde. was concentrated west of Quang Ngai in the Operation Champaign Grove as "Jungle Warriors" killed 10 VC and three NVA, detained one suspect, and captured one weapon.

A 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company commanded by CPT Paul C. Place (Kenilworth, NJ.) killed four VC and captured two packs while patrolling in a valley 20 miles west of Quang Ngai. "Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. screening for the 3d Bn., 1st Inf. killed four NVA in the same area.

A rifle platoon of a **1st Bn., 20th Inf.** company led by 1LT Robert L. Janowitz (Glen Rock, N.J.) conducting a sweep through the troublesome mountains west of Ha Thanh OP4 killed two NVA soldiers and captured one AK-47 rifle, two NVA packs, and field equipment yesterday morning 18 miles west of Quang Ngai.

The recon platoon of the 1st Bn., 20th Inf. led by 1LT Ronald D. Hopper (Chagrin Falls, Ohio) killed two VC hiding in a tunnel west of Ha Thanh.

Another "**Sykes Regulars**" company of the **1st Bn., 20 Inf.** killed one NVA in an area 18 miles west of Quang Ngai.

"Brave and Bold" soldiers of the 198th Inf. Bde. killed one VC and captured one crew-served weapon yesterday during scattered action in their area of operations.

The S-5 of the 1st Bn., 46th Inf. was credited with one VC killed yesterday when a VC fired on a Marine vehicle on Highway 1. A passenger in the vehicle observed the muzzle flash and engaged the enemy with machinegun fire, killing one VC.

A 1st Bn., 6th Inf. company led by CPT Robert L. Hicks (Boise, Idaho) located a VC base camp yesterday afternoon near Chu Lai. Although the VC avoided contact with the "Regulars" they were forced to leave behind a supply of beans, corn, and potatoes. Military documents which the enemy forgot in their haste to evade were also captured with the food supply.

One enemy flame thrower was captured by a unit northwest of Chu Lai yesterday.

Civic Action soldiers and infantrymen of a 1st Bn., 46th Inf. company conducted a cordon and search of a village northwest of Chu Lai yesterday morning. As a result of the MEDCAP led by the battalion surgeon, CPT Roger Browne (Philadelphia, PA.) following the action, 135 Vietnamese were treated.

The "Professionals" distributed 35 pounds of soap and evacuated five villagers for further medical treatment.

Some 136 more civilians were treated as the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. and the 1st Bn., 46th Inf. as each held two MEDCAPs.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported five VC killed, 15 huts and four bunkers destroyed by the 3d Bn., 16th Artillery, firing in support of "Blue Ghosts" of **"F" Trp., 8th Cav**. in Operation Burlington Trail yesterday. The **"Blue Ghost"** later killed an additional VC in the same area.

Division forces suffered eight soldiers killed and 32 wounded and evacuated for medical treatment.

Vol. 2. No. 155 Saturday September 21, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT SATURDAY **Mostly fair to partly cloudy with showers late afternoon. High 93 Low 75. Winds variable at 5 knots.**

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)-Action was light and scattered in the Americal Division's southern I Corps Zone yesterday as Division forces killed 11 VC, captured one NVA soldier, and captured one crew-served and 13 individual weapons.

"Charger" units of the 196th Inf. Bde. killed five VC in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa yesterday.

"F" Trp., 17th Cav. killed one VC with .50 cal. machine gun fire yesterday 15 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

A 2d Bn., 1st Inf. company killed one evading VC with small arms fire 17 miles west of Tam Ky. In the same area the command and control helicopter of the 2d Bn., 1st Inf. engaged and killed one VC.

The recon. plt. of the 4th Bn., 21st Inf. engaged and killed one VC with small arms fire seven miles south of Hoi An.

A 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company engaged and killed one evading VC with small arms fire nine miles south of Hoi An yesterday.

"Brave and Bold" soldiers of the 198th Inf. Bde. and supporting units killed three VC, captured one NVA, and one crew-served and 13 individual weapons during scattered contacts in their area of operations yesterday.

A **1st Bn., 52nd Inf.** company captured one NVA while searching an area west of Tam Ky. A further probe of the area produced an enemy weapons cache containing four M-16 rifles, five M-14 rifles, one shot gun, two AK-47 rifles, and one RPG-7.

'Aero Scouts' of the 123d Avn. Bn. flying over the area being searched by the **1st Bn., 52nd Inf.**. spotted one VC. The enemy was engaged and killed. Later they found on M-1 carbine in the same vicinity.

The recon. plt. of the 5th Bn., 46th Inf. led by 1LT William G. Mullen (Falmouth, Mass.) killed one evading VC southwest of Chu Lai yesterday afternoon.

Join the Americal Division Veterans Association. Check with your First Sergeant or the Information Office.

The 'Aero Scouts' of the 123d Avn. Bn. received small arms fire from a group of VC yesterday afternoon northwest of Chu Lai. The 'Scouts' returned fire, killing one VC.

Civic Action soldiers of the 198th Bde. treated 153 Vietnamese during four MEDCAPs yesterday.

Light enemy contact in the 11th Inf. Bde's. area of operations resulted in three VC killed and 10 suspects detained.

Soldiers of a 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company killed two VC and detained five suspects in separate actions near Duc Pho. The "Old Guard" soldiers spotted some VC throwing hand grenades from a tunnel. "Old Guard" soldiers returned fire killing one VC. One suspect was detained in that action. The exchange took place six miles north of Duc Pho. The troops later killed another VC near a village eight miles northwest of Duc Pho. The 'Old Guard' command and control helicopter detained four suspects in separate actions near a trail and huts two and three miles northwest of Duc Pho yesterday.

Gunships of "**F" Trp., 8th Cav.** killed an evading VC wearing a khaki uniform and detained one evading suspect in separate actions near the Tra Khuc River 15 miles southwest of Quang Ngai City.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported no contacts in their area of operations yesterday.

Division forces suffered two soldiers killed and five wounded and evacuated for medical treatment.

Vol. 2. No. 159 Wednesday September 25, 1968
MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT THURSDAY Cloudy Skies Rain and Showers High 87 Low 75 (B-6)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Units of the Americal Division killed 92 NVA and 8 VC and captured 4 individual weapons yesterday in contacts throughout the division area of operations.

The heaviest contact was in Operation Burlington Trail, as units of the 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav., **"F" Trp., 8th CAV.** and a company of the 11th Bde's., 4th Bn., 21st Inf. killed 92 NVA and captured one AK-47 rifle in contacts throughout the afternoon.

The "Gimlets" accounted for 22 NVA, "A" Trp., of the "Dragoons" killed 33 NVA, "B" Trp., killed 23 NVA and **"F" Trp., 8th Cav**. counted 14 NVA dead.

"Charger" units of the 196th Inf. Bde. killed five VC in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa yesterday.

The command and control helicopter from the 3d Bn., 21st Inf. engaged and killed one VC on a trail leading to LZ Center 21 miles west of Tam Ky.

A 2d Bn., 1st Inf. company 16 miles south of Hoi An came under automatic weapons fire yesterday, and returned the fire, killing one VC. Later the company spotted two VC evading into a hole. They were engaged with M-26 grenades, resulting in two VC killed.

A 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company killed one VC with small arms fire 11 miles southwest of Hoi An.

"Brave and Bold" soldiers of the 198th Inf. Bde. killed two VC and captured two individual weapons during light and scattered contacts in Operation Burlington Trail yesterday.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. killed one evading VC nine miles south of Chu Lai.

Two companies from the **1st Bn., 52nd Inf.** killed one VC and captured one Chicom type 53 rifle and a .45 cal. pistol yesterday while making a sweep 12 miles west of Tam Ky. One of the companies uncovered a 700 pound rice cache while sweeping the area.

Civic Action soldiers of the 198th Inf. Bde. treated 255 Vietnamese during five MEDCAPs yesterday.

Light action in the 11th Inf. Bde. area of operations resulted in one VC killed, four suspects detained and one weapon captured.

Troops of a 3d Bn., 1st Inf., company killed one VC and captured one .45 cal. pistol, documents, and 7.62mm ammo. near Highway 1 four miles south of Duc Pho.

In other action the command and control element of the 4th Bn., 3d Inf. detained four suspects near a beach seven miles southeast of Duc Pho. The four suspects were carrying false ID cards.

Division forces suffered two soldiers killed and 34 wounded and evacuated for medical treatment.

Americal Division Daily Newsheet:
Vol. 2. No. 163 Sunday September 29, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT MONDAY Partly to mostly cloudy with occasional showers. High 90 Low 75. Winds variable at 5 to 10 knots. (B-6)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)---Action was light and scattered in the southern portion of I Corps Tactical Zone yesterday. Americal Division forces reported six NVA and 18 VC killed, one crew-served and two individual weapons captured, one NVA captured, and 14 suspects detained.

Scattered fighting in the 11th Inf. Bde's. area of operations yesterday resulted in nine VC killed and 11 suspects detained.

Troops of the **1st Bn., 20th Inf.** operating with "Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. accounted for six VC killed and five suspects detained yesterday.

In the first action the two forces combined to kill four VC evading into a cave near a beach 10 miles northeast of Quang Ngai City.

The other two VC were killed in separate actions near abandoned railroad tracks 12 miles north of Quang Ngai City. One of the VC killed was wearing a green uniform. The other was killed when the unit spotted and engaged a group of VC. The group was traveling to the southwest of the area where an engineer unit had just received fire. In that contact five VC suspects were also detained. One of the detainees had pack marks on his back.

An OP of the **1st Bn., 20th Inf.** spotted three VC near huts eight miles west of Quang Ngai City. The "Sykes Regulars" called in artillery from the 6th Bn., 11th Arty., killing all three.

In other action a recon. plt. from the 4th Bn., 3d Inf. detained two VC suspects without ID cards in a hut seven miles south of Duc Pho.

A 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company detained another VC suspect without an ID card among rice paddies near the same site.

Another 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company detained three VC suspects near a beach four miles southeast of Duc Pho.

In operation Wheeler/Wallowa, "Charger" units of the 196th Inf. Bde. killed eight VC yesterday.

A 2d Bn., 1st Inf. company engaged and killed with small arms fire a VC evading 10 miles southwest of Hoi An.

Another 2d Bn., 1st Inf. company was led to a dead VC by a Vietnamese boy yesterday. The boy said the VC had been wounded by the unit the day before.

A 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company received automatic weapons fire yesterday nine miles west of Tam Ky. The "Gimlets" returned fire with small arms. After the firing ceased, the unit searched the area. The "Gimlets" spotted a VC hiding in a spider hole. The enemy was engaged and killed with M-26 grenades.

In an area centered nine miles southwest of Hoi An, a recon. plt of the 4th Bn., 21st Inf. killed two VC.

Blue Ghosts" of **"F" Trp., 8th Cav.** working with the 2d Bn., 1st Inf. Observed three evading VC. The gunship engaged the VC, killing all three 15 miles southwest of Hoi An.

Six NVA were killed and one NVA captured as action tapered off in the 198th Inf. Bde's. area of operations yesterday. One crew-served and two individual weapons were also captured in the Burlington Trail area.

A 5th Bn., 46th Inf. company led by CPT Herbert A. Walter (Columbus, Ga.) killed six NVA who attacked their fire support base Friday night.

The NVA sappers had used a large portion of the night to climb the steep sides of the fire support base southwest of Chu Lai. But the "Professionals" were alert and opened fire as the enemy approached the defensive wire.

(Continued -1)

A search of the area at first light produced the bodies of six NVA and a seventh who had been wounded. The wounded prisoner was evacuated for medical treatment and interrogation.

Two AK-47 rifles and one RPG were also found in the search.

West of Chu Lai a 1st Bn., 6th Inf. company led by CPT Robert L. Hicks (Boise, Idaho) destroyed two booby traps yesterday afternoon. The "Regulars" found the booby traps while on a sweeping mission.

Civic Action soldiers of the Bde. treated 536 Vietnamese civilians during five MEDCAPs yesterday.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported one VC killed and three suspects detained in the Operation Burlington Trail area yesterday.

"F" Trp., 8th Cav. detained two suspects 15 miles north of Tam Ky.

"C" Trp., of the 1st Sqdn. found one VC body and detained one suspect. 15 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Seven Americal Division soldiers were reported wounded and evacuated for medical treatment as a result of yesterday's action.

Remember to take your malaria pills daily

Americal Division Daily Newsheet:
Vol. 2. No. 165 Tuesday October 1, 1968
MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT WEDNESDAY Partly Cloudy Evening Showers High 86 Low 73

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Americal Division soldiers accounted for 18 VC killed and five individual weapons captured in southern I Corps Tactical Zone yesterday

Soldiers of the 198th Inf. Bde. reported nine VC killed yesterday in their area of operations.

Sunday evening an aerial observer spotted a group of 10 VC south of Chu Lai. Artillery was called in as the observer made adjustments.

A search of the area yesterday revealed the effectiveness of the air adjusted artillery fire. Eight VC bodies were found at the site.

In the Burlington Trail area a **1st Bn., 52nd Inf.** company led by CPT Floyd W. McLean, Jr. (Ft. Sill, Okla.) found the body of one VC who had been killed previously during an attack on a fire support base west of Tam Ky. Two had grenades were found on the dead man's body.

Civic Action soldiers of the Bde. treated 141 Vietnamese civilians during two MEDCAPs yesterday.

Scattered contacts in Quang Ngai Province yesterday resulted in five VC killed, nine suspects detained, and two individual weapons captured by 11th Inf. Bde. "Jungle Warriors".

The 1st Bn., 20th Inf. combined with "Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. yesterday morning in killing four VC and capturing two weapons near a bridge eight miles northwest of Quang Ngai City. "Sykes Regulars" and an "Aero Scout" gunship cornered and killed two of the VC near the bridge. A few minutes later the combined forces killed the other two VC who were fleeing from the scene.

One M-1 rifle, one BAR, two sets of web gear, and documents were captured in that action.

"Always First" soldiers of a 3d Bn., 1st Inf, company detained three VC suspects in two separate actions in an area centered eight miles north of Duc Pho. Two of the suspects were found hiding in a hut. The third was detained near a village.

"Old Guard" soldiers of a 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company found one VC killed while making a sweep across a trail three miles southwest of Duc Pho. The VC had been killed earlier when helicopter gunships fired on the area.

The command and control helicopter of the 4th Bn., 3d Inf. spotted five military age males digging a grave beside a trail one mile southwest of Duc Pho. All five had pack marks on their shoulders and were detained by the "Old Guard" soldiers.

In other 11th Bde. activity , "Always First" soldiers of a 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company detained one VC suspect Sunday night. The suspect was caught sleeping in a hut near Highway 1, five miles north of Duc Pho. The "Always First" soldiers became suspicious of the hut while moving to a night location.

"Dragoons" of the 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported three VC killed, three individual weapons captured, and 29 suspects detained in their area of operations yesterday.

"C" Trp., 1st Sqdn. killed three VC and detained 13 VC suspects in an area centered 14 miles northwest of Tam Ky. **"Blue Ghosts" of "F" Trp., 8th Cav. detained 14 VC suspects in the same area.**

In an area centered eight miles northwest of Tam Ky, "A" Trp., 1st Sqdn. detained two VC suspects.

A detainee led "Dragoons" of Hq and Hq Trp., to three K-44 rifles hidden in a tunnel northeast of Tam Ky.

"Charger" units of the 196th Inf. Bde. accounted for one VC killed yesterday in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa.

One VC body was found five miles northwest of Tam Ky by "Guardians" of a 2d Bn., 1st Inf. company. The VC, who had been killed by artillery, had been dead at least one day.

Americal Division forces suffered the loss of two soldiers killed and six wounded and evacuated for medical treatment yesterday.

Vol. 2. No. 166 Wednesday October 2, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT THURSDAY Partly Cloudy Occasional Showers High 88 Low 74 (B-6)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)-Americal Division soldiers reported two VC killed and 14 suspects detained in southern I Corps Tactical Zone yesterday.

11th Inf. Bde. "Jungle Warriors" reported one VC killed and 11 suspects detained during operations in Quang Ngai Province yesterday.

In action near Duc Pho, "Old Guard" soldiers of a 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company killed one evading VC near a trail one mile southwest of Duc Pho. The company also detained one VC suspect who had no ID card near the same site.

Recon. troops of the 3d Bn., 1st Inf. detained four VC suspects near abandoned railroad tracks 11 miles northwest of Duc Pho. Three of the suspects were caught as they tried to flee on bicycles.

Soldiers of another 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company detained two evading VC suspects near a hut two miles north of Duc Pho.

"Always First" soldiers of another 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company detained one suspected VC who had no ID card three miles northwest of Duc Pho.

In other action "Old Guard" soldiers of a 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company detained one VC suspect whose ID card had been altered. The suspect was caught near Highway 1, eight miles south of Duc Pho.

"Sykes Regulars" of the **1st Bn. 20th Inf.** combined with "Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. to detain one VC suspect hiding atop a hill, five miles northwest of Quang Ngai City.

"Dragoons" of the 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported one VC killed, one VC captured, and two suspects detained in their area of operations yesterday.

"Blue Ghosts" of "F" Trp., 8th Cav. killed one VC 15 miles west of Tam Ky.

"C" Trp., wounded one VC in a contact 10 miles northeast of Tam Ky yesterday. The VC was evacuated for medical treatment and interrogation. Two VC suspects were detained in the same area.

Forward air controllers flying in support of the 198th Inf. Bde. ground forces directed 18 air strikes against an unknown size enemy force west of Tam Ky.

The air strikes ignited five secondary fires and destroyed four enemy bunkers.

390 Vietnamese civilians were treated as a result of five MEDCAPs conducted yesterday, three by "Professionals" of the 5th Bn., 46th Inf., and two by "Regulars" of the 1st Bn., 6th Inf.

196th Inf. Bde. "Chargers" reported no contacts yesterday in their area of operations.

One Americal Division soldier was killed and 22 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment yesterday.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

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Vol. 2. No. 167 Thursday October 3, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT FRIDAY Mostly Cloudy Chance of Showers High 89 Low 76 (B-6)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Americal Division forces accounted for 21 VC and seven NVA killed and ten individual weapons captured in action in the southern I Corps Tactical Zone yesterday.

In the 196th Inf. Bde's area of operations yesterday, "Charger" units killed 13 VC and captured nine individual weapons.

In the largest contact of the day, a 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company spotted a group of VC evading into a tunnel seven miles southwest of Hoi An. The enemy was engaged, resulting in nine VC killed.

A search of the area resulted in the capture of three SKS rifles, two M-1 carbines, one M-16 rifle, and one Chicom sub-machine gun.

In the same area another 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company engaged and killed a total of three VC in two separate incidents.

In other action, a 196th Inf. Bde. aerial observer called in artillery on one VC, resulting in one VC killed 18 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

"F" Trp., 17th Cav. captured two M-72 LAWs eight miles south of Hoi An.

Soldiers of the 198th Inf. Bde. and supporting gunships killed seven NVA and one VC and captured one individual weapon yesterday.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. spotted a group of NVA 10 miles west of Tam Ky yesterday morning.

The gunships opened fire on the NVA before they could take any evasive action.

The "Aero Scouts" then inserted infantrymen to search the area. Seven NVA bodies were found at the scene.

About noon yesterday a 1st Bn., 46th Inf. company led by 1LT Larry Gragg (Metalina, Wash.) engaged a group of enemy west of Tam Ky. One VC was killed and two captured. The two captured VC were evacuated for interrogation.

A **1st Bn., 52nd Inf.** company found one M-72 LAW four miles east of Tien Phuoc.

"Brave and Bold" Civic Action soldiers of the Bde. treated 541 Vietnamese during five MEDCAPs yesterday.

11th Inf. Bde. "Jungle Warriors" killed four VC and detained seven suspects during scattered action yesterday in Quang Ngai Province.

"Always First" soldiers of a 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company led by 1LT Bruce E. Piksas (Chicago, Ill.) killed three VC in separate actions three miles north of Duc Pho.

Seven miles north of Duc Pho, troops of another 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company detained two female VC suspects. The two suspects had jumped in front of a patrol to prevent the "Always First" soldiers' firing at a group of evading VC.

"Dragoons" of "E" Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. working with troops of the 11th Inf. Bde. yesterday detained three suspects in separate contacts eight miles northwest of Quang Ngai City. One of the suspects without an ID card was found hiding in a ditch and the other two were caught near a clearing. Neither of the two had ID cards.

Working with "E" Trp., 1st Cav., soldiers of a **1st Bn., 20th Inf.** company detained two VC suspects near huts. One of the suspects had no ID card.

Soldiers of a 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company observed two VC moving toward their position near Highway 1, 11 miles south of Duc Pho. The VC fired five to six rounds and the unit and fled.

The "Old Guard" troops pursued the enemy. Later one of the VC was found dead. He had been killed by M-79 grenade fire.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported three VC killed and one suspect detained in their area of operations yesterday.

"Blue Ghosts" of "F" Trp., 8th Cav. killed three VC 12 miles northwest of Tam Ky. In the same area "B" Trp. detained one VC suspect.

Three Americal Division soldiers were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment yesterday.

Vol. 2. No. 170 Sunday October 6, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT MONDAY Mostly cloudy, Occasional showers. High 95, low 75. (B-6)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Americal Division units accounted for 20 VC and two NVA killed and one individual weapon captured in the southern I Corps Tactical Zone yesterday.

A village cordon operation by the 4th Bn., 3d Inf. led yesterday's action as 11th Inf. Bde. "Jungle Warriors" killed 16 VC and detained 55 suspects in Quang Ngai Province.

The 4th Bn., 3d Inf. cordon operation, seven miles southeast of Duc Pho resulted in 11 VC killed and 29 suspects detained. A company led by 1LT Robert F. Callahan (Ft. Meade, Md.) killed eight of the VC near a trail as the cordon got under way. Another company of the Bn. killed two more VC on separate actions near trails as the round-up proceeded. One 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company found the body of a dead VC near huts. The VC had been killed by 6th Bn., 11th Arty. fire the previous night. At the end of the cordon operation a total of 29 VC suspects had been detained by the "Old Guard" soldiers.

In action late Friday night, troops of a 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company detained 15 VC suspects eight miles north of Duc Pho. In the same area another company of the Bn. detained one VC suspect and killed two VC.

A third company of the "Always First" Bn. detained nine VC suspects--seven near a village three miles north-west of Duc Pho, and two who had no ID cards five miles north of Duc Pho.

"Sykes Regulars" of a **1st Bn., 20th Inf.** company killed one VC after he ran from a hut 11 miles northwest of Quang Ngai City.

"Shark" gunships of the 174th Avn. Bn. killed one VC near a beach seven miles southwest of Duc Pho.

Gunships from the 14th Avn. Bn. killed one VC five miles southwest of Binh Son.

In other action "Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. detained one VC suspect near the Song Ve River, 20 miles southwest of Duc Pho.

In the 196th Inf. Bde's. area of operations, "Charger" units killed two VC and one NVA and captured one individual weapon.

A 2d Bn., 1st Inf. company engaged and killed one VC with small arms fire 23 miles west of Tam Ky.

A 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company engaged a group of NVA yesterday with small arms fire. It was estimated the group numbered about 30. The contact resulted in one NVA killed seven miles southwest of Hoi An.

Bde. aerial observers spotted a possible enemy base camp 10 miles southwest of Hoi An. Artillery fired into the area resulted in one VC killed.

A 4th Bn., 31st Inf. company found an SKS rifle six miles southeast of Hiep Duc yesterday.

The 198th Inf. Bde. reported that "Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. killed one NVA southwest of Tam Ky.

"Dragoons" of the 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported two VC killed and two suspects detained in their area of operations yesterday.

"B" Trp. of the Cav. accounted for the two VC killed in the Burlington Trail area.

One of the VC suspects was detained by "**F" Trp., 8th Cav.** and the other by "A" Trp. of the 1st Cav.

One Americal Division soldier was killed and 11 wounded and evacuated for medical treatment yesterday.

Today is TET Trung-Thu, the Vietnamese children's holiday, and in the spirit of holiday giving, soldiers of the 11th and 198th Inf. Bde's. presented a large array of gifts, for children in nearby villages.

"Brave and Bold" soldiers distributed toys and candy to the village chiefs of Binh Son and Ly Tin while "Jungle Warriors" gave their gifts to officials in Duc Pho.

Another highlight of the 198th Bde. Civic Action Program yesterday was the graduation of six Vietnamese nurses.

"Regulars" of the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. had sponsored the course of instruction for the six young women. The nurses will use the intensive training they have received to treat members of their respective villages.

Vol. 2. No. 171 Monday October 7, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT TUESDAY Partly Cloudy Scattered Showers
High 95 Low 75 0750-1900 Hours of non-moonlight.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Americal Division forces accounted for 11 VC and four NVA killed, one crew-served and four NVA killed, one crew-served and four individual weapons captured in light scattered action in the southern I Corps Tactical Zone yesterday.

11th Inf. Bde. soldiers killed eight VC and detained seven suspects in action around Duc Pho yesterday.

Late Saturday night troops of a 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company led by SGT Clive W. Wang (Chicago, Ill.) spotted a group of VC near Highway 515, seven miles northwest of Duc Pho. The VC were engaged, resulting in two VC killed, two packs and one Chicom grenade captured. Later the "Always First" soldiers killed one VC in a rice paddy near the same site.

National Police working with troops of a 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company killed five VC in a tunnel and captured homemade hand grenades, north of Duc Pho. The "Always First" soldiers detained seven VC suspects in yesterday's action.

In the 196th Inf. Bde's. area of operations "Charger" units killed three NVA and captured one crew-served and four individual weapons.

A 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company engaged and killed one NVA with small arms fire 14 miles southwest of Hoi Ann. The "Gimlets" captured one Ak-47 rifle that he had been carrying.

The company also engaged and killed two more NVA 15 miles southwest of Hoi An and captured three Ak-47 rifles.

A 4th Bn., 31st Inf. company working in the same vicinity found one RPG-7.

Units of the 198th Inf. Bde. killed one NVA in light contact yesterday.

A **1st Bn., 52nd Inf.** company led by 1LT Michael J. Deal (Arlington, Va.) killed one NVA in the Burlington Trail area yesterday afternoon. ***[Historian Note: From the Americal Division S2/S3 entry log: 198th, B/1/52, BT152130 at 1045H, eng'd 2 NVA evading, element saw 2 wpns on NVA, res: 1 NVA KIA, 1 NVA escaped carrying 2 wpns, wearing pack and green uniform. 4 VN in area detained, will evac to LZ Bayonet. 1 NVA that escaped was moving in a N direction.]***

Civic Action soldiers of the Bde. treated 277 Vietnamese during two MEDCAPs in the Chu Lai area.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported three VC killed yesterday.

The three VC were killed by **"F" Trp., 8th Cav**. in the Operation Burlington Trail area.

Vol. 2. No. 175 Friday October 11, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT SATURDAY Cloudy Skies Occasional Showers High 92 Low 76. 1118-2233-Hours of non-moonlight

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)-Americal Division forces reported 10 VC killed, four individual weapons captured, and 7000 pounds of rice captured in the southern I Corps Tactical Zone yesterday.

In the 196th Inf. Bde.'s area of operations yesterday, "Charger" units reported six VC killed, three individual weapons captured, and 7000 pounds of rice captured.

A 3d Bn., 21st Inf. company engaged and killed one VC with small arms fire 21 miles west of Tam Ky.

A 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company spotted one VC who ran into a tunnel, eight miles north of Hoi An. The enemy was engaged with M-26 grenades, resulting in one VC killed.

Another 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company spotted a VC running into a bunker 10 miles west of Hoi An. The unit engaged and killed the VC with M-26 grenades.

The reconnaissance element of the 4th Bn., 21st Inf. engaged and killed two VC with small arms fire nine miles north of Hoi An.

Military Police at LZ Ross's main gate received small arms fire yesterday. Mortars fired into the suspected sniper position resulted in one VC killed.

A 4th Bn., 31st Inf. company searching an area 29 miles west of Tam Ky yesterday found one M-16 rifle, one M-1 carbine, and one MAS-36 rifle.

In an area 25 miles northwest of Tam Ky yesterday, troops of a 2d Bn., 1st Inf. company found 7000 pounds of rice.

Units of the 198th Inf. Bde. reported two VC killed, three VC captured, and three VC suspects detained yesterday.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. killed two VC south of Chu Lai yesterday morning. The gunships then went into search the area. The "Aero Scouts" detained three military age males in the area for interrogation. All three suspects were later classified as VC.

In the Operation Burlington Trail area a **1st Bn., 52nd Inf.** company led by 1LT Stephen J. Olsen (Minneapolis) detained two VC suspects yesterday morning. Neither of the suspects had ID cards.

[Historian Note: From the Americal Division S2/S3 Daily logs: 198th, D/1/52, BT208156 at 0830H, detained 2 MAM, ages 30 to 15, no ID, found in vil, not evading, going to evac to LZ Bayonet. SGT Seaton.]

Another **1st Bn., 52nd Inf.** "**Ready Rifle**s" company led by 1LT Michael J. Deal (Arlington, Va.) detained one VC suspect in the same area. **[Historian Note: B 1/52nd Inf. Bn.]**

Civic Action soldiers of the brigade treated 525 Vietnamese during five MEDCAPs yesterday.

Light enemy contact continued yesterday in Quang Ngai Province as 11th Bde. infantrymen reported one VC killed, one individual weapon captured, and two suspects detained.

"E" Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. working with the 4th Bn., 3d Inf. detained one VC suspect five miles southeast of Quang Ngai City.

Another **1st Bn., 20th Inf.** company killed one VC three miles northeast of Son Tinh. In the same area a platoon from the 1st Cav.'s "E" Trp., engaged a group of VC, resulting in one SDS rifle captured.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported one VC killed by **"F" Trp., 8th Cav.** yesterday nine miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Americal Division forces suffered four soldiers killed and 12 wounded and evacuated for medical treatment.

Vol. 2. No. 178 Monday October 14, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT TUESDAY **Cloudy Skies Rain Showers High 85 Low 73 1347-0113 Hours of non-moonlight.**

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Americal Division units and supporting elements accounted for 16 VC killed and 19 VC suspects detained in the southern I Corps area yesterday.

"Charger" units and supporting elements accounted for 15 VC killed in the Operation Wheeler/Wallowa area yesterday.

In an area 16 miles northwest of Tam Ky a 1st Bn., 2d Inf. OP observed a group of VC harvesting rice in an unauthorized harvest area. The OP called in artillery, resulting in 5 VC killed.

In an area centered 12 miles west of Tam Ky a reconnaissance element from the 3d Bn., 21st Inf. killed two VC in two separate contacts.

A 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company killed one VC seven miles south of Hoi An. The VC was hiding in a stream when he was killed.

In a series of contacts nine miles south of Hoi An a 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company killed four VC.

Gunships from the 14th Avn. Bn. engaged a group of VC six miles south of Hoi An, killing two.

"Blue Ghosts" of **F Trp., 8th Cav**. flying in support of the 4th Bn., 21st Inf., engaged and killed one VC seven miles south of Hoi An.

Action in the 11th Inf. Bde. area of operations dropped yesterday. "Jungle Warriors" of the brigade killed one VC and detained three suspects.

The brigade's only kill was credited to early morning artillery fire from the 6th Bn., 11th Arty. The VC body was found in an area seven miles northeast of Duc Pho.

Later in the morning, elements of E Trp., 1st Cav. apprehended two VC suspects in the same area. The two had been wounded by the artillery barrage.

Elements of a 4th Bn., 3d Inf. ***[Historian Note: C 4/3rd Inf Bn]*** company led by CPT Grady Middleton (Quincy, Fla.) captured a VC suspect as they moved through rice paddies southeast of Duc Pho.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported 10 VC suspects detained in the Operation Burlington Trail area yesterday. "Blue Ghosts" **of F Trp., 8th Cav**. detained two and A Trp., 1st Cav., detained eight.

Units of the 198th Inf. Bde. detained six VC suspects yesterday in the Chu Lai area.

A 5th Bn., 46th Inf. company led by CPT Geoge [sic] L. Harmon detained four VC suspects while sweeping an area yesterday morning. The unit later found and destroyed a tunnel.

Another 5th Bn., 46th Inf. company led by 1LT James J. Frazier (Decatur, Ill.) located and destroyed an 81mm round while searching an area south of Chu Lai.

"Regulars" of a 1st Bn. 6th Inf., company led by CPT Thomas A. Chapman (Schofield Barracks, Hawaii) detained one VC suspect while sweeping an area west of Chu Lai.

In the Burlington Trail area a **1st Bn., 52nd Inf.**, company led by CPT Floyd W. McLean, Jr., (Ft. Sill, Okla.) captured 700 pounds of rice. The "**Ready Rifle**s" found the rice when they searched two abandoned huts west of Tam Ky. ***[Historian Note: 198th, B/3/1, B/1/52, from 1000H to 1005H, at BT177145, B/1/52 found 450 lbs of rice in a hut, will evac rice. At BT173154, B/3/1 found 300 lbs of rice, will evac. Also found 1 bunker, 4 ft by 4 ft w/old camouflage and 2 small tunnels. Searched area w/neg res.]***

A further search of the area revealed a tunnel which the company destroyed.

Shortly afterwards the company detained a VC suspect near the same site.

Civic action soldiers of the brigade treated 183 Vietnamese during two MEDCAPs yesterday.

Americal forces suffered two soldiers killed and 17 wounded and evacuated for medical treatment yesterday.

Vol. 2. No. 179 Tuesday October 15, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT WEDNESDAY Cloudy Rain Showers High 88 Low 74 1432-0208 hours of non-moonlight

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

The Department of the Army announces with deep regret the death of a distinguished military leader, General John Leonard Hines, USA, retired. The former Chief of Staff of the United States Army died at Walter Reed General Hospital, Washington, D.C., Sunday, 13 Oct. 1968.

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Units of the Americal Division accounted for 18 VC and one NVA killed, 16 VC suspects detained and four individual weapons captured in the southern I Corps area yesterday.

In the 196th Inf. Bde. area of operations yesterday "Charger" units accounted for nine VC killed.

A 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company killed one VC with small arms fire seven miles northwest of Hoi An.

The 4th Bn., 21st Inf. recon. plt. killed a total of five VC in two separate contacts nine miles northwest of Hoi An yesterday.

A 3d Bn., 21st Inf. company received approximately 150 rounds of sniper fire 16 miles northwest of Tam Ky yesterday. The "Gimlets" returned the fire and called in artillery, resulting in two VC killed. Later in the same area the company killed another VC.

Action continued light and scattered in the 11th Inf. Bde. area of operations yesterday. "Jungle Warriors" reported eight VC killed, eight VC suspects detained, and one individual weapon captured.

Late morning action by elements of the 3d Bn., 1st Inf. in continued wet weather resulted in three VC killed. The action took place in an area around the "Always First" forward fire support base, LZ Liz, four miles northwest of Duc Pho.

A 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company commanded by CPT James O'Herron (Winona, Minn.) killed the first two VC in two separate contacts in the area centered five miles west of Duc Pho. One of the VC killed was dressed in a green uniform with a camouflaged scarf. Documents were also found on the VC's body.

Later in the afternoon another company of the battalion commanded by 1LT Larry Birchfield (Albuquerque, N.M.) engaged and killed the third VC near the same site.

Early in the afternoon the 11th Bde. command and control helicopter engaged two VC three miles east of Duc Pho, resulting in one VC killed and one suspect detained.

Action in the 4th Bn., 3d Inf. area resulted in four VC suspects detained yesterday.

The first subject was detained six miles southeast of Duc Pho by a 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company led by CPT Grady Middleton (Quincy, Fla.).

Later another company of the battalion commanded by CPT Jimmie R. Davis (Denton, Tex.) detained the other three VC suspects four miles north of Duc Pho.

In action around Quang Ngai City, a **1st Bn., 20th Inf. company** commanded by CPT Alfred N. Webb (LaJolla, Calif.) killed four VC, detained three suspects, recovered one M-1 carbine, web gear, medical supplies, and documents seven miles northwest of Quang Ngai City.

Units of the 198th Inf. Bde. killed one NVA, detained four VC suspects, and captured three individual weapons.

A **1st Bn., 52nd Inf.** company engaged a small group of NVA in the Burlington Trail area yesterday. The "**Ready Rifle**s" point man opened fire killing one

(Continued -1)

NVA. Two others dropped their weapons and fled. One M-16 and two AK-47 rifles were captured as a result of that action. ***[Historian Note: From the Americal Division S2/S3 Daily Log: 198th, C/1/52, BT181122-191121 at 1045H, spotted 6 NVA moving E to W, wearing green uniforms and pistol belts, eng'd w/AW fire, res: 1 NVA KIA, CIA 2 AK-47's, 1 M-16. Arty fired on BT197115. AK-47 SN's: 10082911, 9473070, M-16 SN 890396.]***

Another **1st Bn., 52nd Inf.** company led by CPT Floyd W. McLean, Jr. (Ft. Sill, Okla.) destroyed one booby trap which the enemy had hidden in tall grass near rice paddies. ***[Historian Note: From the Americal Division S2/S3 daily logs: 198th, B/1/52, BT161147 at 1000H, found 1 BT, a pre-set bear trap, on rice paddy dike, well camouflaged.]***

The **"Ready Rifles"** recon. plt. led by 1LT James A. Lockhart (Montpelier, Ohio) detained three VC suspects west of Tam Ky yesterday afternoon. None of the military-age males were carrying ID cards.

In the Chu Lai area a 5th Bn., 46th Inf. company destroyed one booby trap while on a sweeping mission south of Chu Lai.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. detained one VC suspect yesterday afternoon in the Chu Lai area.

Yesterday afternoon a 5th Bn., 46th Inf. company led by CPT Herbert A. Walter (Columbus, GA.) found and destroyed a 45-foot-long tunnel. Later the company uncovered a mine cache. The VC had stored seven mines and a bag of mine fuses in a tunnel south of Chu Lai. The "Professionals" destroyed the cache.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported one VC killed and four suspects detained yesterday.

"Blue Ghosts" of **"F" Trp., 8th Cav.** accounted for the one VC killed in the Burlington Trail area.

Also in the Burlington Trail area, "C" Trp., 1st Cav. detained four VC suspects.

The Americal Division suffered no casualties yesterday.

Vol. 2. No. 183 Saturday October 19, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT SUNDAY Cloudy Rain Showers High 86 Low 74 1711-0542--Hours of non-moonlight

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Americal Division units accounted for 40 VC and one NVA killed, 24 VC suspects detained, and six individual weapons captured in southern I Corps yesterday.

Action in the 11th Inf. Bde. area of operations picked up sharply yesterday. "Jungle Warrior" infantrymen killed 26 VC, detained 10 VC suspects and captured four individual weapons.

The action took place on the Song Ve 12 miles south of Quang Ngai City.

In action beginning just before noon yesterday, "Shark" gunships of the 174th Avn. Co. operating with 3d Bn., 1st Inf. soldiers engaged a group of approximately 15 enemy soldiers, killing three VC.

A short time later a 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company commanded by CPT James O'Herron (Winona, Minn.) killed one VC fleeing their combat sweep in the same area.

The action picked up as the 3d Bn., 1st Inf. command and control helicopter engaged three fleeing VC, killing two and detaining the third.

At the same moment, a 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company led by 1LT Larry Birchfield (Albuquerque, N.M.) reported contact with a company-size enemy element across the Song Ve opposite their position. The "Always First unit called for gunship support.

The company then initiated the action by killing seven VC and capturing two AK-47 rifles.

During the course of the long afternoon battle, the "Always First" unit detained three suspects and captured a K-44 rifle.

Meanwhile, the 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company led by CPT James O'Herron had maneuvered into a blocking position, killing two VC.

A short time later the company killed a lone evading VC. Then a second VC was killed when he tried to recover the first VC's body.

"Shark" gunships accounted for one more VC killed during the afternoon.

"War Lord" gunships from the 123d Avn. Bn. flying in support of the 3d Bn., 1st Inf. killed five VC.

In other action a **1st Bn., 20th Inf** company led by CPT George M. Robb (Strongsville, Ohio) killed two VC and detained three suspects 11 miles northwest of Quang Ngai City.

A 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company commanded by CPT Grady Middleton (Quincy, Fla.) killed one VC, captured an M-1 carbine, and detained three VC suspects five miles southwest of Duc Pho.

"Charger" units of the 196th Inf. Bde. killed 12 VC and captured one individual weapon in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa yesterday.

A 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company killed two VC in two separate incidents seven miles south of Hoi An.

Another 4th Bn., 21st company killed one VC nine miles south of Hoi An.

Another 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company killed one VC nine miles south of Hoi An.

A 4th Bn., 21st Inf. recon. plt. spotted a group of VC southwest of Hoi An. The group of VC were engaged with small arms fire, resulting in three VC killed. Later the unit killed another VC in the same area.

A 2d Bn., 1st Inf. company uncovered a small cache of ammo and equipment, including one AK-47 rifle, 17 miles west of Tam Ky.

A 3d Bn., 21st Inf. company, 13 miles west of Tam Ky, observed a small group of VC moving north. The "Gimlets" called an artillery fire mission, resulting

(Continued -1)

in one VC killed.

A reconnaissance element from the 3d Bn., 21st Inf. killed one VC 12 miles west of Tam Ky.

Three VC were killed seven miles west of Tam Ky by a 2d Bn., 1st Inf. company yesterday.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported two VC killed and three VC suspects detained 10 miles northwest of Tam Ky by **"F" Trp., 8th Cav**. yesterday.

Units of the 198th Inf. Bde. killed one NVA, detained 11 suspects and captured one individual weapon yesterday.

A 1st Bn., 6th Inf. recon. plt. led by 1LT George Wright (Lake Geneva, Wis.) detained one VC suspect west of Chu Lai yesterday morning.

Two VC suspects were detained south of Chu Lai by a 5th Bn., 46th Inf. company led by 1LT James J. Frazier (Decatur, Ill.). The two suspects were carrying medical supplies and documents. Later the company captured an AK-47 rifle while on a searching mission.

Late yesterday morning a 1st Bn., 6th Inf. company led by CPT Robert L. Hicks (Boise, Idaho) detained two VC suspects while sweeping an area south of Chu Lai. The "Regulars" also found and destroyed one home-made mine in the same area.

"Professionals" of a 5th Bn., 46th Inf. recon. plt. led by 1Lt William G. Mullen (Falmouth, Mass.) killed one NVA west of Chu Lai yesterday afternoon.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. detained six VC suspects in the Chu Lai area.

In the Burlington Trail area a 1st Bn., 46th Inf. company led by CPT Roger Dimsdale (Washington, D.C.) captured 300 pounds of rice and 100 rounds of .50 cal. ammo while on a reconnaissance in force mission northwest of Chu Lai.

314 Vietnamese were treated during four MEDCAPs held by the civic action soldiers of the brigade yesterday.

Americal forces suffered four soldiers killed and 22 wounded and evacuated for medical treatment yesterday.

Vol. 2. No. 184 Sunday October 20, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT MONDAY Rain, Rain, Rain High 88 Low 74

0546-1722--Hours of non-moonlight 0% Illumination

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Units of the Americal Division accounted for 20 VC and seven NVA killed, 16 VC suspects detained, one NVA detained, and eight individual weapons captured in southern I Corps yesterday.

Action was moderate in the 11th Inf. Bde. yesterday. "Jungle Warrior" units reported 12 VC killed, six VC suspects detained, and four individual weapons captured.

Gunships of the 174th Avn. Co. killed five VC six miles south of Duc Pho yesterday.

A 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company commanded by CPT John J. Murphy (Springfield, Pa.) moved into the area and detained two VC suspects. One of the suspects was carrying a lensatic compass.

One of the VC had been carrying a roster of names and two large propaganda posters.

The company also confiscated one altered ID card and one document believed to be a letter of introduction.

A search of the area turned up one MAS-36 rifle, one M-16 rifle, and one K-44 rifle.

Later the 11th Inf. Bde. command and control helicopter commanded by COL John W. Donaldson (Alexandria, Va.) engaged six VC in the same area. Five VC were killed and one suspect was detained.

The 4th Bn., 3d Inf. command and control helicopter later killed one VC seven miles south of Duc Pho.

A 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company commanded by CPT Grady Middleton (Quincy, Fla.) detained two VC suspects in two separate incidents in the same area.

Later CPT Murphy's company found one M-1 carbine in the area.

A 4th Bn., 3d Inf. recon plt. commanded by 1LT George H. Kinney (Taylor, Mich.) detained one VC suspect five miles south of Duc Pho.

At the same time the "Old Guard" headquarters section, sweeping the same area, killed one VC.

"Shark" gunships supporting the **1st Bn., 20th Inf.** killed one VC 18 miles northwest of Quang Ngai City.

The 198th Inf. Bde. reported 6 NVA and four VC killed with five suspects and one NVA detained.

In the Burlington Trail area 1st Bn., 46th Inf. company led by 1LT David O. Bergeron (Fairfield, Ohio) found the bodies of two VC west of Tam Ky. The two VC had been killed by fire from the 1st Bn., 14 Arty.

The NVA lost a mess hall to a 1st Bn., 46th Inf. company led by CPT Roger Dimsdale (Washington, D.C.) yesterday.

The "Professionals" discovered the mess hall while on a reconnaissance in force mission northwest of Chu Lai. They captured 3000 pounds of rice, 500 pounds of potatoes, candy, 150 dishes, and 15 portable radios. A further search of the area resulted in one military age male detained and evacuated for interrogation.

A coordinated action by "**Ready Rifle**s" of the **1st Bn., 52nd Inf.** netted three NVA killed. Also, the **1st Bn., 52nd Inf.** recon. plt. led by 1LT Barry Luther (Orange Park, Fla.) sweeping an area west of Tam Ky forced a small group of NVA to hit a **1st Bn., 52n Inf.** company led by CPT Floyd W. McLean, Jr. (Ft. Sill, Okla.)

CPT McLean's company opened fire killing the first NVA. The company then

(Continued -1)

followed a blood trail. In a fight that followed two additional NVA were killed.

The next action for the brigade was a series of contacts by 1LT Bergeron's company.

The company detained one VC suspect while on a reconnaissance in force mission southwest of Tam Ky.

Next they found the bodies of two NVA who had been killed by small arms fire and a VC who had been killed by artillery fire.

Later the company engaged a VC with a 90mm recoilless rifle fire, resulting in one VC killed.

"Ready Rifles" of a **1st Bn., 52nd Inf.** company led by 1LT Michael J. Deal (Arlington, Va.) reported receiving small arms fire west of Tam Ky. The unit returned the fire wounding one NVA who was detained and evacuated for interrogation and medical treatment.

One NVA was killed by Dimsdale's company late in the day.

In the Chu Lai area a 5th Bn., 46th Inf. company led by 1LT James J. Frazier (Decatur, Ill.) wounded and detained one VC.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. detained two VC suspects south of Chu Lai.

Civic action soldiers treated 264 Vietnamese during two MEDCAPs yesterday.

196th Inf. Bde. "Charger" units killed four VC and one NVA, detained two VC suspects, and captured four individual weapons.

In an area centered 10 miles south of Hoi An, a 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company killed two VC in two separate incidents.

The 3d Bn., 21st Inf. recon. plt. engaged a small group of VC 111 miles west of Tam Ky, resulting in one VC killed and one AK-47 rifle captured.

In an area 12 miles west of Tam Ky, a 3d Bn., 21st Inf. company killed one NVA, detained two VC suspects, and captured one SKS rifle and one M-1 carbine in two separate incidents.

"Guardians" of a 2d Bn., 1st Inf. company engaged a small group of VC 14 miles southwest of Hoi An, killing one.

Another company of the battalion found an SKS rifle 24 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported three VC suspects detained in the Burlington Trail area. One was detained by "B" Trp., 1st Cav. and the other two by "Blue Ghosts" of **"F" Trp., 8th Cav**.

One Americal Division soldier was killed and eight wounded and evacuated for medical treatment yesterday.

Vol. 2. No. 188 Thursday October 24, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT FRIDAY Mostly Cloudy Occasional Showers
High 82 Low 70 no Moonlight -2021-1001

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) --Units of the Americal Division accounted for eight VC and two NVA killed and 19 suspects detained in the southern I Corps area yesterday.

"Charger units of the 196th Inf. Bde. accounted for six VC and one NVA killed in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa.

A 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company killed one VC eight miles southwest of Hoi An.

The recon plt. of the 4th Bn., 21st Inf. engaged a VC seven miles south of Hoi An with small arms fire, resulting in one VC killed.

The 2d Bn. 1st Inf. command and control helicopter killed three VC with M-60 machinegun fire 22 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

18 miles northwest of Hoi An the command and control helicopter killed another VC with M-60 fire.

Later, they killed one NVA 16 miles southwest of Hoi An.

Light action continued in Quang Ngai province as 11th Inf. Bde. soldiers reported two VC and one NVA killed and three suspects detained.

In the morning the 3d Bn., 1st Inf. command and control helicopter killed two VC who were hiding in a canal seven miles north of Duc Pho.

In a late report from Tuesday, "Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. killed one NVA in a green uniform 40 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

In other action the 4th Bn., 3d Inf. command and control helicopter detained three VC suspects near a trail four miles south of Duc Pho.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported 16 VC suspects detained in the Burlington Trail area 10 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

"Dragoons" of B Trp., 1st Cav. accounted for 13 of the suspects detained.

"Blue Ghosts" of **"F" Trp., 8th Cav.** accounted for the other three VC suspects detained.

Units of the 198th Inf. Bde. reported capturing over two tons of rice.

Action centered in the Burlington Trail area. A 1st Bn., 52 Inf. company led by CPT Jack W. Sorensen (Council Bluffs, Iowa) discovered 3,500 pounds of rice while searching an area west of Tam Ky.

Later in the day the "**Ready Rifle**s" discovered another 1,000 pounds of rice as they continued to search the area.

The rice has been evacuated to the brigade civil affairs officer for redistribution.

Early in the morning a 1st Bn., 46th Inf. company led by 1LT Larry Gragg (Metalina, Wash.) found and destroyed one 175mm artillery round and a "Bouncing Betty" mine northwest of Chu Lai.

Civic action soldiers of the brigade treated 480 Vietnamese during four MEDCAPs.

The division suffered one soldier wounded and evacuated for medical treatment.

Vol. 2. No. 190 Saturday October 26, 1968
MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT SUNDAY Cloudy to Mostly Cloudy
Occasional Rain High 82 Low 70 no Moonlight 2226-1209

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Units of the Americal Division killed 18 VC and one NVA, detained one NVA and 12 VC suspects and captured one individual weapon in southern I Corps yesterday.

Units of the 198th Inf. Bde. killed nine VC and one NVA and detained one NVA and 12 VC suspects.

In the Burlington Trail area the **1st Bn., 52nd Inf.** recon. plt., led by 1LT Barry Luther (Orange Park, Fla.) detained one VC suspect who had been wounded in the leg.

Early that morning a **1st Bn., 52nd Inf.** company led by CPT Jack W. Sorensen (Council Bluffs, Iowa) engaged and killed one NVA. The enemy was killed when he attempted to flee the **"Ready Rifles"** west of Tam Ky.

The **"Ready Rifles"** recon. plt. was next to make contact. The infantrymen engaged two NVA, wounding one. The wounded NVA was detained and evacuated for medical treatment. He had been carrying a pack filled with rice and medical supplies.

CPT Sorensen's company again made contact as they continued to operate west of Tam Ky. They engaged and killed one VC who was carrying military documents.

"Blue Ghosts" of **F Trp., 8th Cav**. killed two VC while flying in support of "Brave and Bold" infantrymen northwest of Chu Lai.

In two separate actions, the **1st Bn. 52nd Inf.** recon. plt. detained one VC and called in artillery on a group of VC moving west. Results of the artillery fire mission were one VC killed and two VC suspects detained.

In the Chu Lai area a 5th Bn., 46th Inf. company, led by CPT Michael R. Smith (New Lebanon, Ohio) reported receiving small arms fire southwest of here. Fire was returned killing five VC. A check of the area resulted in six VC suspects detained.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. detained two VC suspects south of Chu Lai in the afternoon.

Civic action soldiers of the 1st Bn., 46th Inf.; 5th Bn., 46th Inf.; and the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. treated 865 Vietnamese during five MEDCAPs.

In the 196th Inf. Bde.'s area of operations, "Charger" units killed eight VC and captured one individual weapon and 13,900 pounds of rice.

A 3d Bn., 21st Inf. company spotted two VC with weapons 14 miles west of Tam Ky. The enemy was engaged with small arms fire, resulting in one VC killed and one K-44 rifle captured.

A 4th Bn. 21st Inf. company killed one VC seven miles south of Hoi An with small arms fire.

The 3d Bn., 21st Inf. command and control helicopter killed one VC 14 miles west of Tam Ky.

In two separate incidents, in an area centered 15 miles west of Tam Ky, a 3d Bn. 21st Inf. company killed a total of three VC.

"Guardians" of a 2d Bn., 1st Inf. company engaged and killed one VC with small arms fire 15 miles west of Tam Ky.

Another company of the battalion killed one VC 11 miles southwest of Hoi An.

A 4th Bn., 31st Inf. company found 3,000 pounds of rice 14 miles southwest of Hoi An.

Another company of the battalion found 7,200 pounds of rice in various

(Continued -1)

containers hidden huts, 25 miles west of Tam Ky.

A 2d Bn., 1st Inf. company found 3,700 pounds of rice 16 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Two days ago, Vietnamese civilians, under the Voluntary Informant Program (VIP), turned in to the 4th Bn., 21st Inf. 50 M-26 grenades, 40 81mm mortar rounds, 2 1/4 pounds of Flex-X, eight 106mm recoilless rifle rounds, five 3.5" rocket rounds, one Claymore mine, and assorted small arms ammo, etc.

Yesterday, the "Gimlets" received 28 M-26 grenades, 2 1/2 pounds of Flex-X, two 4.2" mortar rounds, and five 81mm mortar rounds under the VIP.

"Guardians" of the 2d Bn., 1st Inf. received 30 105mm artillery rounds, one M-72 LAW, six M-26 grenades, and one Claymore mine under the VIP on the 25th also.

Very light action in Quang Ngai Province resulted in one VC killed by 11th Inf. Bde. "Jungle Warriors."

The single action took place near the Song Ve. "Always First" soldiers of a 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company killed one VC 19 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported two tons of polished rice captured yesterday. The rice was found by "Dragoons" of A Trp. two miles south of Thang Binh.

Seven Americal soldiers were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET
MG Charles M. Gettys, Commanding
MAJ Paul B. Parham, IO
Telephone: Chu Lai 3212 or 2414
This News Sheet is published daily under the supervision of the IO, Americal Division APO96374 as an authorized Army publication. Views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army.

Vol. 2. No. 191 Sunday October 27, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT **MONDAY Partly to Mostly Cloudy Occasional Showers Tonight High 86 Low 70 No Moon light-2331-1305**

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) --Americal Division soldiers accounted for 36 VC killed, 12 suspects detained, and nine weapons captured in southern I Corps yesterday.

Scattered contacts were reported by 198th Inf. Bde. soldiers yesterday.

"Blue Ghosts" of F Trp., 8th Cav. accounted for a total of four VC killed in three incidents northeast of Chu Lai.

The **1st Bn., 20th Inf**. command control helicopter detained four military age male VC suspects among huts three miles south of Duc Pho.

11th Bde. infantrymen killed 10 VC, detained five suspects, and captured one individual weapon in action near Duc Pho yesterday.

"Always First" soldiers of a 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company, led by CPT James O'Herron (Winona, Minn.), killed five VC in three separate actions 13 miles nothwest of Duc Pho. One of the dead VC had a flag and several documents on his person.

The unit later killed four VC and captured 2,000 pounds of rice in the same vicinity.

Troops of a 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company killed one VC 11 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

The **1st Bn., 20th Inf**. command and control helicopter detained four military age male VC suspects among huts three mils south of Duc Pho.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. combined with troops of the **1st Bn., 20 Inf**. to detain one military age male VC suspect, hiding in a hole near a trail, five miles south of Duc Pho.

In other action infantrymen of a 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company found a 1920 model 9mm pistol near a stream nine miles northwest of Duc Pho.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported five VC suspects detained by "Dragoons" of C Trp. four miles southwest of Thang Binh.

In the 196th Inf. Bde. area of operations, "Charger" units killed 22 VC, captured eight individual weapons, detained two suspects, and captured 12,425 pounds of rice.

A total of seven VC were killed in five separate contacts by the 4th Bn., 21st Inf. recon. plt., in an area centered five miles south of Hoi An.

"Gimlets" of a 3d Bn., 21st Inf. company engaged a small group of VC 24 miles west of Tam Ky, killing one.

Another company of the battalion killed a total of two VC in two separate actions in an area centered nine miles west of Tam Ky.

A Long Range Patrol killed a total of four VC in two separate actions in an area centered nine miles west of Tam Ky.

A Long Range Patrol killed a total of four VC in two separate actions in an area centered 26 miles west of Tam Ky. All four of the VC were killed by artillery fire directed by the patrol.

F Trp., 17th Cav. killed five VC in a cave 13 miles northwest of Tam Ky when the enemy refused to come out and surrender.

The troop later killed another VC in the same area when he refused to come out of a cave.

The 71st Avn., Co combined with 196th Inf. Bde. soldiers to kill two VC six miles south of Hoi An.

"Guardians of the 2d Bn., 1st Inf. captured a total of 6,800 pounds of rice in three separate caches 24 miles west of Tam Ky.

(Continued -1)

"Gimlets" of a 4th Bn., 31st Inf. company found 5,625 pounds of rice in several huts 26 miles west of Tam Ky.

A 2d Bn., 1st Inf. company engaged two VC 21 miles northwest of Tam Ky. Both VC were wounded and detained. One K-44 rifle was captured in that action.

Under the Voluntary Informant Program (VIP), Vietnamese civilians turned in three M-79 rounds, one Chicom grenade, three smoke grenades, one 60mm mortar round, 1/2 pound of C4, 1/4 pound of Flex-X, and 1/4 pound of C3 to "Gimlets" of the 4th Bn., 21st Inf (?3rd Bn., 21st Inf are Gimlets).

Friday the 3d Bn., 21st Inf. received one .45 cal. pistol and six M-72 LAWs from Vietnamese civilians under the VIP.

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The Division suffered two soldiers wounded and evacuated for medical treatment.

Vol. 2. No. 192 Monday October 28, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT TUESDAY Partly to Mostly Cloudy Occasional Showers Morning High 84 Low 79

------AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS--------

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Units of the Americal Division accounted for 31 VC and 20 NVA killed, eight suspects detained, and one crew-served and seven individual weapons captured in southern I Corps yesterday.

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The 11th Inf. Bde accounted for 19 NVA and ten VC killed, one suspect detained, and three individual weapons captured.

Troops of a 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company found 11 NVA and one VC killed by air strikes in an area centered 12 miles northwest of Duc Pho. One K-44 rifle was also found in the area.

Continuing the sweep, soldiers of another 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company found three NVA and two VC. One of the VC was found in a grave.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn., working with the 4th Bn., 3d Inf., found three NVA and one VC which had been killed by air strikes.

Troops of the 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company found two dead VC and captured one M-16 rifle in the area.

Soldiers of the 4th Bn., 3d Inf. recon. plt. found one VC killed by air strikes 11 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Early that morning, the 3d Bn., 1st Inf. command and control helicopter killed one VC fleeing from a village 16 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn., working with the 3d Bn., 1st Inf. killed two NVA and one VC in two separate actions near the Song Ve 17 miles northwest of Duc Pho. One .45 cal. pistol was also captured in that action.

In other action, infantrymen of a **1st Bn., 20th Inf.** company killed one VC near Highway 1, two miles north of Duc Pho.

"Dragoons" of E Trp., 1st Cav. detained one VC suspect on Bridge 95, ten miles south of Duc Pho.

"Charger" units of the 196th Inf. Bde. killed 17 VC and one NVA, captured one crew-served and four individual weapons, found 2,800 pounds of rice, and detained two suspects.

The 2d Bn., 1st Inf. command and control helicopter killed a total of two VC in two separate incidents 18 miles southwest of Hoi An.

F Trp., 17th Cav. killed a total of four VC in three separate actions in an area centered 15 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

In the same area F Trp., 17th Cav. found a tunnel with one dead VC in it. A further search of the cave revealed to female VC suspects hiding in the complex.

A 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company killed five VC in a cave eight miles southeast of Hoi An. Two 25-pound blocks of explosives were found in the cave.

The company later engaged a group of VC seven miles southwest of Hoi An, killing one.

Another 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company killed one VC southwest of Tien Phuc.

A 3d Bn., 21st Inf. company engaged a group of VC fleeing a hut nine miles west of Tam Ky, killing three.

The company later killed one NVA in the same area.

F Trp., 17th Cav. found one SKS rifle buried in the ground 16 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Later a detainee led them to a second SKS near a stream in the same area. A further search of the area revealed one M-60 machinegun hidden in a stream.

A 2d Bn., 1st Inf. company found 50 bags of rice totaling 1,600 pounds 20

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miles southwest of Hoi An.

A 4th Bn., 31st Inf. company found 1,200 pounds of rice in a bin next to a hut 20 miles west of Tam Ky.

Vietnamese civilians turned in to the 2nd Bn., 1st Inf., under the Voluntary Informant Program, 17 105MM howitzer rounds, five 81mm mortar rounds, 16 M-79 rounds, and two M-72 LAWS.

Units of the 198th Inf. Bde. killed four VC, detained three suspects, and captured over five tons of rice yesterday.

A **1st Bn., 52nd Inf.** company, led by CPT Jack W. Sorensen (Council Bluffs, Iowa), captured 9,500 pounds of rice while searching an area west of Tam Ky. Also found with the large rice cache was 15 strips of meat and two bushels of corn.

Later in the day the **"Ready Rifle**s" company killed to VC in the same area.

F Trp., 8th Cav. found the body of one VC killed during fighting northwest of Chu Lai.

Another **1st Bn., 52nd Inf.** company led by CPT Floyd W. Mclean Jr., (Ft. Sill, Okla.), found and additional 600 pounds of rice west of Tam Ky.

In the Chu Lai area a 5th Bn., 46th Inf. company, led by CPT George L. Harmon (Dothan, Ala.), found and destroyed one booby-trapped 81mm mortar round south of Chu Lai.

The 5th Bn., 46th Inf. recon. plt., led by 1LT Donald T. Penny, detained three VC suspects south of Chu Lai.

CPT Harmon's company killed one VC while sweeping an area south of Chu Lai.

CPT Sorensen's company found a mess hall, which was the probable destination for the rice they captured in the afternoon.

The **"Ready Rifle**s" found the six table mess hall near the same site of the large rice find.

Among items found in the mess hall were four cooking pots, 30 bowls, one half barrel of corn and beef, and 100 pounds of rice.

Civic action soldiers of the brigade treated 463 Vietnamese during five MEDCAPs.

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The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported two VC suspects detained in the Burlington Trail area by **"Blue Ghosts" of F Trp., 8th Cav**. yesterday.

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Two Division soldiers were killed and nine were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment.

Vol. 2 No. 250 THURSDAY December 26, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT FRIDAY Tomorrow's forecast: partly cloudy with chance of morning showers. High temperature of 85 and low of 72 moon rise 1302 moon set --0049

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Americal Division forces reported killing one NVA and seven VC, discovering one NVA body, detaining four VC suspects in very light and scattered action on Christmas Day in southern I Corps.

In the 11th Inf. Bde. area, six VC were killed and four VC suspects detained while two engineer companies reported three unusual incidents tied to the Christmas standdown.

Near a beach 11 miles southwest of Duc Pho, Co,. B, 4-3 Inf., led by CPT Jack Pryor (Fresno, Calif.) received heavy automatic weapons fire and killed five VC. After the "Old Guard" called in air strikes, another VC was found dead.

Three VC suspects were detained with altered ID cards on Highway 1 about six miles southeast of Duc Pho. Another was detained when he presented a VC wreath and distributed propaganda leaflets at the gate of LZ Liz five miles northwest of Duc Pho.

The engineers' unusual day began north of Duc Pho on Highway 1 where a mine-sweep team of Co. A, 19th Engr. Bn. discovered two Christmas trees bearing VC propaganda and a 20-foot high arch built across the road with flowers, pompoms, a white flag, and a dove of peace attached.

Further north, 15 miles from Duc Pho, a mine-sweep team of Co. C, 39th Engr. Bn. encountered one NVA with an AK-47 rifle and two armed VC watching the sweep. Neither side fired.

Shortly afterwards at the same site, the engineers were approached by 30 armed VC with AK-47 rifles, M079 grenade launchers, and carbines. The VC asked to meet with U.S. representatives at the site at a designated hour in the afternoon. American troops remained at the proposed site almost two hours beyond the designated hour, but no VC appeared.

Units operating in the 196th Inf. Bde. area reported killing one NVA and finding one VC body in three incidents near Que Son.

Co. D, 4-31st Inf. located the body of one NVA soldier killed Tuesday afternoon nine miles west of Que Son.

Further to the southwest, **F Trp., 8th Cav.,** OPCON to the 4-3 Inf., discovered one VC body which had been dead four to five days.

To the north of the Que Son, a recon element of the 2-1st Inf. engaged seven VC shortly after the Christmas standdown ended at 1800 hours. One VC was killed by artillery fire in the action that followed.

No serious incidents were reported in the 198th Inf. Bde. area of operations.

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One Americal Division soldier was killed and one wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 2 No. 252 FRIDAY December 27, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT SATURDAY Tomorrow's forecast: partly cloudy with chance of scattered morning showers. High temperature of 83 and low of 71 moon rise 1337 moon set --0227 (on 27th)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Americal Division forces reported killing two NVA and 25 VC, discovering the bodies of two VC and two NVA, detaining 21 VC suspects and capturing seven weapons as action picked up yesterday following the Christmas standdown in southern I Corps.

Action was heaviest in the 196th Inf. Bde. area where infantry, cavalry, and Mobile Strike Force units killed one NVA and 15 VC and discovered two VC bodies.

Elements of the 1-46 Inf. and 4-31st Inf. accounted for nine VC dead in two incidents west of Tam Ky. An NVA doctor and his nurse were detained by Co. C, 4-31st Inf. in the same general area, and the doctor indicated that his aid station had been destroyed previously. In a pack he carried penicillin and documents.

Recon elements of the 3-21st Inf. killed two VC in separate incidents near Thang Binh, and soldiers at an observation post of the 2-1st Inf. killed one VC about 100 meters from the base.

F Trp., 8th Cav., working part of the day in the 196th area, killed two VC in mid-morning action near Tien Phuoc. F Trp., 17th Cav. discovered two VC bodies, apparently dead several days.

Mobile Strike Force 14 killed one NVA 12 miles west of Que Son in the morning and killed a VC by calling in artillery support nearer Que Son in the afternoon.

One NVA and two VC were killed, two NVA bodies were discovered, 17 VC suspects detained, and seven individual weapons captured in the 11th Inf. Bde. area.

Co. D, 4-21st Inf. found two NVA soldiers in graves among three huts near a stream 20 miles west of Duc Pho. Near the same site later, Co. D found and destroyed 16 huts, livestock, and 300 pounds of rice. One secondary explosion occurred as the supplies were destroyed.

Co. B, 4-21st Inf. killed one VC near a stream 21 miles west of Duc Pho, and Co. D, 3-1st Inf. killed a fleeing NVA in a green uniform 10 miles southwest of Quang Ngai City. Both companies retrieved the dead soldiers' AK-47 rifles.

Elements of the 11th's aviation section killed two VC west of Que Son.

Other weapons captured included tow K-44 rifles and a shotgun by Co. A, **1-20 Inf**. and an M-1 rifle and shotgun by Co. C, 4-21st Inf. C Co. also found an enemy base camp of 10 huts, including a mess hall, and two bundles of punji sticks, two AM radios, two tons of rice and six pounds of explosives.

Three large groups of VC suspects were detained in the Duc Pho area.

To the south, Co. B, 4-3 Inf. halted seven VC suspects, and Co. D, 4-3 Inf. stopped five without ID cards. To the northwest near railroad trucks, Co, C, 1-20 Inf. detained five VC suspects who tried to flee from U.S. troops.

Air power accounted for the deaths of four VC in the 198th Inf. Bde. area as "Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. and FAC recon aircraft killed two VC near Binh Son and Tien Phuoc.

The "Aero Scouts" engaged and killed the VC while flying a visual recon mission in support of 198th troops southwest of Binh Son about noon. Air strikes by the recon aircraft against three sampans killed two VC southwest of Tien Phuoc late in the afternoon.

(Continued -1)

VC suspects were detained by Co. C, 5-46 Inf., led by 1LT James J. Frazier (Decatur, Ill.), and Co. C, **1-52nd Inf.**, led by CPT Archibald L.J. Hall (San Antonio, Tex.). Each halted two in the Chu Lai and Oregon areas. The 1-52nd infantrymen caught their suspects after one three a Chicom hand grenade at them.

In civic action programs last week, 198th soldiers treated 2239 Vietnamese during medical assistance visits and distributed a half ton of clothing to the villagers. "Brave and Bold" troops also contributed to Christmas festivities at the Vietnamese Catholic orphanage north of Chu Lai.

In the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. and Oregon areas, the busy **F Troopers of the 8th Cav.** upped their day's body count to six VC by killing four more in incidents near Que Son and Tam Ky. One kill came in Operation Hardin Falls and one in the Oregon Area.

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One Americal Division soldier was killed and three wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 2 No. 255 SATURDAY December 30, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT TUESDAY Tomorrow's forecast: partly cloudy skies. High temp. of 85 and low of 69 degrees. Moon rising 1452 hours and setting at 0317.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Americal Division forces reported killing 21 VC, detaining 10 VC suspects and capturing one weapon and almost six tons of rice in moderate action in southern I Corps yesterday.

Units of the 11th Inf. Bde. killed nine VC and detained seven VC suspects, but the day's body count was overshadowed by several discoveries of enemy materiel and weaponry.

The Volunteer Informant Program, VIP, continued to prove its worth as 20 Vietnamese children turned over 120 Chicom hand grenades and one 155mm round to an 11th Bde. loudspeaker team north of Duc Pho in the morning. The children promised to return with more spoils today.

Cos. B and D of the 4-21st Inf. spent much of the day raiding enemy base camps, destroying huts, and rounding up supplies, including 7500 pounds of rice.

D Co. hit two base camps near a stream 23 miles west of Duc Pho. In the first, 13 huts were destroyed, many with sleeping quarters for 20 people and one divided into a classroom-mess hall.

Near the camp, a rack designed to hold seven weapons was confiscated along with 7000 pounds of rice and documents and signs. Another 18 huts were located later in the same area, and a dozen M-79 rounds and an NVA entrenching tool were found. The huts were destroyed.

In operations near a stream two miles further west, B Co. found eight huts, three on stilts, and trip flares, foxholes, and 500 pounds of rice.

Among the day's detainees was a VC suspect who presented an identification card but was tripped up by a recon element of the **1-20 Inf.** which discovered he couldn't speak Vietnamese.

Near a position of Co. A, 4-3 Inf., a VC female attempted to rotate a claymore mine towards the Americans. She was killed when the mine exploded as she turned it.

Nearby, the "Old Guard" soldiers found the bodies of two VC killed during a firefight the night before when a small arms and artillery battle had erupted. Also recovered were several grenades while three VC suspects were held.

The value of cavalry and air support was obvious in the 196th Inf. Bde. area where gunships, artillery and ground troops combined to kill five VC and capture one AK-47 rifle and 1850 pounds of rice.

"Blue Ghost" gunships of the 8th Cav. killed two VC 15 miles west of Tam Ky and nine miles further west, an aerial observer working with the 4-31st Inf spotted six VC in the open and directed 3-82 Arty. fire to kill one.

The 3-82 (arty) also answered a call from Co. C, 2-1st Inf. after a large group of VC were spotted in a ravine 18 miles southwest of Hoi An. One VC was killed by small arms fire and the gathering routed.

Infantrymen of Co. D, 4-31st Inf. accounted for the other VC kill when they trapped an enemy soldier fleeing a hut five miles from the battle area in the ravine.

Rice caches were seized by F Trp., 17th Cav. working with the 4-31st Inf., and a patrol from Tiger Base, A 2-1st Inf. observation post.

F Trp. gathered 1300 pounds of rice from an area in and around hooches 26 miles west of Tam Ky. the OP patrol, moving 22 miles northwest of Tam Ky, found two crocks containing 200 pounds of rice apiece and then discovered cans holding 150 more pounds in a rice paddy area.

Seven VC were killed, four by gunships just after daybreak, and three VC suspects were detained in a day of light action in the 198th Inf. Bde. area.

Gunships of the 176th Assault Hel. Co., working with the 1-6 and 5-46 Inf., killed two VC each in contacts northwest of Binh Son. Later, Co. A, 5-46 Inf., surprised five VC and killed two in a brief firefight nine miles west of Binh Son.

No Americal Division soldiers were killed, and five were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 2. No. 257 Wednesday January 1, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT THURSDAY Tomorrow's forecast partly cloudy skies with widely scattered showers after 11300. High temp. of 75 and low of 70. Moon rising at 1620 and setting at 0500.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Americal Division forces reported killing one NVA and 38 VC, discovering the bodies of one NVA and one VC, capturing one VC, four individual weapons and a ton of rice, and relocating 84 refugees in heavy action yesterday in southern I Corps.

Units of the 11th Inf. Bde. and supporting gunships killed one NVA and 21 VC, found one VC body and three weapons, and detained 28 VC suspects in the Duc Pho area.

An early-morning encounter with a large VC force produced nine VC dead and 13 VC suspects detained for **Co. D, 1-20 Inf.** and "Shark" gunships of the 174th Assault Helicopter Co.

At 0750 hours, Co. D, led by CPT Jerald D. O'Leary (St. Louis, Mo.) was fired on by an undetermined number of VC and immediately returned fire and called in the "Sharks." In minutes the gunships were on target to kill five VC.

Co. D followed the air assault with a barrage that killed four more VC and corralled 13 VC suspects. The action, which lasted only 15 minutes, occurred in and around a village near a lake 10 miles southeast of Quang Ngai City.

Almost 12 hours later at nightfall, Co. D surprised two VC in the same general area and killed both with small arms fire. Cos. **B and C of the 1-20 Inf.** and a supporting element accounted for three VC dead in as many other incidents west of Duc Pho.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123rd Avn. Bn. flying eight miles west of Duc Pho, caught and killed four VC in a clearing.

Three companies of the 4-21 Inf. were busy in an area 20-24 miles west of Duc Pho where two VC were killed, an AK-47 rifle captured and an M-72 LAW rocket found and destroyed. The body of one VC, killed by air strikes, was found in a grave near a stream.

In three incidents south of Duc Pho, units of the 4-3 Inf. killed one VC and detained 14 VC suspects, two of whom presented altered ID cards.

Action was light as units of the 196th Inf. Bde. operated between Hoi An and Tam Ky and killed eight VC and captured one in six incidents, detained two VC suspects, relocated 84 refugees, and found a ton of rice.

Co. C, 1-46 Inf. relocated 57 refugees from an area 22 miles south of Hoi An to Nui Loc Son, and Co. C's second platoon found 1800 pounds of rice nearby. Later, F Trp., 17th Cav. raised to 85 the number of refugees it has relocated to Nui Loc Son in the past four days by moving 27 people from an area 18 miles west of Tam Ky.

Three VC were killed in one fire-fight with a recon element of the 3-21 Inf. 16 miles west of Tam Ky. All were attempting to flee north. Nearby, Co. C, 3-21 Inf. killed a VC in a khaki uniform as he ran west. Further west, a 3-21 recon element located 200 pounds of rice in hootches.

One VC was killed by Co. D, 1-46 Inf. as he started to lob a grenade near the unit's perimeter 17 miles south of Hoi An. Later, the "Professionals" captured a VC and his AK-47 rifle six miles southwest of Hoi An.

Three incidents in the 198th Inf. Bde. area resulted in seven VC dead and one VC suspect detained. The body of an NVA killed by artillery was found.

An element of the **1-52nd Inf.** killed six VC in two encounters four miles east of Tien Phuoc in mid-afternoon. Three VC were caught running into the jungle and killed. After a secondary explosion, three more VC attempted to flee the site and were killed.

An attempted VC ambush backfired about noon southwest of Tam Ky as Co. B, **1-52nd Inf.**, led by CPT Larry D. Allgood (Columbus, Ga.), killed one VC with small arms fire.

Co. D, 5-46 Inf. found and destroyed a large booby-trapped tunnel and then discovered the body of one NVA who had been killed by fire from Btry. B, 1-14th Arty.

C Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. killed one VC seven miles west of Tam Ky, and "Blue Ghost" gunships of **F Trp., 8th Cav**. killed one VC in the same area.

No Americal Division soldiers were killed, and 15 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

ARTILLERY HILL--The 3rd Bn., 16th Arty. recently topped the 900 kill mark when Alpha Battery reported killing two enemy soldiers.

Vol. 3. No. 2 THURSDAY January 2, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT FRIDAY Tomorrow's forecast: partly to mostly cldy. with chance of light morning showers. High temp. of 83, low of 68. Moon rise at 1709, set at 0532.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action decreased sharply in southern I Corps yesterday as Americal Division forces reported killing one NVA and nine VC, discovering the body of one VC, detaining 1 VC suspects, relocating 30 refugees, and capturing three tons of rice, all in the Tam Ky and Duc Pho areas.

The total body count differed greatly from the average daily count of the previous week which saw 24 NVA and 63 VC killed.

The majority of the day's contacts with enemy forces occurred in the **196th Inf. Bde.** area where two units killed six VC and relocated 30 refugees, and a third unit discovered three tons of rice.

Co. C, 3-21 Inf. engaged six VC during the day and killed four in three encounters. At 1750 and 1845 hours, Co. C killed two VC with small arms fire as they fled west 13 miles west of Tam Ky. In later afternoon in the same area, the "Gimlets" took on four VC in a firefight and killed two.

Between shooting incidents, Co. C helped 30 Vietnamese refugees move from the area to Nui Loc Son.

Elements of the 4-31 Inf. accounted for the other VC kills, both 25 miles West of Tam Ky.

Co. C, 1-46 Inf. found three tons of rice in 15 large crocks in two hootches 11 miles southwest of Hoi An. The rice was held for distribution to Vietnamese villagers.

In the 11**th Inf. Bde.** area, one NVA and one VC were killed, one VC body was found, and 21 VC suspects were detained.

Co. B, 4-21 Inf., operating 22 miles northwest of Duc Pho, found the body of an NVA killed by small arms fire in the previous 24 hours and, about an hour later in the afternoon, located the body of a VC killed much earlier by air strikes.

Co. B, 1-20 Inf., led by CPT John R. Hill (Winchendon, Mass.), killed an evading VC in a rice paddy five miles northwest of Duc Pho in the morning and then joined Cos. C and D to round up 12 VC suspects in the area. Co. C, 4-3 Inf. detained the other nine VC three miles south of Duc Pho.

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Two VC were killed in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area by A Trp. and a "Blue Ghost" gunship of **F Trp., 8th Cav**. Both were working west of Tam Ky.

Relative quiet prevailed in the 198th Inf. Bde. area where no major contacts were reported.

Troops and medical teams of the 1-6 Inf., operating on K-3 island and in the village of Ky Chanh, brought their two-day total to 429 patients by treating 143 Vietnamese in MEDCAPs.

For the fourth consecutive day and fifth day in the last six, no Americal division soldiers were reported killed. Two were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3. No. 3 FRIDAY January 3, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT SATURDAY Tomorrow's forecast: Mostly cloudy with chance of rain showers in the morning. High temp. of 83', low of 68'. Moon rise at 1855 set at 0755.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Increased contact with NVA forces and the largest weapons discovery in almost two weeks highlighted a day of moderate action for Americal Division forces in southern I Corps yesterday.

Division units reported killing six NVA and 13 VC, finding the bodies of four VC, capturing 14 individual and one crew-served weapons and 1000 pounds of rice, detaining 19 VC suspects, and relocating 161 refugees.

Of 15 incidents reported involving contact with enemy forces in the 196th Inf. Bde. area, 10 occurred within a two-mile square area 24 miles west of Tam Ky. There, and throughout the 196th area, five NVA and nine VC were killed, four VC bodies were found, and six weapons were captured.

Action centered around units of the 4-31 Inf. which were involved in eight contacts that accounted for eight enemy dead, four found dead, and all six weapons.

Co. C, 4-31 Inf., working with the 2-1 Inf., ran into small arms fire from an unknown enemy force and killed four NVA in the ensuring firefight 24 miles northwest of Tam Ky. Captured in the action were a .30 caliber machinegun, an SKS rifle, and an AK-47 rifle.

Later in the same area Co. C killed another NVA and took his AK-47.

Slightly further west at 0755 hours, Co. D took on three VC and killed one. At 1340, Co. D engaged an NVA a mile nearer Tam Ky and got his AK-47 and, two hours later, found the bodies of three VC killed by artillery fire.

Co. B killed a VC in the same area at 1420 hours and, six hours later, a recon element of the 4-31 killed a VC there. At 2110 hours, the recon element engaged an NVA and captured his SKS rifle.

Units of Co. A, 3-21 Inf. killed four VC in four small arms firefights from 11-13 miles west of Tam Ky. Other VC kills in the area were credited to F Trp., 17th Cav. and "Blue Ghosts" gunships of **F Trp., 8th Cav**. C. A, 2-1 Inf. discovered the body of a VC killed by artillery.

Amidst its contacts with the enemy Co. D, 4-31 Inf. found time to help relocated 105 refugees to Tam Ky from an area 25 miles to the west. Fifty-six more refugees were taken from an area 22 miles west of Tam Ky to Nui Loc Son by F Trp., 17th Cav.

The half-ton of rice was found in two crocks by Co. C, 1-46 Inf. in a search of two hootches 11 miles southwest of Hoi An.

Co. B, 4-21 Inf. took the war to the enemy's front porch by charging into a recently occupied base camp 12 miles west of Duc Pho. The raid netted eight weapons and cost enemy forces 12 huts and numerous supplies.

In light action elsewhere in southern Quang Ngai Province, 11th Inf. Bde. forces killed one NVA and three VC, wounded three VC, detained 16 VC suspects, and recovered a ninth weapon.

Discovery of the base camp was made at 0925 hours as Co. B patrolled a jungle area. The "Gimlets" moved into the camp which showed signs of having been abandoned hurriedly. Of the 12 huts, one was an auditorium-mess hall capable of serving 130 men, and several contained one and two-story sleeping quarters. Two huts were booby-trapped.

Weapons found included four K-44 rifles, two French MAT-49 submachineguns, an M-1 carbine, and an M-1 rifle. Also recovered were 100 rounds of small arms ammunition, a Chicom hand grenade, web gear, and four packs.

In another early-morning incident, **Co. B, 1-20 Inf.** received six to 10

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rounds of automatic weapons fire and returned it to kill one VC, a young male wearing black pajamas, two miles north of Duc Pho.

Short range patrols of Co. C, 4-3 Inf. and the **1-20 Inf**. killed two VC. One was shot while fleeing through a hedgerow four miles southeast of Duc Pho, and the other was killed when the **1-20** called for fire support from the 6-11 Arty. in a rice paddy eight miles northwest of Duc Pho.

The NVA was killed in the mountains 16 miles northeast of Duc Pho by Co. A, 3-1 Inf.

Units of the 4-3 Inf. wounded three VC and rounded up 15 VC suspects in day-long activity. Co. A, 4-3 Inf. captured an M-2 carbine six miles southeast of Duc Pho.

"Blue Ghosts" gunships of F Trp,, 8th Cav. killed their second VC of the day in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area 13 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

For the second consecutive day, units of the 198th Inf. Bde. reported no major contact with the enemy. The only action involved detention of three VC suspects and destruction in place of two booby-trapped mortar rounds.

The 198th's weekly civic action report showed 1164 Vietnamese treated last week on MEDCAPs while troops distributed 1040 pounds of food, 50 pounds of soap, 100 pounds of clothing, and 50 school kits.

One Americal Division soldier was killed, and 15 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

The lone casualty marked the first time in five days that an Americal Division soldier was killed. In that time enemy losses totaled 181 killed.

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TERRORIST TACTICS

Recent intelligence reports and captured documents reveal the enemy has directed increased terrorist acts against Allied servicemen and loyal civilians to counter his battlefield losses.

The establishment of terrorist goals for sapper units and the payment of rewards to individuals for committing acts of assassination and sabotage are examples of this increased effort.

Recently, the following tactics have been employed to accomplish such acts:

A. While riding motorcycles, terrorists will shoot or throw hand grenades into unsuspecting groups of persons standing nearby.

B. Use of prostitutes to lure servicemen to insecure areas where they are captured or killed.

C. Use of small children to place explosive charges on vehicles stopped in traffic or parked in insecure locations.

When in public stay away from crowds. Stay alert at all times. Beware of unknown areas.

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Vol. 3. No. 7 TUESDAY January 7, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT WEDNESDAY Tomorrow's forecast: Mostly cloudy with showers. Winds northerly at 8 to 13 knots. High temperature of 80' with a low of 67'. Moon will rise at 2222 hours and set at 1022 hours.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Operating in heavy rain and high winds throughout most of the day and evening, Americal Division forces reported killing one NVA and 22 VC, detained 19 VC suspects, and captured two individual weapons in light action yesterday in southern I Corps.

Co. B, 3-21 Inf. continued to hound the VC effectively by killing six to bring its two-day total to 14 VC killed in five incidents. Other units of the 196th Inf. Bde. killed one NVA and three VC, found a VC body, and captured a weapon.

Co. B engaged and killed six VC and captured an M-1 carbine at 1640 hours yesterday in a firefight nine miles west of Tam Ky, two miles from its encounters Sunday. Only 40 minutes from its encounters Sunday. Only 40 minutes earlier yesterday, another element of the 3-21 had killed two VC in the same area.

Co. A added to the 3-21's total by killing a VC as he moved 100 meters from the company's position 15 miles west of Tam Ky. Further west, Co. C discovered the body of a VC believed to have been killed in a firefight with the "Gimlets" on New Year's Day.

Co. D, 4-31 Inf., operating 29 miles west of Tam Ky, engaged three NVA and a VC and killed one NVA carrying a pack containing rice and clothing.

Two separate incidents accounted for the six VC killed in the 198th Inf. Bde. area.

A recon element of the 1-52nd Inf., led by 1LT Barry Luther (Orange Park Fla.), engaged and killed three VC six miles southeast of Tien Phuoc. Five packs and several documents were recovered.

Southeast of Binh Son, an aerial observation plane of the 21st Recon Airplane Company piloted by WO1 Robert G. Corey, sighted a VC in the open and killed him with rocket fire. WO1 Corey then called for support from Btry. B, 1-82 Arty., and two more VC were killed by artillery fire as they tried t o flee the area.

Soldiers of the 5-46 Inf. treated 505 Vietnamese on a MEDCAP in Binh Yen and now have treated 705 patients in two days.

Units of the 11th Inf. Bde. killed two VC and found one NVA body and a weapon and disrupted the enemy's day by detaining 18 VC suspects and raiding a small base camp.

CPT David W. Walsh (Colton, Calif.) unlimbered his pitching arm and killed a VC sniper by tossing a grenade into the VC's spider hole along a ridgeline six miles northwest of Duc Pho. The kill followed three sweeps of the area after CPT Walsh's Co. **A, 1-20 Inf.** troops had received fire. Also netted were an AK-47 rifle with two magazines, and a pack and web gear.

In a delayed report of Sunday evening action, Co. C, 4-3 Inf. engaged and killed one VC after receiving five rounds of M-79 fire four miles south of Duc Pho. Yesterday morning, Co. C detained a VC suspect as he tried to hide a short-wave radio and medical supplies near a lake eight miles south of Duc Pho.

A recon element of the 4-21 Inf. discovered the body of an NVA killed Sunday by small arms fire near a stream 16 miles southwest of Quang Ngai City.

Co. C, 4-21 Inf., operating four miles further east, located a seven-hut base camp and confiscated cooking utensils and 150 pounds of rice.

A Short Range Patrol of the **1-20 Inf.** detained five female VC suspects who had been spotted carrying rice into the mountains by gunships of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. seven miles northwest of Duc Pho. Brief deliberation led to their decision to declare themselves under the Chieu Hoi program.

"Blue Ghosts" gunships of **F Trp., 8th Cav.** killed four VC in three actions, and B Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. killed a VC as action increased slightly in the 1-1 operational area.

At 1440 hours, the "**Blue Ghosts**" killed two VC running in an area 14 miles north of Tam Ky. Five minutes later, another VC was killed there, with a fourth following at 1530 hours.

B Trp. engaged and killed a VC three miles nearer Tam Ky.

Once again, no Americal Division soldiers were reported killed. Ten were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3. No. 10 FRIDAY January 10, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT SATURDAY Tomorrow's forecast: Partly cloudy to mostly cloudy with intermittent showers. Winds northwesterly at 5-10 knots. High temperature of 84' with a low of 68'. Moon will rise at 0003 hours and set at 1211 hours.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Two units led the 198th Inf. Bde. in its heaviest day of action in almost two weeks as contact with enemy troops increased yesterday in southern I Corps.

Americal Division forces reported killing three NVA and 25 VC, detaining three VC suspects, and capturing one individual weapon in the fourth largest day of action since Christmas.

A recon element of the 1-**52nd Inf.**, led by 1LT Barry Luther (Orange Park, Fla.), engaged 12 enemy soldiers and killed seven, while Co. A, 5-46 Inf., commanded by CPT Herbert A . Walter, killed four VC in three encounters to account for the 198th's total.

The recon unit barely had time for lunch before launching a busy afternoon. Shortly after noon southeast of Tien Phuoc, the unit took on a mixed group of seven enemy soldiers and killed two NVA and one VC while capturing 200 pounds of rice.

After moving another 2-3 miles from Tien Phuoc, the recon group engaged four VC at 1840 hours and won a brief firefight with four VC killed and no friendly casualties.

CPT Walter's company made life hectic for small groups of VC operating southeast of Chu Lai. One company element opened the day at 0758 hours by surprising and killing a fleeing VC four miles southeast of Chu Lai.

In subsequent actions, Co. A killed three VC five miles northeast of Binh Son.

Meanwhile, the medical platoon of the 5-46 was treating 141 Vietnamese in MEDCAP visits to Nuoc Mau and Chau Tu Three. The 1-6 Inf. treated 45 patients at Ky Chanh.

Three units accounted for one NVA and 10 VC killed as 196th Inf. Bde. troops saw more action than in the past four days.

Operating effectively at the platoon level, Co. B, 3-21 Inf., led by CPT Robert Wahl, killed four VC in two actions 11-12 miles northwest of Tam Ky. At 1500 hours, the first platoon saw three VC in black and green clothing and killed two with small arms fire. A half hour later, the second platoon caught two evading VC and killed them a mile away.

Co. C added to the 3-21 total by killing a VC at 1700 hours 15 miles west of Tam Ky.

Even farther west, the 4-31 Inf. killed three VC in two encounters, with Co. D surprising and killing one 25 miles west of Tam Ky.

Co. D, 2-1 Inf. adjusted artillery fire on four VC moving near its defensive perimeter and killed two 28 miles northwest of Tam Ky. Later, Co. D killed an NVA and got his AK-47 rifle five miles nearer Tam Ky. The NVA also yielded a pack containing rice and clothing.

Units of the 11th Inf. Bde. spent a relatively quiet day and reported only six incidents in which five VC were killed and three VC suspects detained.

Co. C, 1-20 Inf. located the graves of three VC killed in a firefight Wednesday night near a trail six miles west of Duc Pho.

Do. D, 4-21 Inf. spotted 15 VC with packs moving near a stream 19 miles west of Duc Pho and called in an artillery burst from Btry. D, 6-11 Arty. to kill one. Ninety minutes later, Co. B called on the same battery to kill a VC wearing an NVA pistol belt in a draw 25 miles west of Duc Pho.

The VC suspects were detained in separate incidents by **Co. D, 1-20 Inf.**, working with the 174 Aslt. Hel. Co. north and northwest of Duc Pho, and by Co. C, 4-3 Inf. south of Duc Pho.

"Blue Ghosts" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav., flying in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area, killed on VC at 1145 hours 8 1/2 miles southeast of Hoi An.

Despite the increased action no Americal Division soldiers were reported killed. Two were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

US ARMY-WEAR OF THE TROPICAL COMBAT UNIFORM TO AND FROM RVN - Effective 0001 hours 15 Jan 69 the combat tropical uniform (jungle fatigues) will be worn to and from RVN on military and MAC charter flights. The only authorized headgear to be worn while traveling in this uniform is the cap, utility or the green beret for special forces personnel. Boots, combat or jungle, will be worn. Wearing of the combat tropical uniform will be mandatory for all enlisted grades up to and including first sergeant. Wear of the uniform will be optional for sergeants major, warrant officers, and officers.

Vol. 3. No. 11 SATURDAY January 11, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT SUNDAY Mostly cloudy with intermittent showers. Winds east-southeasterly at 5-12 knots. High temperature of 84' with a low of 70'. Moon will rise at 0005 hours and set at 1250 hours.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Americal Division forces, routing the enemy in 20 contacts throughout the southern I Corps, registered their highest body count of the new year as the killed 36 VC, found three VC bodies, detained 14 VC suspects, and captured six individual weapons yesterday.

Not since Dec. 31, when the body count reached 41, have Americal troops killed as many VC. Significantly, just as on Dec. 31, no Americal Division soldiers were reported killed yesterday.

Co. B, 3-21 Inf. was most productive unit in the Division, encountering VC and their supplies four times and accounting for seven kills, three more than it recorded Thursday, as the 196th Inf. Bde. killed 13 VC and captured four weapons.

Led by CPT Robert Wahl (Columbus, Ga.), Co. B spotted seven VC while patrolling 11 miles west of Tam Ky at 0930 hours. Fire support directed from the 3-82 Arty. killed four VC outright, and Co. B then moved in to kill two of the remaining VC with M-60 fire.

Meanwhile, a half mile away, another Co. B element engaged and killed one VC trying to flee the area.

Fifteen minutes earlier, Co. B had uncovered a weapons and ammunition cache in the same area. Captured were a 12-gauge shotgun, a U.S. .45 caliber submachinegun, one BAR, and M-1 carbine, a 57mm recoilless rifle round, nine 81mm mortar rounds, and three bangalore torpedoes.

Cos. C and D added to the 3-21's body count by killing three VC in as many incidents 12-14 miles west of Tam Ky.

"**Blue Ghosts" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav**. killed the other three VC in three? encounters 22 miles northwest of Tam Ky and 22 and 23 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

An Americal Long Range Patrol made the effective contact as units of the 11th Inf. Bde. killed 13 VC, found three VC bodies, wounded one VC, and detained seven VC suspects.

A LRP team operating near the Song Ve 12 miles south of Quang Ngai City spotted a VC platoon moving in the low lands and called in the 6-11 Arty. to kill six.

Co. B, 1-20 Inf., patrolling near Highway 515 five miles northwest of Duc Pho, found the bodies of three VC killed by artillery several days ago. In nearby village, Co. B detained seven VC suspects.

Also along Highway 515, a recon element of the **1-20 Inf.** engaged three VC and killed two in a firefight. **Co D, 1-20 Inf.** received sniper fire from an estimated 12 VC and returned fire to

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kill one 10 miles south of Quang Ngai City.

Co. C, 4-3 Inf. was harassed by snipers about noon four miles south of Duc Pho below Highway 1 and wounded one VC while detaining another. Two hours later, the "Old Guard" troops returned to the sniper's lair and killed two VC.

A "Shark" gunship of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. further discouraged VC sniping by killing one VC eight miles west of Quang Ngai City after a Chinook had received ground fire from the area.

Co. B, 3-1 Inf. got the other VC kill in the same area while serving as a blocking force.

In a delayed report, **Co. B?, 1-20 Inf.** received a large amount of enemy ammunition Thursday from Vietnamese civilians taking advantage of the Voluntary Informant Program (VIP). At 1645 hours five miles northwest of Duc Pho Co. B was presented with:

140 Chicom hand grenades, 223 unknown-type hand grenades, 67 M-26 hand grenades, three 4.2 mortar rounds, three 175mm rounds, one Chicom mine, two B-40 rocket rounds, one 81mm mortar round, 11 40mm rounds, and one VC booby trap.

Two companies accounted for 10 VC dead and two weapons captured in a second consecutive busy day for the 198th Inf. Bde.

At 1215 hours, Co. B, 1-**52nd Inf.** located the bodies of five VC killed by air strikes 11 miles southwest of Tam Ky. An hour earlier, Co. B had received small arms fire from seven VC and returned it to kill from seven VC and returned it to kill one in the same area.

Elements of Co. C, 5-46 Inf., led by 1LT James J. Frazier (Decatur, Ill.), killed four VC in two incidents near Binh Son.

At 1700 hours, Co. C engaged and killed one VC fleeing an enemy minefield and, at 1805, killed three VC in a firefight and captured two AK-47 rifles, seven magazines, and 12 hand grenades.

Other units of the 5-46 Inf. captured 1000 pounds of corn and detained seven VC suspects in the Chu Lai area. The 5-46 medical team treated 350 Vietnamese in a MEDCAP at Dong Binh One.

With no Americal Division deaths reported, yesterday became the fifth such day in the past six. Nine soldiers were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3. No. 13 SUNDAY January 13, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT TUESDAY Cloudy to mostly cloudy with showers in the afternoon. Winds will be variable becoming northeasterly in the afternoon at 5 to 10 knots. High temperature of 82' with a low of 67'. Moon will rise at 0254 hours and set at 1425 hours.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Although the body count dipped slightly, the enemy took a beating in his own backyard as units of the 196th Inf. Bde. moved into three base camps to destroy fortifications and confiscate sizable stores of ammunition and equipment to highlight activity in southern I Corps yesterday.

Americal Division forces reported killing one NVA and 24 VC, finding five NVA bodies, capturing three individual weapons and 5800 pounds of rice, detaining two VC suspects, and relocating 193 Vietnamese refugees.

Cos. C and D of the 2-1 Inf. discovered the base camps, and units of the 3-21 Inf. and 4-31 Inf. totaled 11 of 17 VC killed in the 196th Inf. Bde. area. All 193 refugees moved, and five NVA bodies and 4800 pounds of rice found were also credited to the 196th.

At 0958 hours, Co. C, 2-1 Inf. discovered a base camp 18 miles northwest of Tam Ky in a mountainous jungle area and destroyed 15 hootches and 15 bunkers. Captured were three 12.7mm anti-aircraft gun barrels, 80 .51 caliber rounds, an M-2 carbine stock, a crossbow, machine-gun cleaning equipment, and documents.

At 1225 hours, Co. D, 2-1 Inf., operating 27 miles northwest of Tam Ky under 1LT James R. Sanders (Arvada, Colo.), located another base camp in a thick jungle area. Seven bunkers were destroyed, and 80 more .51 caliber rounds, a bangalore torpedo, five flashlight batteries, two NVA canteens, clothing, and documents were taken.

At 1450, Co. D struck again three miles nearer Tam Ky to find a camp serving as an apparent NVA commo station. Sixty-nine bunkers, 20 hootches, and two tunnel complexes were destroyed.

Among items captured were nine NVA field phones, two portable switchboards, a PRC-10 radio, two NVA 45-volt batteries, a commo repair kit, 20 NVA uniforms, six NVA rucksacks, six NVA gas masks, 10 M-79 rounds, and 100 pounds of rice.

Cos. A, C, and D of the 3-21 Inf. killed six VC in five incidents in an area 14-16 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky. Elements of the 4-31 Inf. killed four VC in the same general area and one southwest of Tam Ky.

Co. C, 3-21 Inf. killed one VC running in a rice paddy at 1400 hours and, 20 minutes later, killed two more and captured enough food, still warm, for five people. Cos. A and D killed single VC in brief firefights.

One element of the 4-31 Inf. killed two VC while the recon unit and Cos. B and C killed one apiece. All the incidents involved small firefights, except that of Co. B which caught three VC with hand grenades in a tunnel and killed one.

F Trp., 17th Cav. discovered five VC killed by artillery fire in the previous 24 hours in a rice paddy 15 1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky. Eight hours later and 2 1/2 miles further away, Co. C, 2nd Inf. found the bodies of five NVA killed in air strikes in mid-December.

The other VC killed was by a **"Blue Ghosts" gunship of F Trop., 8th Cav.,** also 15 1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

F Trp., 17th Cav. and Co. B, 4-31 Inf. moved four groups of refugees from 23 and 28 miles northwest of Tam Ky respectively. F Trp. relocated 104 to Nui Loc Son and 72 to Que Son, while Co B moved 17 to Nui Loc Son.

Co B also found and sent to Nui Loc Son 4800 pounds of rice taken from two hootches 28 miles northwest of Tam Ky. Other 196th units reported finding

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items including a bear trap, two shotgun barrels, a U.S. bayonet, an 81mm mortar, 250 M-60 rounds, and eating utensils for 40 men.

Four incidents, two involving gunships, accounted for four VC killed in the 198th Inf. Bde. area where two VC suspects were also detained.

An "Aero Scout" of the 123d Avn. Bn. killed a VC 14 miles southwest of Tam Ky, and a gunship of the 176th Aslt. Hel. Co. killed a VC 5 1/2 miles southwest of Binh Son at 0635 hours.

Co. B, 1-**52nd Inf**. called in artillery to kill on VC 10 miles southwest of Tam Ky, and Co. B, 5-46 Inf. engaged and killed a VC and detained one VC suspect five miles southeast of Binh Son.

Infrequent action in the 11th Inf. Bde. area resulted in one NVA and one VC killed, three individual weapons captured, and 1000 pounds of rice found and destroyed.

Co. B, 1-20 Inf. was involved in both kills 2-2 1/1 miles northwest of Duc Pho. At 0900 hours, Co. B engaged and killed the VC and later found an NVA buried in a shallow grave near a stream. He was uniformed and had been killed by small arms fire in the previous 24 hours.

Co. C, 3-1 Inf., working four miles southeast of Quang Ngai City, discovered a hut containing two K-44 rifles, an M-1 rifle, 1000 pounds of rice, and a Japanese radio amplifier.

"**Blue Ghosts**" gunships got their second and third VC kills of the day in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area. At 1450 hours, one VC was killed 5 1/2 miles west of Tam Ky and, at 1530, the other was killed seven miles north of Tam Ky.

One Americal Division soldier was killed, and 13 were wounded and evacuated, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 16 THURSDAY January 16, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT FRIDAY Mostly cloudy to cloudy with showers in the morning. Winds from the northeast less than 15 knots. High temperature of 82° with a low of 68°. Moon will rise at 0614 hours and set at 1736 hours.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Twenty three of 30 weapons, more than were captured in the previous 11 days combined, and a large supply of parts and ammunition were uncovered by two companies of the 2-1 Inf. during light action in the southern I Corps yesterday.

Americal Division forces also reported killing three NVA and 12 VC, finding three VC bodies, detaining 22 VC suspects, and capturing almost eight tons of rice in two caches.

The light action extended to Operation Russell Beach as joint assault troops again concentrated on removal of Vietnamese civilian refugees from the area before pushing forward to root out enemy troops and fortifications.

Acting on a tip from an NVA prisoner, Cos. C and D, 2-1 Inf. combed an area 23-1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky to uncover a cache of 14 individual and nine crew-served plus parts and ammo for those and other weapons.

Other action in the 196th Inf. Bde. area saw two NVA and two VC killed, two more weapons and 13,800 pounds of rice taken, and 21 refugees relocated.

Co. D, let by 1LT James Sanders (Arvada, Colo.) made the main discovery at 1430 hours by turning up 10 SKS rifles, five Chicom light machineguns, a 12.7mm anti-aircraft machinegun, a 7.62mm heavy machinegun, an RPG-7 launcher, and an M-16 rifle.

Also captured were two 81mm and one 60mm mortar sights, an 81mm mortar mount, a Chicom recoilless rifle mount, an M191A1 tripod for a .30 caliber machinegun, two AK-47 rifle barrels, 14 bangalore torpedoes, and 700 electrical blasting caps.

An hour earlier, Co. C. took a .50 caliber machine gun, 75 rounds of RPG-7 ammo, 1600 rounds of 12.7mm ammo, and 1000 feet of det cord. Co. C also destroyed 55 huts and 40 bunkers.

Co. D continued digging and found 13 B-40 rockets, 12 82mm mortar rounds, two shields for a 12.7mm anti-aircraft machine gun, 1000 more feet of det cord, and an undetermined amount of AK-47 ammo.

Nearby, the third platoon of Co. D raided a hootch and left with an 82mm mortar sight found with aiming sticks and a bore brush, 12 NVA packs, six NVA gas masks, five NVA rucksacks, and a U.S. steel pot.

In the morning, Co. D had killed two NVA in a nearby firefight and captured two AK-47 rifles. The other weapon taken was a .38 caliber pistol used by a VC wounded and captured by Co. A, 4-31 Inf. 20 miles west of Tam Ky.

The VC kills were by Cos. D and C, 3-21 Inf. 11 and 14-1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky. Co. B, 3-21 Inf. located 13,800 pounds of rice, including six tons found 9-1/2 miles west of Tam Ky. Three tons went to the refugee center at Nui Loc Son. Co. B also destroyed two new NVA hootches in the vicinity.

F Trp., 17th Cav., which destroyed three recently-used hootches and ferreted miscellaneous enemy equipment from a tunnel, also moved 17 refugees to Que Son from an area 22 miles west of Tam Ky. Co. C, 4-31 Inf. moved four refugees from than area to Nui Loc Son.

Operation Russell Beach, the assault on the Batangan Peninsula 20 miles southeast of Chu Lai by Americal, Marine, Navy and ARVN forces, was relatively uneventful. Americal units, comprised of the 5-46 Inf. and the 4-3

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Inf., killed one VC and captured a ton of rice.

Co. A, 4-3 Inf. killed the VC in the Batangan area shortly after noon, and Co. D, 4-3 Inf. found the rice five miles northeast of Quang Ngai City and sent it to a refugee center.

Over 1400 refugees had been checked through Americal lines before noon and, when the exodus had slowed considerably, the 11-1/2 mile cordon of troops began its slow sweep toward the sea where Navy elements maintain their coastal blockade.

The assault, largest of the Vietnam War, is designed to end enemy domination of the heavily-reinforced peninsula area, a source of enemy refuge and supply for almost 20 years.

Operation Russell Beach incidents accounted for the only contact in the 198th Inf. Bde. area.

Co. A, 4-21 Inf., let by 1LT Thomas L. Smith, killed an NVA and a VC, discovered three VC bodies, captured a weapon, and destroyed an enemy base camp. Other 11th Inf. Bde. units killed two VC and took one weapon.

Co. A killed the NVA and got his K-44 rifle near a stream 22 miles west of Duc Pho and nearby found graves on a hillside of three VC killed by artillery. Co. A later killed a VC fleeing a nearby hut in a clearing.

The "Gimlets" also moved into an enemy base camp as of 12 huts, eight latrines, an aid station, a mess hall and several bunkers. Recent footprints were apparent, and Co. A found medical supplies, bear traps and a large number of pigs running loose.

Cos. A and B of the 1-20 Inf. each killed a VC west of Duc Pho. **Co. A** added 15 VC suspects while **Co. B** captured a K-44 rifle, an M-26 grenade, and M-60 machinegun ammo.

"Blue Ghosts" of F Trp., 8th Cav., killed five VC in four incidents west-northwest of Tam Ky, and A Trp., 1st Sqdn.,1st Cav. killed one VC west of Tam Ky in comparatively heavy action in the 1-1 area.

Seven Americal Division soldiers were killed and 15 wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3. No. 17 SUNDAY January 17, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT SATURDAY Mostly cloudy with showers in the morning and afternoon. Winds will be from the northwest in the morning and from the northeast in the afternoon at 5-8 knots. High temperature, 81', lows 67'. Moon rises: 0715, set 1844.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Major contact with an NVA force southwest of Quang Ngai City, and the first big step forward in Operation Russell Beach highlighted increased enemy contact in southern I Corps yesterday.

Americal Division forces reported killing nine NVA and 21 VC, detaining 29 enemy suspects, and capturing 11 individual weapons and 7200 pounds of rice.

An enemy ambush turned into an all-night battle between three companies of the 3-1 Inf. and an unknown-size enemy force near a small village six miles southwest of Quang Ngai City. Seven NVA were killed, four weapons taken, and 22 suspects detained.

Other units of the 11th Inf. Bde. killed five Vc, captured two weapons, and detained seven VC suspects.

The 3-1 Inf.'s ordeal began late Wednesday night when Co. B was pinned down by heavy machinegun and rocket fire in an enemy ambush sprung as an NVA prisoner of walked Co. B into a hail of fire while ostensibly leading the way to a rice cache.

Cos. C and D moved in immediately to relieve the pressure by flanking the village and bottling up enemy troops. Air Force planes circled overhead to provide all-night illumination as isolated action continued.

At dawn, an area sweep began, and Co. B reported killing 5 NVA. Co. D reported killing two and capturing three Ak-47 rifles and a 7.62mm pistol. Co. C detained 21 enemy suspects, and Co. D nabbed one. Americal units had not killed as many NVA in one day since Dec. 27.

A large supply of documents and assorted military equipment was captured along with an enemy map of the Quang Ngai City area. Scattered incidents continued there yesterday.

Elements of the 4-21 Inf. killed two VC 20-21 miles west of Duc Pho and took a K-44 rifle. Co. A, 4-21 Inf. recovered an AK-47 rifle from the spot where it had killed a VC the night before.

Co. A; 1-20 Inf. and a **1-20 recon** unit each killed a VC near Mo Duc. **Co. A** also detained three VC suspects in the area, and Co. **B, 1-20 Inf.** stopped four southeast of Mo Duc.

"Blue Ghosts" of F Trp., 8th Cav. logged their sixth VC kill in two days in a contact 10 miles west of Quang Ngai City.

After another morning of aid to refugees leaving the Batangan Peninsula area, target of a gigantic assault by Americal, Marine, Navy and ARVN forces, a platoon of Co. A, 4-3 Inf. crossed the Song Diem Diem to begin the first in-depth probe of the enemy stronghold.

Co. A's thrust came shortly after noon and was supported by artillery fire and gunships of the 176th Aslt. Hel. Co. which raked the small island to which the platoon moved on rubber rafts. Another element of Co. A joined Co. C, 5-46 Inf. on the shore to provide ground cover for the crossing.

The platoon reached it's objective, a treeline, on the island and

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conducted a search of the area. Thirty-nine enemy suspects were turned up in the probe, and several enemy fortifications and underground refuges were destroyed.

Co. A killed one VC with small arms fire at 1250 hours and, 30 minutes later, found two more VC killed in the artillery barrage. Later in the afternoon, Co. D, 4-3 Inf. found an M-1 carbine in a cave and Co. B, 5-46 Inf. was given two M-1 rifles by three VC turned Chieu Hoi.

Cos. A and D, 4-3 Inf. found and evacuated 3400 pounds of rice to the refugee holding center behind the cordon.

A 176th Aslt. Hel. Co. ship, piloted by 1LT William T. Koehler, killed two VC in the operational area while carrying members of the Psyops team assigned to encourage refugee evacuation of the area.

As of 1600 hours, 2449 refugees had passed through Americal check points along the 11 1/2 mile cordon line formed by the 4-3 and 5-46, and Marine and ARVN units. Troops on line concentrated throughout the morning on tightening positions for the main sweep toward the sea.

Scattered contacts have produced 10 VC killed and three individual weapons captured by Americal elements in the operation. Joint force totals show 21 VC killed and six individual weapons taken.

Elsewhere in the 198th Inf. Bde. area, "Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. killed an NVA running six miles southwest of Tien Phuoc, and the recon unit of the 1-**52nd Inf**. engaged two VC, killed one, and captured and AK-47 rifle and documents 6 1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Led by three companies of the 3-21 Inf., units of the 196th Inf. Bde. killed one NVA and nine VC, and captured one weapon and 3800 pounds of rice.

Co. B, 3-21 Inf. killed three VC in two contacts 9 1/2 miles west of Tam Ky. Co. C killed two in separate firefights 13 miles northwest of Tam Ky, and Co. A engaged three and killed two in one incident 13 miles west of Tam Ky.

An element of the 1-46 Inf. spotted two VC in the open and killed them 18 miles northwest of Tam Ky; and F Trp., 17th Cav. saw three NVA running southwest, killed one with small arms fire, and captured his AK-47 rifle 21 miles west of Tam Ky.

F Trp. also moved 73 Vietnamese from the same area to the refugee center at Que Son.

Co. C, 2-1 Inf. and Co. B, 4-31 Inf. discovered 2000 and 1800 pounds of rice, respectively, and Co. C added 300 pounds of salt.

C Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. engaged and killed a VC 15 miles northwest of Tam Ky in the only incident reported in the 1-1 area.

Three Americal Division soldiers were killed, and four were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3. No. 18 SATURDAY January 18, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT SUNDAY Mostly cloudy with showers in the morning. Winds will be from the northwest at about 5 knots. High temperature will be 81' with a low of 67'. Moon rises at 0812 and will set at 1949 hours.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Companies of the 3-21 Inf. ran their two-day total to 17 VC killed as Americal Division forces reported killing one NVA and 18 VC, finding 20 NVA bodies, detaining 15 VC suspects, and capturing seven individual weapons in southern I Corps yesterday.

Action in Operation Russell Beach was confined to search missions which netted two weapons but no enemy kills by Americal units.

Four companies of the 3-21 Inf. killed 10 VC and captured four weapons while other units found the bodies of 20 NVA and killed three VC in the 196th Inf. Bde. area.

Cos. A and C of the 3-21 Inf. each killed three VC, and Cos. B and D had two apiece, all in an area ranging from 8 1/2 - 14 1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky. The 10 kills were made between 0935 and 1430 hours.

At 1030 hours, Co. D engaged three VC and killed one nine miles west of Tam Ky and captured three rifles--an AK-47, an SKS, and an M-16. Also found were three magazines apiece for the AK-47 and M-16, 63 rounds of small arms ammo, a Chicom grenade, a U.S. bayonet, two NVA packs, and two U.S. mess kits with canteens.

Co. C captured an M-79 grenade launcher when it engaged and killed two VC in green uniforms 14 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Co. D, 2-1 Inf., led by 1LT James R. Sanders (Arvada, Colo.), discovered 15 graves containing 20 badly-mangled NVA bodies 18 miles northwest of Tam Ky. The NVA are believed to have died in air strikes about a month ago. Seven empty huts were destroyed nearby.

Co. C, 2-1 Inf., led by CPT John R. Slaybaugh (Lakeview, O.) located three small enemy base camps 22 miles northwest of Tam Ky and destroyed three bunkers and 30 huts while capturing assorted military equipment.

A recon unit of the 2-1 Inf. also found a base camp and destroyed 14 camouflaged huts 21 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Other VC kills went to Co. B, 4-31 Inf. and two observation posts of the 2-1 Inf. In each case, VC were seen running 20-21 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky. One of the three was killed by Artillery fire directed from one OP.

Units of the 4-21 Inf. and **1-20 Inf.** accounted for all kills in the 11th Inf. Bde. area where one NVA and four VC died, five of 10 VC detainees were wounded, and an Ak-47 was taken.

A recon element of the 4-21 Inf., led by 1LT Robert S. McEldowney (Hilo, Hawaii), engaged five Vc, killed three, and captured the AK-47 at 1140 hours 25 miles west of Duc Pho.

Co. B, 1-20 Inf. saw three NVA in green uniforms moving into the mountains near Highway 515 6 1/2 miles northwest of Duc Pho and called in the 6-11 Arty. to kill one. An hour later, **Co. A, 1-20 Inf.** killed an evading VC near No Duc 12 1/2 miles north of Duc Pho.

Co. A had earlier taken on six VC in a firefight and wounded four before detaining all six. Of the remaining detainees in the 11th's area, one was caught while policing brass 12 miles southeast of Duc Pho.

Co. D, 5-46 Inf. found and M-72 LAW rocket in a tunnel and a recon unit of the 4-3 Inf. captured an M-1 carbine as Americal units made little contact with the enemy in Operation Russell Beach on the Batangan Peninsula 10 miles

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northeast of Quang Ngai City.

The cordon which encircles the peninsula was tightened only slightly and will move forward at approximately 500 meters a day until a suspected two VC battalions are corralled within the cordon. Five VC suspects were detained yesterday.

Co. D, 4-3 Inf. put a VC seamstress or tailor out of business by discovering an underground tailor shop within the cordon. More than 20 VC flags, including several measuring 4 by 8 feet for use by large units, were found.

Also pulled out of the bunker were several bolts of cloth, sewing patterns, instructions on how to place the gold star on the red and blue flag, and a letter of thanks from a field commander for his flag.

Co. D also extracted almost three tons of rice to be sent to the refugee center near Quang Ngai City.

At 1600 hours, 2788 refugees had been checked through the Americal section of the 11 1/2 mile cordon. Of those, 35 were confirmed as members of the VC infra-structure.

After five days, Operation Russell Beach has accounted for 10 VC killed and four weapons captured. The overall assault effort, which includes Marine, Navy, and ARVN troops, has logged 41 VC kills and seven weapons.

Many enemy fortifications have been destroyed from the air, including several yesterday when forward air controllers of the 198th Inf. Bde. directed air strikes and heard four secondary explosions and saw seven secondary fires.

No other major incidents were reported in the 198th Inf. Bde. area.

"Blue Ghosts" of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed one VC six miles northwest of Tam Ky in the Hardin Falls operational area of the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav.

One Americal Division soldier was killed, and seven were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

PRE-RELEASE TRAINING

If you have from one to six months service time remaining and wish in-service training or education to increase your opportunities for civilian employment before your release from active duty, see your local education advisor or personnel officer about Project Transition.

Vol. 3. No. 20 MONDAY January 20, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT TUESDAY Fair to partly cloudy. Winds from the southwest by west at 5 knots. High temperature of 86' with a low of 65'. Moon will rise at 0943 hours and will set at 2147 hours.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--A surprise attack on the 3-1 Inf. headquarters and more activity than usual in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area highlighted moderate action in southern I Corps yesterday.

Americal Division forces reported killing four NVA and 20 VC, detaining 38 VC suspects, and capturing two individual weapons.

Americal units in Operation Russell Beach moved their cordon forward on the Batangan Peninsula and killed on VC while destroying numerous enemy fortifications, mines, and booby traps.

At 2335 hours Saturday, the 3-1 Inf. headquarters received 35-40 rounds of 80mm mortar fire and a ground attack. An estimated two sapper squads infiltrated the perimeter and detonated hand grenades, satchel charges, and RPG rounds.

American casualties were described as light while enemy casualties were unknown. Enemy RPG fire was directed at the same site late last night but impacted outside the perimeter.

Two troops of the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. killed one NVA and four VC and captured an AK-47 rifle, and F Trp., 8th Cav. killed an NVA in the busy 1-1 area.

C Trp. engaged six VC at 1445 hours and killed three 14 miles northwest of Tam Ky. At 1115, A Trp. killed an NVA and took his AK-47 six miles southwest of Tam Ky and, three hours later, killed a VC a half-mile away.

The F Trp. "Blue Ghosts" killed an NVA seven miles west of Tam Ky just after noon.

Co. D, 4-3 Inf. killed a VC near its night perimeter at 2200 hours as Operation Russell Beach wound up its seventh day with 52 VC killed and eight individual weapons captured. Americal units have killed 11 VC and taken four weapons.

The joint forces cordon, which includes the Americal's 5-46 Inf. and 4-3 Inf. as well as Marine, Navy, and ARVN units, moved slowly forward again despite mud, water, and heavy footing.

Working in clear, sunny weather, Americal troops slogged ahead to find and destroy numerous mines and booby traps. Co. C, 5-46 Inf. reported blowing three anti-tank mines in place, and Co. C, 4-3 Inf. halted a VC suspect carrying documents behind the cordon.

Co. A, 5-46 Inf. detained two VC suspects without identification. Further inspection of the hut the pair had vacated revealed 12 claymore mines, two M-14 mines, one unidentified mine, two M-79 rounds, an M-26 grenade, an 81 mm round, and an incendiary grenade.

Forward air controllers of the 198th Inf. Bde. directed several air strikes in the peninsula area, and one resulted in two secondary explosions.

As of 1600 hours, 3646 of the estimated 5000 refugees in the area ha d been processed through the holding center behind the cordon. Sixty-two had been identified as members of the VC infrastructure.

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Three VC were killed elsewhere in the 198th area. An aerial observer of the 21st Recon Airplane Co. killed two VC 15 1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky, and an element of the 1-**52nd Inf.** killed one seven miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Three battalions of the 196th Inf. Bde. killed two NVA and six VC and captured one weapon. Units of the 2-1 Inf. killed four of the enemy, and tow companies of the 3-21 Inf. killed three.

An element of the 2-1 Inf. engaged and killed two VC 18 1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky. In Operation Fayette Canyon, Cos. C and D, 2-1 Inf. killed one NVA apiece in an area 22-23 miles northwest of Tam Ky. Co. C recovered an AK-47.

Co. C, 3-21 Inf. killed two VC in separate incidents 11 1/2 and 13 miles northwest of Tam Ky, and Co. D, 3-21 Inf. killed one 11 1/2 miles west of Tam Ky. The other VC kill went to a recon unit of the 1-46 Inf. in a brief firefight 13 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

F Trp., 17th Cav. and Co. C, 4-31 Inf. relocated 75 refugees. F Trp. moved groups of 19 and 33 and 1000 pounds of rice from 22-23 miles northwest of Tam Ky to Que Son. Co. C moved 23 refugees to Nui Loc Son from 23 miles west of Tam Ky.

"Shark" gunships of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. and Co. A, 1-20 Inf., working together, accounted for five of six VC killed in the 11th Inf. Bde. area. Thirty-five VC suspects were detained.

At 0810 hours, "Sharks" engaged and killed four VC 12 1/2 miles northwest of Duc Pho and, at 16335, Co. A killed an evading VC three miles to the southeast. At 0935, Co. A had detained 26 VC suspects while moving into Mo Duc on Highway 1.

"Aero Scouts of the 123d Avn. Bn. detained four VC suspects in three incidents and killed a VC 6 1/2 miles northwest of Quang Ngai City.

Vietnamese civilians, acting under the Voluntary Informant Program (VIP), turned over the following items to E Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. 13 1/2 miles west of Duc Pho.

One 155mm round, five 105mm rounds, four B-40 rockets, 30 60mm rounds, 12 82 mm rounds, 11 81mm rounds, three 3.5 rounds, three Chicom grenades, one M-26 grenade, two M-79 rounds, a bangalore torpedo, an enemy gas mask, and three magazines.

Three Americal Division soldiers were killed, and 15 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3. No. 21 TUESDAY January 21, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT WEDNESDAY Partly cloudy. Winds from the east at 5-10 knots. High temperature will be about 85' with a low of 68'. Moon will rise at 1022 hours and will set at 2240 hours.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--More and heavier contact with NVA troops and continued success in operation Russell Beach that included discovery of almost 15 tons of salt, culminated a busy day in southern I Corps yesterday.

Americal Division forces reported killing 14 NVA and 22 VC, finding two VC bodies, detaining 45 VC suspects, and capturing two individual weapons plus 29,110 pounds of salt and 7450 pounds of rice.

In a contact made in mid-morning and still alive early this morning Co. B, 4-21 Inf. confirmed killing at least three NVA in heavy fighting with an unknown-size enemy force 6 1/2 miles northwest of Quang Ngai City.

While patrolling the area, Co. B received and returned heavy machinegun and mortar fire to start an incident that flared throughout the day and last night when the area was illuminated. Co. A, 4-21 Inf. came to Co. B's aid.

Other units of the 11th Inf. Bde. killed 10 VC, found two VC bodies, and detained 23 VC suspects.

Two companies of the 1-20 Inf. killed four VC apiece, and one found a fifth killed by artillery. Co. E, the 1-20's mortar team, killed four VC in support of Co. A near a small village 10 miles north of Duc Pho.

The 1-20 recon unit engaged six VC and killed four 6 1/2 miles northwest of Duc Pho and, in a report delayed from Sunday night found a VC killed by artillery a half-mile nearer Duc Pho.

"Shark" gunships of the 174 Aslt. Hel. Co. killed two evading VC eight miles north of Duc Pho, and Co. C, 3-1 Inf. found the three-day-old grave of a VC killed by artillery 20 1/2 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

For the third consecutive night the headquarters of the 3-1 Inf. received enemy fire. No report of casualties or damage was immediately available.

No kills were recorded in Operation Russell Beach, but units of the 4-3 Inf. and 5-46 Inf. advanced almost 600 meters their cordon of the Batangan Peninsula, an area 6-10 miles northeast of Quang Ngai City under siege also by Marine, Navy and ARVN elements.

Americal soldiers were involved in seven incidents that saw two weapons captured, 18 bunkers and over 200 feet of tunnels destroyed, and 29,910 pounds of salt and 7450 pounds of rice seized.

In addition, Co. D, 4-3 Inf. was presented with 700 refugees who appeared on the beach after apparently agreeing with the message being broadcast overhead by a 198th Inf. Bde. PSYOP helicopter. That exodus brought to 4564 the number of refugees processed through the holding center behind the cordon.

With two consecutive days of clear weather behind them, Americal units have now destroyed 46 bunkers and over 3000 meters of tunnel complexes in the eight days of Russell Beach. Eleven VC have been killed, and six individual weapons captured.

Co. C, 5-46 Inf. uncovered two rice and salt caches yesterday. At 1630 hours, Co. C found 12 tons of salt and a ton of rice seven miles northeast of Quang Ngai City. Earlier, Co. C had discovered 150 pounds of rice and 110 of salt nearby.

Co. B, 5-46 Inf. turned up 5800 pounds of salt and 200 of rice, and Co. A, 4-3 Inf. came up with 3000 pounds of rice, all during the cordon movement.

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Co. D, 5-46 Inf. destroyed eight bunkers, and engineers working with the 5-46 Inf. blew 10 bunkers and more than 200 feet of tunnel. Various enemy rounds were also captured.

Elsewhere in the 198th area, 10 NVA and two VC were killed by gunships "Blue Ghosts" of **F Trp., 8th Cav**. killed the NVA in one action and "Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. killed the VC in two in two incidents.

F Trp came to the aid of the 4-6 ARVN Inf. in a large-scale battle that began at 2030 hours Sunday with an unknown-size NVA force seven miles southwest of Tam Ky. ARVN units killed 30 NVA in fierce ground fighting, and F Trp. added 10 kills from the air.

"Aero Scout" kills came at 1000 and 1015 hours 11 miles southwest and 8 1/2 miles south of Tam Ky.

Co. D, 1-6 Inf., working eight miles south of Chu Lai, captured 1000 pounds of rice and detained 22 suspects.

Topped by the 3-21 Inf., one of the Americal's most active units this month, the 196th Inf. Bde. totaled 10 VC killed, 1100 pounds of rice taken, and 37 refugees relocated.

Three units of the 3-21 killed six VC to bring the battalion total VC kill to 106 through the first 20 days this month. On only one day in that period did the 3-21 fail to kill at least one VC, with its high coming Jan. 11 when 14 VC were killed.

The 3-21 recon unit killed four VC in three incidents yesterday. One died at 1115 hours 14 1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky and , at 1530, the unit registered kills in two places---one where the morning action occurred and 1 1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

In Operation Fayette Canyon, an Americal Long Range Patrol surprised and killed three VC 20 miles northwest of Tam Ky, and Co. B, 1-46 Inf. killed a VC two miles nearer Tam Ky.

F Trp., 17th Cav. and Co. A, 4-31 Inf. found rice caches of 300 and 800 pounds, respectively, and Cos. B and D, 4-31 Inf. moved two groups totaling 37 refugees from an area 27--28 miles west of Tam Ky to Nui Loc Son.

Three Americal Division soldiers were killed, and 20 wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

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MALARIA PLAYS NO FAVORITES - TAKE YOUR MALARIA PILL DAILY.

Vol. 3. No. 25 SATURDAY January 25, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT SUNDAY Tomorrow's forecast: Partly cloudy to mostly cloudy. Winds easterly at 5-10 knots. High temperature of 85' with a low of 68' Moon will rise at 1249 hours and will set at 0111 hours.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Five days of hit-and-run encounters ballooned into a full-scale cordon operation backed by air strikes and artillery fire as four Americal units surrounded and began to rout more than 100 trapped NVA yesterday near Quang Ngai City.

Americal Division forces reported killing 16 NVA and 20 VC, detaining nine VC suspects, and capturing 17 weapons, five crew-served, in southern I Corps.

In Operation Russell Beach, Marine and ARVN elements were halved and joined and joined two Americal battalions on line as the cordon of the Batangan Peninsula narrowed in its steady sweep to the sea.

After the 4-21 Inf. had killed 20 NVA in sporadic action over four days, three more units moved in yesterday to establish a triangular cordon near a small village 6 1/2 miles northwest of Quang Ngai City. Fifteen NVA and one VC were killed with three weapons captured.

Elsewhere in the 11th Inf. Bde. area, nine VC were killed.

Joining the 4-21 were elements of the 3-1 Inf. and B Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav., while gunships of **F Trp., 8th Cav**. worked overhead with Air Force and Marine jets, which devastated the well-fortified area with 2000-pound bombs. The area within the cordon covered approximately one mile.

Ground troops moved to sweep the area after air strikes which left gigantic craters, uprooted jungle growth, and burning huts and debris in their wake. Enemy resistance in the area continued even after the heavy bombing.

Tunnels ranging to 40 feet in depth with six-foot entrance ways and eight-foot thick ceilings were uncovered. NVA trenches rimming the area were built in zigzag patterns to permit enemy riflemen to fire rapidly from one direction, the next.

Co. B, 3-1 Inf. found five NVA killed by artillery, killed a sixth in the area, and captured a Chicom machinegun and an AK-47 rifle. Co. C, 3-1 Inf. killed an NVA.

Co. A, 4-21 Inf. killed two NVA in firefights, found one killed by artillery, and seized a Chicom machinegun. Co. A also found the lone dead VC, an air strike victim. Co. B, 4-21 Inf. killed an NVA, as did another 4-21 element.

B Trp. killed two NVA in separate incidents, and **F Trp. "Blue Ghosts"** killed one while working with B Trp.

The five-day fight has produced 35 NVA and nine VC killed and six weapons, four crew-served. Only on American was wounded yesterday, and five-day casualties were described as light. There were no American casualties Thursday.

In other 11th action, Co. A, 1-20 Inf. killed three VC in incidents 6 1/2 and 8 1/2 miles north of Duc Pho, and a 1-20 patrol killed on 13 miles south of Quang Ngai City.

Co. D, 3-1 Inf. killed a VC on a hill 14 miles southwest of Quang Ngai City, and another 3-1 element killed three VC in two actions three and four miles further southwest. "Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. killed the other VC 2 1/2 miles southwest of Duc Pho.

One battalion apiece of Marine and ARVN troops joined the 4-3 Inf., 5-46 Inf., and H Trp., 17th Cav. in Task Force Cooksey at noon as Operation Russell Beach continued its strangle hold on one or more VC battalions being slowly

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pinched toward the sea on the Batangan Peninsula.

What had been an 11 1/2 mile wide cordon when the operation began 12 days ago has narrowed to less than five miles in the eastward sweep that has killed 109 VC and processed 8967 refugees, more than 300 of whom are proven or suspected VC.

Nine VC were killed and one weapon taken in five incidents involving Americal units yesterday. H Trp. killed its fourth VC within 2 1/2 hours at 0030 nine miles northeast of Quang Ngai City.

Co. A, 4-3 Inf. killed three VC in two incidents 5 1/2-6 miles northeast of Quang Ngai City, and Co. D, 4-3 Inf. killed two in one encounter near the H Trp. action. An element of the 5-46 Inf. killed the seventh VC and captured an M-1 carbine.

There were no major incidents reported elsewhere in the 198th area.

Co. C, 3-21 Inf. killed two VC and found 13 weapons, three crew-served to top a relatively light day in the 196th Inf. Bde. area. Other units killed one NVA and a VC.

After the second platoon of Co. C had killed an NVA and captured his AK-47 rifle, the third platoon led by 2LT Donald R. Hains (San Jose, Calif.), found a weapons cache behind a large rock in the same area 10 1/2 miles west of Tam Ky.

Captured were six French 7.5mm submachineguns, two Chicom submachineguns, a British Bren .303-cal light machinegun, a U.S. .30-cal machinegun, a 60mm mortar tube with tripod and two sights, and a BAR. Various rounds, mines, magazines, and equipment were also located. Everything was heavily greased to protect against dampness.

Co. C, 2-1 Inf. killed an NVA 24 miles northwest of Tam Ky, and an element of the 4-31 Inf. killed a VC 20 1/2 miles west of Tam Ky. Co. V, 4-31 Inf., working 29 miles west of Tam Ky, found and destroyed one bunker and 40 feet of tunnel.

No Americal Division soldiers were killed, and eight were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3. No. 26 SUNDAY January 26, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT SUNDAY Tomorrow's forecast: Mostly cloudy to partly cloudy. Winds southeasterly at 5-10 knots. High temperature of 86' with a low of 70'. Moon will rise at 1331 hours and will set at 0202 hours.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--keeping up northwest of Quang Ngai City and north of Tam Ky, and getting ready to mop up in Operation Russell Breach--that was the story in southern I Corps yesterday.

Americal Division forces reported killing four NVA and 37 VC, detaining eight VC suspects, and capturing three individual weapons in moderate action.

Elements of the 4-21 Inf. and 3-1 Inf. continued their sweep of the cordoned Buff Triangle area 6 1/2 miles northwest of Quang Ngai City where more than 100 NVA have been subjected to a heavy land and air bombardment since Monday.

Two NVA and two VC were killed yesterday to bring the six-day total to 37 NVA and 11 VC killed Co. C, 3-1 Inf. found and NVA and a VC killed by artillery and killed an NVA who walked into an ambush at 0230 hours. Co. A, 4-21 Inf. killed the other VC.

Near a small village, the triangular cordon enclosed a one-mile area described by observers as "looking" like the face of the moon" after air strikes and artillery shelling. Laced with tunnels and bunkers, the village area apparently served as staging quarters for between 100-200 NVA troops.

Cos. A, C and recon of the 4-21 Inf., and Cos. B and C, 3-1 Inf. found and destroyed six tunnels measuring 170 feet in length and destroyed 1850 pounds of rice in four caches yesterday. Another half-ton of rice was evacuated. Co. A also found a K-44 rifle and an unidentified submachinegun in a tunnel.

More NVA bodies are thought to be in the triangle. Tunnels up to 40 feet deep have been discovered, and scattered resistance has been met since the air strikes.

Seven VC were killed and eight VC suspects detained elsewhere in the 11th Inf. Bde. area.

Gunships accounted for three kills as "Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. killed two VC in separate incidents seven miles west and 12 miles south of Quang Ngai City and "Sharks" of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. killed one 5 1/2 miles north of Duc Pho. As the "Shark" worked overhead, the recon unit of the 1-20 Inf. rounded up six VC suspects.

Co. D, 1-20 Inf. found fresh graves of three VC killed by artillery within the previous 24 hours 9 1/2 miles southeast of Duc Pho.

An element of the 3-1 Inf., working 12 1/2 miles southwest of Quang Ngai City, killed a VC trying to hide a bicycle in a hedgerow. The bike had been rigged to carry rice or mortars.

In the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area north of Tam Ky, **F Trp., 8th Cav.** had its best day in weeks. The "Blue Ghost" gunships killed 13 VC in seven incidents from 12 1/2 - 15 1/2 miles north. F Trp. killed a 14th VC nine miles west of Tam Ky.

The largest encounter came at 1335 when F Trp. engaged and killed five VC 12 1/2 miles north where three more VC were killed later. Four were killed in three actions 14 miles north and one 15 1/2 miles away.

One kill came in the Hardin Falls operation area.

Co. D, 4-3 Inf. killed three VC in as many incidents and captured a weapons as the joint forces cordon of the Batangan Peninsula neared a final push forward.

The line of Americal, Marine, and ARVN troops has narrowed from 11 1/2 miles

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at the start of Operation Russell Beach to just under three miles wide. Once about eight miles from the sea, the cordon is now within 2 1/2 miles of forcing an estimated one or more VC battalions into fighting or swimming.

As Marines and ARVN elements joined Americal's 4-3 and 5-46 Infs. and H Trp., 17th Cav. on line yesterday, the cordon plowed ahead through dense minefields, booby traps, and tunnel complexes.

Co. D, 4-3 Inf. killed one VC trying to escape the cordon in a smallboat and later killed two more VC in the same area nine miles northwest of Quang Ngai City. In a tunnel, Co. D found five VC suspects, two of them female, a French submachinegun, and three grenades. One young VC surrendered earlier to Co. D as a Chieu Hoi.

An element of the 3-25 **[?3-26]** Marine Regt. met 420 civilian refugees at the northern end of the cordon and took them through the line. As of 1600, 9523 refugees had been moved off the peninsula, with 137 of them confirmed VC infrastructure members and 153 VC suspects.

Americal totals in the 13-day operation are 49 VC killed and 14 individual weapons taken. Over-all totals show 113 VC killed and 29 weapons captured.

Elsewhere in the 198th Inf. Bde. area, "Aero Scouts" killed two uniformed NVA 14 1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky, and Co, A, 1-**52nd Inf**. found a VC killed by fire from C Btry., 1-14 Arty three miles nearer Tam Ky.

The 3-21 Inf.'s January body count rose to 142 as Co. A killed three VC and Cos. B and C one apiece in the 196th Inf. Bde. area. The kills came within 12-14 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

In other 196th action, the 71st Aslt. Hel. Co. engaged and killed three VC 20 miles northwest of Tam Ky, and Co. A, 1-46 Inf. killed two VC in separate incidents a mile nearer Tam Ky.

Cos. A and B, 4-31 Inf. relocated 26 and 19 refuges, respectively, to Nui Loc Son from areas 24 and 30 miles west of Tam Ky.

No Americal Division soldiers were killed, and four were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment. Twelve Marines were killed, and 38 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment. All casualty figures were based on initial report.

Vol. 3. No. 27 MONDAY January 27, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT TUESDAY Tomorrow's forecast: Fair to partly cloudy. Winds from the southeast at about 10 knots. High temperature of 88 with a low of 70. Moon will rise at 1415 hours and will set at 0254 hours.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Two units of the 11th Inf. Bde., supported by gunships stayed at the heels of scattering NVA and VC west-northwest of Quang Ngai City, and cavalry units joined Operation Russell Beach to highlight Americal Division action yesterday.

Americal forces reported killing nine NVA and 28 VC, finding one VC body, detaining 10 VC suspects, and capturing four individual weapons and 3450 pounds of rice in southern I Corps.

Day-long sweeps in an area 7-8 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai City from the Buff Triangle south of the Song Tra Khuc netted three NVA and 10 VC killed and two weapons captured by elements of the 3-1 Inf. and 4-21 Inf. and "Shark" gunships of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co.

Elsewhere in the 11th Inf. Bde. area, other units of the 3-1 Inf. killed six NVA and four VC.

Yesterday's sweep came after six days of fighting an NVA force concentrated in a one-mile area 6 1/2-7 miles northwest of Quang Ngai City. Americal troops swept that area and from 2-3 miles south to the Song Tra Khuc.

Co. A, 4-21 Inf. killed two NVA and captured their rifles, an M-16 and an AK-47, and Co. B, 3-1 Inf. killed the other NVA and found 1850 pounds of rice.

Co. A also killed two VC in one incident, while the 4-21 recon unit killed three VC in as many encounters. Cos. B and C, 4-21 Inf. each killed a VC and another element of the 4-21 also killed one.

Co. C, 3-1 Inf. killed one VC, and the "Sharks" killed the other in the sweep area.

Three units of the 3-1 were involved in all action beyond the sweep. In two incidents, Co. D killed four NVA of seven engaged and then one VC 14 miles southwest of Quang Ngai City. A half-mile away, the 3-1 recon unit engaged 10 NVA and killed two with mortar fire.

Another element of the 3-1 killed three VC in two actions 17 1/2 miles southwest of Quang Ngai City.

A Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. and H Trp., 17th Cav. joined Americal, Marine, Navy, and ARVN forces early this morning as Operation Russell Beach continued to press forward and the cordon of the Batangan Peninsula where one or more VC battalions are reportedly trapped.

Cavalry units made a beach landing to link with Americal's 5-46 Inf. as part of the cordon waited on the western bank of the Song Chau Me Dong, last natural barrier to a sweep to the sea.

Units of the Americal's 4-3 Inf. killed a VC and captured two weapons in slim action yesterday as the cordon advanced cautiously through mined and tunnel-laced areas. The 4-3 recon unit killed the VC 9 1/2 miles northeast of Quang Ngai City, close to two spots where Co. D found an M-1 rifle and M-1 carbine.

The carbine was turned up in a tunnel after two Hoi Chanhs told D Co. they had seen a VC intelligence representative in the area carrying a U.S. carbine. A reinforced D Co. patrol found the carbine and personnel items in the tunnel but failed to locate the VC.

Near that find, the patrol discovered a large tunnel complex dug into the side of a hill. Tunnel rats reported searching 400-500 meters and finding cubbyhole sleeping niches carved every five meters. Estimates were that more than 300 people could sleep there and that the tunnel had been used within the

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previous 24 hours.

Refugees continued to pour out of the area as 829 more were removed tot he holding center where 10,357 refugees have been processed, with 142 confirmed as VC infra-structure members and 192 classified as VC suspects. Twenty-four babies have been born in the 14-day existence of the refugee center.

No major incidents were reported elsewhere in the 198th Inf. Bde. area.

Three ground units and **"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav.** killed 11 VC and found one VC body in scattered action in the 196th Inf. Bde. area.

Co. B, 2-1 Inf. directed artillery fire to kill three of four VC seen moving 24 1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky. In a day-old report, Co. A, 2-1 Inf. found the grave of a VC killed 30-40 days ago by small arms fire a half-mile further northwest.

Co. D, 4-31 Inf. killed two of three VC engaged during a search and clear operation and discovered 1600 pounds of rice in a tunnel 24 miles west of Tam Ky where Co. C, 4-31 also killed a VC. The 4-21 recon unit killed a VC 20 1/2 miles west of Tam Ky.

"Blue Ghosts" killed three VC in separate actions, 12, 17 and 17 1/2 miles west of Tam Ky, and Co. C, 3-21 killed one VC 10 miles west of Tam Ky.

Co. B, 4-31 Inf. relocated 23 refugees to Nui Loc Son from an area 26 miles west of Tam Ky.

"Blue Ghosts" also killed two VC in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area nine and 11 miles north of Tam Ky. The kills were **F Trp.'s** 15th and 16th in the 1-1 area in the past two days and upped its two-day total in all areas to 19 VC killed.

One Americal Division soldier was killed, and 22 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment. Seven Marines were killed, and two were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment. All casualty figures were based on initial reports.

Vol. 3. No. 28 SUNDAY January 28, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT WEDNESDAY Tomorrow's forecast: Fog in the morning in valleys and low areas. Fair to partly cloudy. Winds from the southeast at 5-15 knots. High temperature 90' with a low of 70'. Moon rise at 1503 hours, set at 0347 hours.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--It's a case of "any day now" in Operation Russell Beach and a case of "every day now" to the west-northwest of Quang Ngai City.

Preparations for a final surge forward continued yesterday on the Batangan Peninsula while, some 12 miles west, units of the 11th Inf. Bde. pounded scattered VC elements in the 11th's biggest day in weeks.

Americal Division forces reported killing 64 VC, detaining 15 VC suspects, and capturing slightly over a ton of rice in southern I Corps. For the first time in 14 days, no NVA were encountered.

Three companies of the 5-46 Inf. crossed the Song Chau Me Dong to join A Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. and H Trp., 17th Cav. on the east bank in preparation for today's Russell Beach probe of approximately 1 1/2 miles between cordon and sea.

When the entire cordon moves across the river, Cos, B, C, and D, 5-46 Inf. will line up with Co. D, 4-3 Inf. and two Marine companies to lead the way. Other 5-46 and 4-3 Inf. units remain behind the narrowing line to conduct sweeps with Marine and ARVN elements. Navy ships still stand off shore.

In four brief skirmishes yesterday, Co. C, 4-3 Inf. killed three VC behind the cordon 5 1/2 miles northeast of Quang Ngai City, and Co. B, 5-46 Inf. found a VC killed by small arms fire in the cordon area four miles further northeast. Cos. C also found a 600-pound rice cache.

Marine units discovered the intricate tunnel complexes in the immediate cordon area. Co. M, 3-26 Regt. searched a 25 by 30-foot complex consisting of 10 tunnels leading to a large center area recently occupied, and Co. L, 3-26 entered a 500-foot tunnel complete with brick and concrete reinforcements and branch tunnels.

PSYOP missions encouraged 334 more refugees to leave the peninsula area and brought to 10,691 the number who have fled since Russell Beach began 115 days ago. More than 350 refugees are confirmed VC, and 121 VC have been killed in the operation.

Elsewhere in the 198th Inf. Bde. area, Co. C, 1-**52nd Inf.** engaged three VC and killed two 8 1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky, and Co. D, 1-6 Inf. found 1000 pounds of rice six miles south of Chu Lai.

Three ground units and air elements killed 40 VC in 15 clashes in the 11th Inf. Bde. area where heavy action was centered for the eighth consecutive day from 5-8 1/2 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai City. Fifteen VC suspects were detained.

In one of the largest single-unit encounters in the last month, the recon unit of the 4-21 Inf. battled 13 VC in an extended firefight that left 11 VC dead and two wounded but able to avoid capture 8 1/2 miles northwest of Quang Ngai City. the dead carried VC ponchos and wore new clothing. No Americans were killed or injured in the encounter.

Three miles below that action, Co. A, 4-21 Inf. killed three VC in two incidents and detained three VC suspects.

"Shark" gunships of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co., working with Co. A, 1-20 Inf., killed seven VC in two actions eight miles north and 15 1/2 miles northwest of Duc Pho. "Sharks" engaged eight VC and killed four in one incident and engaged

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and killed three for Co. A, which killed one VC and then found the buried bodies of five killed by artillery fire.

Co. D, 1-20 Inf. killed two VC in separate incidents 12-12 1/2 miles southeast of Duc Pho, and Co. C, 3-1 Inf. killed a VC six miles northwest of Quang Ngai City.

Another element of the 3-1 Inf. killed nine VC in four encounters from 12-13 miles west-southwest of Quang Ngai City, and an element of the 4-21 Inf. found a VC killed by air strikes six miles northwest of Quang Ngai City.

Three units found small rice caches totaling 550 pounds in the area of heaviest action west-northwest of Quang Ngai City.

Nine VC were killed in as many incidents in the 196th Inf. Bde. area where Co. A, 3-21 Inf. accounted for three VC as did 1-46 Inf. units.

Co. A killed VC 12 1/2 - 14 1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky. The 1-46 recon unit killed two VC, one with artillery fire in a battle with an unknown-size enemy force 19 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky, and Co. C, 1-46 Inf. killed a VC 15 1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky. Co. C, 2-1 Inf., working with Popular Force troops, engaged two VC and killed one 21 1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky and, about a mile away, Co. D, 2-1 Inf. called in artillery to kill one of four VC seen moving nearby.

The other VC kill went to Co. D, 4-31 Inf. 24 miles west of Tam Ky.

"Blue Ghosts" of F Trp., 8th Cav. joined C Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. in a three-hour fight with VC elements 16 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky. The two troops killed nine VC in the only action in the 1-1 area.

In eight incidents between 1510 and 1815 hours, **F Trp.** killed seven VC and C Trp. two. The kills brought **F Trp.'s** three-day total to 26 VC killed.

Three Americal Division soldiers were killed, and 22 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment. No Marines were killed, and two were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment. All casualty figures were based on initial reports.

Vol. 3. No. 29 WEDNESDAY January 29, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT THURSDAY Tomorrow's forecast: Partly to mostly cloudy in the morning, becoming partly cloudy in the afternoon. Winds will be from the southeast at 5-10 knots. High temperature 90 with a low of 74. Moon will rise at 1554 and set at 0440.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--VC elements on the Batangan Peninsula are gradually being denied use of the clever, intricate, and well-used complex of bunkers and tunnels lacing the peninsula area.

Major contact with enemy troops failed to materialize again yesterday in Operation Russell Beach as Americal and Marine units poked through 21 tunnels and the familiar maze of booby traps.

Including the one VC body found in the operation, Americal Division forces throughout southern I Corps reported killing one NVA and 27 VC, finding the bodies of an NVA and a VC, and capturing six individual weapons in light action.

Co. C, 5-46 Inf. found the two week-old body of a VC killed by small arms fire nine miles northeast of Quang Ngai City, and Marine Co. L, 3-26 Regt. captured two SKS rifles and an M-2 carbine while searching a tunnel on the cordon line 11 miles northeast of Quang Ngai City.

Co. L had previously searched a tunnel with no results, although many of the 21 tunnels searched showed evidence they had been occupied recently.

Co. D, 5-46 Inf. found 17 tunnels in three incidents, including discovery of one complex with 13 tunnels of various size. Co. D also found a 10 by 20 foot room under the false floor of a hootch. Everything was destroyed.

Co. B, 5-46 Inf. found and destroyed 10 bunkers, and Co. C, 5-46 Inf. found a dud 250-pound bomb.

Elsewhere in the 198th Inf. Bde. area, Co. C, **1-52nd Inf.** found the body of a VC killed by air strikes eight miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Action in the 11th Inf. Bde. area was again centered to the west-northwest of Quang Ngai City where two units discovered on NVA body and killed eight VC. Other 11th elements killed on NVA and eight VC and captured an AK-47 rifle.

The recon unit of the 4-21 Inf. returned to the scene of Monday's heavy fighting near a small village eight miles northwest of Quang Ngai City and located the graves of five VC killed in that fight. The recon unit, which received sniper fire in the area, had killed 11 VC in one firefight there Monday.

A mile further northwest, Co. A, 4-21 Inf. killed a VC and, 5 1/2 miles north-northwest of Quang Ngai City, Co. B, 4-21 Inf. found the week-old body of an NVA killed by artillery fire.

Six miles northwest of Quang Ngai City, Co. B, 3-1 Inf. found two VC killed by small arms and artillery fire and destroyed 800 pounds of rice, two tunnels, and three bunkers in five incidents.

Southwest of Quang Ngai City, elements of the 4-31 Inf. killed and NVA and five VC. Co. D engaged three NVA, killed one, and took his AK-47 rifle, 12 1/2 miles southwest where another 4-31 element earlier found three VC killed by artillery fire. That element then killed two VC five miles further southwest.

"Shark" gunships of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co., continuing a string of successful missions in the past week, engaged and killed three VC five miles north of Duc Pho while supporting Co. A, 1-20 Inf. in day-long operations.

Co. A killed five VC in as many encounters, and Co. C added one as the 3-21 Inf. accounted for most of the 196th Inf. Bde.'s nine VC killed. Two weapons were captured.

Co. A's kills came between 1140 and 1345 hours from 14-15 1/2 miles north

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northwest of Tam Ky. The final action in which Co. A engaged eight VC, netted and AK-47 rifle. Co. C's kill came 11 miles west of Tam Ky.

Co. C, 4-31 Inf. engaged and killed two VC at 2220 hours 24 1/2 miles west of Tam Ky in rugged jungle area. Nearby another 4-31 element captured an SKS rifle.

The other VC kill went to an element of the 1-46 Inf. 18 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

In the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area, **"Blue Ghosts" of F Trp., 8th Cav.** recorded their 27th VC kill in four days in a brief encounter seven miles north of Tam Ky.

One Americal Division soldier was wounded and evacuated for medical treatment according to an initial report. No Marines were reported killed or injured.

Vol. 3. No. 30 THURSDAY January 30, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT THURSDAY Tomorrow's forecast: Partly to mostly cloudy in the morning, with occasional showers in the afternoon. Winds will be variable at 5-10 knots till noon, then becoming northeasterly at 5-15 knots. High temperature of 87' with a low of 74.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Tunnels, mines, and booby traps to the front and signs of VC to both front and rear that's the situation today as Operation Russell Beach enters its 18th day on the Batangan Peninsula.

Americal and Marine units reported 14 VC killed and 13 weapons captured, five of them crew-served, yesterday in addition to 10 incidents in which tunnels, bunkers, mines, booby traps, supplies and ammo were found.

Including Russell Beach, Americal forces throughout southern I Corps reported killing one NVA and 45 VC, finding three VC bodies, and capturing 22 weapons, five crew-served.

All VC kills and weapons captures in Russell Beach came in eight incidents involving four Americal units and a Marine company.

At 0005 hours, an estimated VC squad struck an Americal night position two miles behind the main cordon line on the peninsula. Co. C, 4-3 Inf.; H Trp., 17th Cav.; and Co. B, 26th Engr. Bn. received RPG, 82mm mortar, and automatic weapons fire and a ground probe.

Return fire killed six Vc and led to capture of two AK-47 rifles and an AK-50. No Americans were killed.

In separate incidents nearby, Co. C, 4-3 Inf. killed two VC and captured two .30-cal machineguns and a 60mm mortar tube after digging up a grave. In a nearby rice paddy dike, Co. C found 200 M-60 rounds, 400 .30 cal rounds, and a 25 pound shaped charge.

Marine Co. K, 3-26 Regt. found the bodies of five VC killed by air strikes in two graves 11 miles northeast of Quang Ngai City near the cordon line. Co. K later killed a VC in a tunnel.

Other weapons caches were found well behind the cordon 7 1/2 miles northeast of Quang Ngai City by HQ Co., 4-3 Inf., and H Trp. HQ turned up five M-1 carbines, and H Trp. found a rocket launcher and a BAR.

Among other items found were six beer cans fashioned into concussion grenades packed with explosives and tipped with blasting caps, two tunnels so new that tools use to dig them were found nearby, two 20mm casings with .50 cal rounds attached to form booby traps, and a collection of pots and pans.

No other major incidents were reported in the 198th Inf. Bde. area.

Units of the 196th Inf. Bde. killed an NVA and 11 VC, captured 14 individual weapons, and broke up a late-night VC party.

In a delayed report of Tuesday action, Co. A, 4-31 Inf. investigated noise near its night position and discovered 30-40 VC partying. Co. A scattered the group, killing one VC detaining 22 more, and confiscating 15 gallons of liquor and 900 pounds of rice in the action 24 miles west of Tam Ky.

A half-mile further west, Co. C, 4-31 Inf. engaged and killed three VC yesterday and captured an AK-47 rifle and an SKS rifle. Co. A killed another VC near the scene of the party.

Co. B, 2-1 Inf. killed an NVA, destroyed five bunkers, and captured K-54 Chicom pistol 22 1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky and later engaged four NVA and took a K-44 rifle. Nearby, Co. A, 2-1 Inf. found a small cache containing three K-044 and two SKS rifles. Co. C killed a VC 21 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

In two incidents, Co. C, 3-21 Inf. killed a VC and found a 12-gauge shotgun,

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two French MAT rifles, and two K-44 rifles 10 miles west of Tam Ky.

Co. B, 3-21 Inf. engaged and killed three VC 9 1/2 miles west of Tam Ky, and Co. A killed a VC 14 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

The recon unit of the 4-21 Inf. spent a third successful day above Quang Ngai City and recorded five more VC slain as units of the 11th Inf. Bde. killed 11 VC and found three VC bodies.

Led by 1LT Robert McEldowney (Hilo, Hawaii), the 4-21 recon unit killed a VC 10 miles northwest of Quang Ngai City and then engaged and killed four VC a half-mile away. Recon has accounted for 21 VC dead in three days.

Operating in the area where prolonged fighting occurred last week, Co. A, 4-21 Inf. found three more VC, all killed 5-7 days ago five miles north-northwest of Quang Ngai City.

"Shark" gunships of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. killed a VC 12 miles southwest of Quang Ngai City. There and six miles further southwest, an element of the 3-1 Inf. killed five VC in two actions.

Two troops of the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. joined **F Trp., 8th Cav.** to kill nine VC in five incidents in the 1-1 area.

B Trp. killed three VC in two incidents nine miles north of Tam Ky, and C Trp. called in artillery to kill three of four VC seen 17 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky.

"Blue Ghosts" of F Trp. killed a VC eight miles north of Tam Ky and another a mile from C Trp.'s encounter.

One Americal Division soldier was killed, and 14 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment. Four Marines were killed, and three were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment. All casualty figures were based on initial reports.

Vol. 3. No. 31 FRIDAY January 31, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT SATURDAY Mostly cloudy in the morning, with possibility of rain in the afternoon. Winds will be from the northeast at 5-10 knots. High temperature will be 82' with a low of 70'. Moon rise will be at 1742 hours and set at 0618 hours.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Excellent coordination between ground and air elements helped the 11th Inf. Bde. to the lead among Americal units as action picked up yesterday in southern I Corps.

Americal forces reported killing five NVA and 51 VC, finding one VC, detaining eight VC suspects, and capturing seven weapon, one crew-served.

In Operation Russell Beach, two VC were killed, one VC body found, and one weapon captured as Americal and Marine units pressed through more mines, booby traps, and tunnels in their cordon of the Batangan Peninsula.

Of 37 kills in the 11th Inf. Bde. area, 25 were by air elements as five NVA and 32 VC were killed and three weapons captured one crew-served.

In the day's largest encounter, the command and control helicopter of the 3-1 Inf. engaged an unknown-size enemy force 11 miles west-southwest of Quang Ngai City at 1115 hours and killed five NVA and seven VC.

At 1000 and 1010, the C&C killed two more VC 12 1/2 miles west-southwest of Quang Ngai City.

"Sharks" to the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. engaged and killed eight VC eight miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai City. "Sharks" have killed 19 VC in the past four days and 38 in the past two week.

The other gunship kill went to "Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. 13 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

The recon unit of the 4-21 Inf. upped its four-day body count to 25 VC by killing four more in three incidents nine miles northwest of Quang Ngai City. One carried black cloth and 25 feet of det cord. Nearby, Co. A, 4-21 Inf. found a VC killed by artillery and killed by artillery and killed by artillery and killed a VC in a firefight.

The recon unit of the 1-20 Inf. called in artillery fire to kill two VC running into a hut six miles west of Duc Pho, and Co. B, 1-20 Inf. killed two VC in two incidents four miles nearer Duc Pho.

Co. C, 3-1 Inf. killed two VC seven miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai City after finding a weapons cache nearby earlier, Included were a 60mm mortar tube, a 16-guage shotgun, and a rifle of undetermined origin. All were heavily rusted.

Action tapered off in Operation Russell Beach where Co. A, 5-46 Inf. found the four-day-old body of a VC killed by air strikes; HQ Co., 4-3 Inf. killed a VC; and Marine Co. M, 3-26 Regt. killed two of the three VC engaged. All were killed behind the main cordon line.

Elements of the main line moved forward approximately 500 meters and again encountered numerous mines and booby traps. Co. M also found and destroyed a tunnel complex and took documents from another tunnel.

Co. A, 5-46 Inf. was being led by a Hoi Chanh to a tunnel complex when the Hoi Chanh stepped on a mine or booby trap, killing himself. No Americans were killed.

Elsewhere in the 198th Inf. Bde. area, Co., C, 1-**52nd Inf.** engaged three NVA, killed two, and captured a K-50 rifle 11 miles southwest of Tam Ky. The 176th Aslt. Hel. Co. killed two VC after receiving automatic weapons fire 11 miles north of Quang Ngai City.

Four companies killed six VC and captured three weapons in the 196th Inf.

(Continued -1)

Bde. area.

Co. C, 4-31 Inf. came under fire and returned it to kill three VC and capture AK-47 and K-50 rifles 24 1/2 miles west of Tam Ky; and Cos. A and C, 3-21 Inf. killed three VC in two incidents 13 1/2 miles west of Tam Ky; Co. D. 3-21 Inf. took an SKS rifle 14 1/2 miles west of Tam Ky.

"Blue Ghosts" of F Trp., 8th Cav maintained the strong showing by gunships as they brought their six-day total of VC killed to 40 by killing eight in seven incidents north and west of Tam Ky.

Three kills came 9 1/2 miles north of Tam Ky in two actions, and the rest were from 10-17 miles to the north and west.

Fifteen Americal Division soldiers were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, as were two Marines. All casualty figures were based on initial reports.

Vol. 3. No. 32 SATURDAY February 1, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT SUNDAY Mostly cloudy with showers in the morning and afternoon. Winds will be generally from the northeast at about 10 knots. High temperature will be 80' with a low of 67'. Moon will rise at 1835 hours and set at 0703 hours.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Increased action behind the cordon of the Batangan Peninsula, another encounter with a large NVA force, and discovery of a weapons cache highlighted a busy day for Americal Division forces in Operation Russell Beach and throughout southern I Corps yesterday.

Americal units reported killing 15 NVA and 41 VC, finding two VC bodies, detaining nine VC suspects, and capturing 29 weapons, 13 crew-served.

Americal and Marine elements killed 14 VC, found a VC body, and captured an M-1 carbine in three incidents near the main cordon line and three for to rear [sic].

H Trp., 17th Cav. engaged a large group of VC trying to escape behind the cordon near the beach and killed 10 at 1425 hours seven miles east-northeast of Quang Ngai City. At 1550, H Trp. killed another evading VC and took the carbine.

Co. C, 4-3 Inf. found a VC killed within the previous 24 hours by gunships seven miles northeast of Quang Ngai City.

Some four miles ahead on the cordon, Marine Cos. L and M, 3-26 Regt. accounted for the other VC kills. Co. M found the body of a VC killed by small arms fire and , an hour later killed a VC in a firefight. At 2100, Co. L engaged two VC on line and killed one.

In delayed Thursday reports, Marine Co. K, 3-26 Regt. found and destroyed three tunnels in early afternoon on line, while Co. M located a tunnel containing nine cattle. Co. B, 5-46 Inf. found and destroyed five tunnels with cots and eating facilities yesterday, and Co. B, 4-3 Inf. evacuated 5000 pounds of rice from well behind the line to a refugee center.

Co. B, 26th Engr. Bn. yesterday brought its Russell Beach totals to 269 bunkers, 83115 meters of tunnels, 45 structures and 61 mines, dud rounds, and booby traps destroyed.

Refugees processed off the peninsula now total 11,270, with 218 confirmed members of the VC infra-structure and 92 VC suspects. Through the first 19 days of the operation, Americal units have killed 73 VC, Marines 59, and ARVN 19.

Elsewhere in the 198th Inf. Bde. area, Co. C, **1-52nd Inf.** scrapped with an unknown-size NVA force 10 miles south-west of Tam Ky. Nine NVA were killed by air strikes Thursday at 1905, and five more died in an artillery barrage yesterday at 1045.

Action began Thursday when Co. C. watched a large NVA force moving toward its night perimeter and then received several 82mm mortar rounds. Air strikes drove off the attackers. Artillery was called in yesterday to kill five NVA seen running into a hootch. An AK-47 rifle was taken.

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Following a trail and its instincts paid of for Co. C, 3-1 Inf. which discovered a hastily-concealed enemy weapons cache in the area of last week's heavy fighting 6-7 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai City.

Including Co. C's find, units of the 11th Inf. Bde. killed one NVA and 24 VC, found a VC body, detained four VC suspects, and captured 27 weapons, 13 crew-served.

Shortly afternoon, Co. C found an apparent enemy observation post and began following a trail out of the Op area. Discovery of a rock formation that appeared to have been used as a sleeping position prompted a closer search, and

(Continued -1)

the cache was found poorly hidden under rocks and bushes nearby.

Crew-served weapons found included nine BARs, two U.S. .30-cal machineguns, a French machinegun, and a French M-29 automatic rifle. Also found were six M-1 rifles, four K-44 rifles, two French MAS-36 rifles, and two Russian submachineguns.

Various supplies and ammo were also taken in the cache. Later, Co. C found the body of a VC killed by artillery.

Only four units accounted for the rest of the action as the command and control helicopter of the 3-1 Inf. killed 13 VC in six incidents and the recon unit of the 4-21 Inf. killed ten VC in four encounters.

The C&C engaged small groups of VC throughout the day in areas ranging from 11 1/2 miles southwest to 21 1/2 miles west-southwest of Quang Ngai City. The recon kills came between 8-11 miles northwest of Quang Ngai City where action has increased since last week's fighting nearby.

An Americal Long Range Patrol killed an NVA 116 miles west-southwest of Quang Ngai City, and "Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. killed a VC 4 1/2 miles west of Duc Pho.

Action was unusually light in the 196th Inf. Bde. area as Co. B, 3-21 Inf. killed two VC nine miles west-northwest of Tam Ky in the only major incident. F Trp., 17th Cav relocated 101 refugees to Que Son from an area 20 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

"Blue Ghosts" of **F Trp., 8th Cav**. killed a VC 8 1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky in the only action in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area.

One Americal Division soldier was killed, and 24 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment. One Marine was killed, and 20 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment. All casualty figures were based on initial reports.

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WAR SOUVENIRS

Mine detectors are now being used in APOs to find weapons and other contraband items being mailed illegally. Government property and "War Souvenirs" found either in the mail or in a soldier's held baggage will result in disciplinary action under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. Prohibited items include all U.S. Government property, hand weapons larger than .45 cal., sawed-off shotguns, rifles with barrels less than 16 inches, zip-guns, automatic weapons, silencers, explosives, tanks and airplanes.

Vol. 3. No. 34 MONDAY February 3, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT TUESDAY Tomorrow's forecast calls for partly cloudy skies. Winds will be northeasterly at 5-10 knots. High temperature will be about 85' with a low of 68'. The moon will rise at 2019 hours and will set at 0823 hours.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Scattered resistance and moderate action prevailed as Operation Russell Beach yesterday wound up its third week on the Batangan Peninsula with two Marine companies on the northern beaches and more Americal and marine units nearing the central and southern coasts.

Action was also moderate throughout southern I Corps as Americal Division forces reported killing 41 VC, finding one VC body, detaining 18 VC suspects, and capturing six weapons.

****Marine Co. I, 3-26 Regt., working behind the cordon, and three Americal units found, three VC suspects held, and six M-72 LAW rockets taken in Russell Beach.

At 0550, Co. I killed two VC 11 miles northeast of Quang Ngai City and, nearly 15 hours later, engaged eight VC nearby and killed four. Co. I was cleaning up behind Cos. K and M, 3-26 Regt. which moved to the northern edge of the peninsula Saturday.

Co. C, 4-3 Inf. found and M-72 nine miles northeast of Quang Ngai City and , two hours later, found the body of a VC killed several days ago by small arms fire nearby. Another 4-3 element killed a VC a mile further back.

H Trp., 17th Cav., working with an ARVN unit, caught three VC suspects carrying five M-72 LAWs on the southern edge of the beach nine miles east-north-east of Quang Ngai City.

Co. M, 3-26 Regt., poking through a small village on the northern coast, found a VC hiding, 150 pounds of rice and 150 of corn, and an ammo can rigged into a booby trap with an 82mm mortar.

Near the central coast, Co. D, 5-46 Inf. discovered and destroyed two small tunnels and found three tunnels caved in by previous air strikes in the area.

There were no Americal or Marine casualties on the peninsula.

Led by "Shark" gunships of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co., units of the 11th Inf. Bde. killed 20 VC and detained 12 VC suspects in seven incidents.

Between 0820 and 0855, "Sharks" killed nine VC in three encounters seven miles northwest of Quang Ngai City. Nearby, Co. B, 4-21 Inf. found and destroyed a tunnel 160 meters long.

In mid-afternoon, Co. D, 3-1 Inf. received heavy small arms fire and returned it along with an artillery barrage to kill six VC 19 1/2 miles southwest of Quang Ngai City. Six miles closer to Quang Ngai, the 3-1 recon unit engaged four VC and killed two.

Co. A, 4-21 Inf. killed a VC and detained a VC suspect, and Co. B, 4-21 Inf. detained six VC suspects 7 1/2 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai City. Co. B, 1-20 Inf. killed two VC 5 1/2 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Military Police at 11th Inf. Bde. headquarters detained five military-age males.

The 3-21 Inf., opening the new month in the same way it performed throughout January, accounted for all 10 VC killed in the 196th Inf. Bde. area.

Co. A killed five VC in three incidents, including three in one action 15 1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky. Single kills were recorded 13 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Co. C encountered four VC at 0730 and killed three in a firefight 11 1/2 miles west of Tam Ky, and Co. B engaged and killed two VC 11 miles west-north-west of Tam Ky.

F Trp., 8th Cav. and B Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. killed four VC in the 1-1 area. After ~~E~~ [B] Trp. killed two VC 15 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky, each troop killed a VC eight miles north of Tam Ky.

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Two Americal Division soldiers were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report. For the second consecutive day, no Americal or Marine soldiers were killed.

Vol. 3. No. 37 Thursday February 6, ~~1967~~ [typo] [1969]

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT FRIDAY Tomorrow's forecast calls for mostly cloudy skies with chance of light rain. Winds will be from the northwest at 5-10 knots. High temperature will be about 72 with a low of about 63. Moon rise will be at 2252 hours and will set at 1012 hours.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Four days into its fourth month, Operation Vernon Lake II is paying dividends slightly higher than those totaled yesterday by four 11th Inf. Bde. units which killed 11 VC and captured five weapons without a casualty.

Action throughout southern I Corps warmed up in proportion to plummeting temperatures as Americal Division forces reported killing four NVA and 43 VC, detaining 13 VC suspects, capturing six individual weapons, and finding three tons of rice.

In Operation Russell Beach, the entire Americal-Marine cordon completed its sweep to the tip of the Batangan Peninsula and began the task of securing rear areas and establishing a forward base of operations.

Including action in Vernon Lake II, units of the 11th Inf. Bde. killed four NVA and 33 VC, captured five weapons, and found and destroyed three tons of rice. Eight of 11 encounters with enemy forces took place 8 1/2 - 12 miles west-northwest and west-southwest of Quang Ngai City.

In Vernon Lake II, Cos. A, D, and the recon unit of the 3-1 Inf. each killed two VC in three incidents and captured five weapons within five minutes in three different areas.

At 1145 hours Co. D killed two VC 12 miles west-southwest of Quang Ngai. At the same time 14 1/2 miles southwest of Quang Ngai, recon killed two VC and, at 1150, Co. A killed two 13 miles southwest. At 1420, Co. D found two M-2 carbines and three homemade weapons near the scene of its kills.

A UH-1 helicopter, working with the 3-1 Inf., brought the Vernon Lake II totals to 11 VC killed by finding the bodies of five VC killed by artillery within the previous 12 hours 11 miles west-southwest of Quang Ngai.

Since Vernon Lake II began Nov. 2, Americal forces have killed 111 NVA and 183 VC, found 34 NVA and 37 VC bodies, detained 96 VC suspects, and captured 139 weapons, five crew-served. Fewer than 25 Americans have been killed during the operation.

Moving into a marshy area near the Song Tra Khuc 11 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai at 1300, the recon unit of the 4-21 Inf. was quickly embroiled in three incidents.

Recon first found the bodies of five VC killed within the previous hour by "Shark" gunships of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co., then almost immediately engaged an unknown -size enemy force and killed seven VC. Twenty minutes later recon engaged and killed four more VC there.

At 1130 in the same area, the 3-1 Inf. UH-1 had engaged five NVA and killed two. The same helicopter also killed two NVA a mile away.

At 1040, Btry. D, 1-82 Arty. moved into action after a call from an aerial observer of a Forward Air Control element in Quang Ngai. He spotted nine VC herding water buffalo 8 1/2 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai and directed artillery fire to kill five VC and two water buffalo.

Co. C, 3-1 Inf., operating outside Vernon Lake II, killed a VC five miles northwest of Quang Ngai after finding and destroying 6000 pounds of rice nearby earlier.

Americal and Marine units closed their cordon of the Batangan Peninsula with has been probed by as many as 8800 men since Jan. 13 when Operation Russell

(Continued -1)

Beach opened. Units on the central and southern coasts reached the sea yesterday to join two Marine companies which hit the northern coast five days ago.

Work began on a fire base in the coastal area, while many units maintained the rear area sweep which continues to produce scattered encounters with VC, tunnels, caves, mines, and booby traps.

Co. C, 4-3 Inf., working far to the rear 9 1/2 miles northeast of Quang Ngai, recorded yesterday's only kill. The "Old Guard" troops watched a VC who in turn was watching cavalry movements in the area. When the VC discovered he had been spotted, he ran into a tunnel where he was killed after refusing to reappear.

Marine Co. M, 3-26 Regt. captured eight VC suspects easily--all eight walked into the company command post with hands raised high over their heads.

The 24-day cordon sweep produced 11,585 refugees processed and 201 VC killed by Americal, Marine, and ARVN troops. In addition, 256 members of the VC infra-structure were captured. Also detained were 152 VC suspects, 102 prisoners of war, and 32 Hoi Chanhs.

Elsewhere in the 198th Inf. Bde. area, a UH-1 helicopter working with the **1-52nd Inf.**, killed six VC in three incidents 10-11 1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Action was scarce in the 196th Inf. Bde. area where Co. B, 3-21 Inf. killed one VC leaving a hut and captured an M-2 carbine 10 miles west of Tam Ky.

Co. C, 2-1 Inf. relocated 33 refugees to An Hoa from an area 26 miles northwest of Tam Ky, and Co, C, 4-31 Inf. moved eight refugees to Nui Loc Son from 25 miles west of Tam Ky.

Two VC were killed in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area, including one in Operation Hardin Falls, "Blue Ghosts" of **F Trp., 8th Cav.** killed a VC 15 1/2 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky, and Co. B, 1-46 Inf., OPCON to the 1-1 in Hardin Falls, killed a VC 8 1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

For the fifth day in the past week, no Americal Division soldiers were killed. Sixteen were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report. There were no Marine casualties.

Americal Daily Newsheet -**Vol. 3. No. 39 SATURDAY February 8, 1969**

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT SUNDAY Tomorrow's forecast calls for cloudy to mostly cloudy skies. Winds will be variable at 5-15 knots. High temperature of 75' with a low of 65'. The moon will rise at 2340 hours and will set at 1132 hours.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--A day of firefights for Co. A, 3-21 Inf. and a day of discoveries for F Trp., 17th Cav. gave the 196th Inf. Bde. the best overall showing among Americal Division units yesterday.

Throughout southern I Corps, Americal forces reported killing 57 VC, detaining 10 VC suspects, capturing five individual weapons, finding 9 1/2 tons of rice, and relocating 260 refugees as action increased sharply.

Co. A, 3-21 Inf., led by CPT Thomas Ruffing (Pittsburgh, Pa.), killed 14 VC in six incidents, and F Trp., 17th Cav. found 19,000 pounds of rice in two caches, three sugar cane factories, and an abandoned VC marketplace. Other 196th elements killed four VC and captured three weapons.

Between 0930 and 1345 hours, Co. A engaged VC elements six times from 12 1/2 - 13 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky. eight VC were killed in three actions in the same place.

Co. C, 3-21 Inf. killed a VC 16 miles west of Tam Ky, and the 3-21 recon unit killed a VC 12 1/2 miles west-south-west of Tam Ky.

Co. B, 2-1 Inf. fired on its perimeter after two trip flares were ignited at 2019 Thursday night. A daylight check revealed one VC killed 24 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

An Americal Long Range Patrol, operating 24 1/2 miles west-southwest of Tam Ky, killed a VC fleeing an attempt to capture him.

In a hole covered by weeds, Co. B, ?-46 Inf. found three BARs three B-40 rockets, and a bangalore torpedo.

Cos. B and C, 2-1 Inf. moved the major refugee groups- 89 and 148 people, respectively--to An Hoa from an area 24 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky. Recon and Co. C, 4-31 Inf. moved 23 more refugees in three groups to Nui Loc Son from 21-23 miles west of Tam Ky.

F Trp. discoveries were made in a small area 21 miles northwest of Tam Ky. At 1900 Thursday, F Trp. found 150 abandoned huts containing nine tons of polished rice and, yesterday, F Trp. turned up nine 100-pound bags of dried potatoes in one hut and nearby found 1000 pounds of sandbagged rice in graves.

F Trp. also found three abandoned sugar cane factories, each 30 by 40 feet with grinding wheels and vats and 4500 pounds of brown sugar. One factory was in operating condition and had been used recently. Six small bags of vegetables and eight bags of dried fish were also taken.

Arranged on both sides of a trail were 15 huts forming a marketplace nearby. A sign on one hut urged Vietnamese people to rebel against American and South Vietnamese and "rally" to the VC cause. The structures were destroyed and the signs extracted.

Delayed accounts of sharpshooting by two artillery units brought the 11th Inf. Bde. count to 28 VC killed on one of the area's quietest days in weeks.

Btry. A, 3-18 Arty. and Btry. C, 6-11 Arty. killed 18 VC at 1830 Wednesday after an 11th Bde. observation post spotted 60-70 uniformed and arms VC walking in five to 10-man groups 11 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai.

When the same OP spotted 12 VC, again uniformed and armed, in the same area at 1800 Thursday, Btry. C fired to kill eight VC.

In Operation Vernon Lake II, Co. D, 3-1 Inf. engaged eight VC, killed one,

(Continued -1)

and captured an M-16 rifle and an unknown-type rifle at noon 11 miles west southwest of Quang Ngai.

Co. **D, 1-20 Inf.** recorded the other VC kill 12 1/2 miles southeast of Duc Pho.

Co. B, 5-46 Inf. was the most active unit in Operation Russell Beach with Marine troops no longer under operational control of Task Force Cooksey on the Batangan Peninsula.

In a delayed report, Co. B ambushed and killed a VC at 2010 Thursday. Co. B yesterday detained seven VC suspects in two tunnels and a military aged male carrying rice along the coast. The incidents occurred 11 miles northeast of Quang Ngai.

Five VC were killed elsewhere in the 198th Inf. Bde. area.

A UH-1 helicopter, working with the **1-52nd Inf.**, killed two of three VC engaged near a river 15 miles southwest of Tam Ky and Co. C. 1-52nd killed a VC after working itself out of an ambush three miles nearer Tam Ky.

Another UH-1, working with the 5-46 Inf., killed a VC 9 1/2 miles southeast of Chu Lai, and Co. D, 1-6 Inf. killed a VC six miles south of Chu Lai.

"Blue Ghosts" of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed five VC in as many encounters in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area.

Two kills occurred 14 1/2 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky. The others took place nine miles west-northwest and seven and 10 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

One Americal Division soldier was killed, and two were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

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MALARIA PLAYS NO FAVORITES--REMEMBER TO TAKE THAT MALARIA PILL DAILY.

Vol. 3. No. 40 SUNDAY February 9, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT MONDAY Tomorrow's forecast calls for fair to partly cloudy skies. Winds will be variable at 3-8 knots. High temperature of 80' with a low of about 66'. Moon rise will be at 0045 hours and will set at 1219 hours.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Units of the 11th Inf. Bde. have been disrupting NVA staging areas west-northwest of Quang Ngai City for the past month, and yesterday was no exception.

Moving in on the heels of three very damaging air strikes in a small area 117 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai, Cos. A and B, 4-21 Inf. began a sweep that netted three NVA killed and huge stores of enemy supplies and ammo including 11 weapons, one crew-served.

Throughout southern I Corps on a relatively calm day, Americal Division forces reported killing 10 NVA and 11 VC, finding one VC body, detaining 14 VC suspects, capturing 12 weapons, one crew-served, and relocating 117 refugees.

In addition to the 4-21 Inf.'s activities, two other 11th Inf. Bde. elements accounted for four VC killed and one weapon captured.

Cos. A and B, 4-21 Inf., whose sweep continued today, were involved in six incidents between 1105 and 1400 hours yesterday in the NVA base camp area. In the past three weeks, heavy fighting with enemy forces has occurred from 5-11 1/2 miles west and northwest of Quang Ngai.

At 1105, Co. B. found the shattered base camp which had consisted of seven huts, each 8 by 10 feet, and the body of an NVA killed in the strikes. Included there in the supply and ammo cache were seven AK-47 rifles and an RPG-7.

Other items taken included: a flare pistol, 40 RPG-2 rounds, 68 RPG-7 rounds, 49 60mm rounds, 2200 AK-47 rounds, 228 Chicom grenades, seven bangalore torpedoes, and miscellaneous equipment.

Co. B later found a second NVA killed by the air strikes and engaged and killed an NVA in a firefight. In separate actions Co A. found three rifles--an M-16, AK-47, and K-44 when, at 1400, both units found additional caches.

Co. B. located two more huts and collected 26 RPG-7 rounds, 44 RPG charges, 53 Chicom grenades, 20 pounds of TNT, 18 pounds of C-4, seven rifle grenades, eight bangalore torpedoes, and 11 60mm rounds. Co. A also captured a PRC-10 radio, 250 AK-47 rounds, and a transmitter with switchboard.

In Operation Vernon Lake II, Co. D, 3-1 Inf. engaged eight VC and killed two 11 miles west-southwest of Quang Ngai. Co. C, 3-1 Inf. captured a K-44 rifle from an NVA who escaped a mile north of Duc Pho.

Also in the Duc Pho region, **Co. D, 1-20 Inf.** killed a VC 15 miles to the southeast, and **Co. B, 1-20 Inf.** killed a VC 15 miles to the southeast, and **Co. B, 1-20** Inf. killed a VC 5 1/2 miles to the northwest.

Three Americal units and a Marine company killed six NVA and three VC and captured an M-16 rifle in the 198th Inf. Bde. area and Operation Russell Beach.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. engaged six NVA, killed four, and captured the rifle 8 1/2 miles south-southwest of Tam Ky. In the same area, the gunships also destroyed nine structures in two actions.

A UH-1 helicopter, working with the **1-52nd Inf.**, twice engaged groups of three VC and each time killed one 8-9 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Btry, A, 3-18 Arty. fired on a group of 25-30 NVA 24 1/2 miles southwest of Chu Lai and killed two.

In Russell Beach, Marine Co. M, 3-26 Regt. found the body of a VC killed by artillery within the previous 24 hours 10 1/2 miles northeast of Quang Ngai.

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Three units of the 196th Inf. Bde. killed an NVA and two VC, captured a weapon, and relocated 117 refugees.

Co. B, 3-21 Inf. killed the NVA and captured an M1933 Soviet pistol 11 1/1 miles west of Tam Ky, and Co. A, 3-21 Inf. killed one of six VC engaged 11 1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

The recon unit of the 4-31 Inf. killed a VC 21 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

Five companies moved the 117 refugees in seven groups to an Hoa and Nui Loc Son from areas between 17 and 26 miles west and northwest of Tam Ky.

B Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. found a VC and killed one, and **F Trp., 8th Cav**. killed a VC in the 1-1 area.

At 1100, B Trp. found the body of a VC killed one or two days ago by artillery 15 1/2 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky and, and 1300 killed a VC in the same place. F Trp. killed a VC 11 1/2 miles north of Tam Ky.

One Americal Division soldier was killed, and four were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET
MG Charles M. Gettys, Commanding
MAJ Paul B. Parham, IO
SP4 Bill Elsen, Editor
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This News Sheet is published daily under the supervision of the IO, Americal Division APO 96374 as an authorized Army publication. Views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army.

Vol. 3. No. 41 MONDAY February 10, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT TUESDAY Tomorrow's forecast calls for fair to partly cloudy skies. Winds will be from the east-southeast at 5-10 knots. High temperature will be about 86' with a low of about 65'. The moon will rise at 0146 hours and will set at 1311 hours.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--One of the largest weapons caches found by an Americal Division unit in the Vietnam war was discovered yesterday by Co. C, **1-52nd Inf.** to highlight a day of moderate action in southern I Corps.

Americal forces reported killing 39 VC, detaining 15 VC suspects, and capturing 66 weapons, three crew-served. Also, 68 refugees were relocated, and 3500 pounds of rice were found and destroyed.

Co. C, **1-52nd Inf.**, led by CPT James Hall (San Antonio, Tex.), was patrolling a mountainous forest area near a rice paddy 12 1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky when a large outdoor classroom with desk and bleachers was spotted.

Hidden in the area were 52 individual weapons, including two Thompson submachineguns, a French MAT-49 submachinegun, 22 Chicom Type 52 carbines, 11 SKS rifles, six BARs, five M-1A1 carbines, two M-1 carbines, and a K-50 rifle.

Found with the weapons were 86 rifle grenades, one can each of M-16 and .30 cal ammo, three cans of mixed 9mm and AK-47 ammo, six BAR magazines, a 15-gallon can of oil, and protective mask. The classroom was destroyed.

Task Force Cooksey, originally an Americal-RVN group but later expanded to include Marine elements, broke up a t 1330 hours as Marines pulled off the Batangan Peninsula and several Americal units stayed behind at a new fire base and the refugee center near Quang Ngai.

In a delayed report, Marine Co. M, 3-26 Regt. killed two VC at 2010 Saturday. Co. B, 5-46 Inf. yesterday found an M-1 carbine on the peninsula.

Russell Beach totals show 206 VC killed, 201 VC infra-structure members captured, 140 VC suspects detained, 104 prisoners of war held, and 65 weapons taken, including six crew-served. More than 14,000 meters of tunnels were destroyed along with 241 structures.

The second highly productive barrage in five days of the 6-11 and 3-18 Arty. accounted for 20 of 28 VC killed in the 11th Inf. Bde. area. Ten weapons, three crew-served, were captured, and six VC suspects were detained.

The recon unit of the **1-20 Inf.** directed artillery fire on the two groups of 25 VC moving 10 and 11 1/2 miles south of Quang Ngai. At 1900, Btry,. C, 3-18 Arty. killed eight VC and, at 1935, Btry, A, 6-11 Arty. killed 12. The two artillery units had killed 26 VC Wednesday and Thursday.

Cos. A and B, 4-21 Inf. continued their probe of an area 17-18 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai where air strikes have been employed recently on suspected enemy staging areas.

In separate incidents, Co. A found a VC killed in the air strikes and killed a VC in a firefight. In four incidents both units found a 57mm recoilless rifle, an RPG-2, a .30 cal machinegun, seven AK-47 rifles, an M-72 LAW rocket, and an M-79 grenade launcher.

In two encounters, one at 2300 Saturday, Co. B, 4-3 Inf. killed three VC and captured a 9mm pistol 6 1/2 and nine miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

In the Duc Pho area, an Americal Long Range Patrol killed two VC three miles to the southwest, and on 11th Bde. Forward Air Control pilot found the body of a VC killed by air strikes 11 1/2 miles to the north-northwest.

Nine VC were killed in seven actions in the 196th Inf. Bde. area where 3500 pounds of rice were found, and 68 refugees were relocated.

In Operation Fayette Canyon, Co. B, 2-1 Inf. killed a VC 26 1/2 miles west-

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northwest of Tam Ky and, with Co. C, 2-1 Inf., moved the refugees in three groups from that area to An Hoa.

A UH-1 helicopter of the 26th Engr. Bn., working with the 3-21 Inf., took ground fire and returned it to kill two VC 14 1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

The recon unit of the 1-46 Inf. found 3500 pounds of rice in two caches in wooden crocks 15 miles northwest of Tam Ky. Nearby, Co. A, 3-21 Inf. killed a VC and, 11 miles west of Tam Ky, Co. B, 3-21 Inf. also killed a VC. Two miles beyond the recon unit, Co. A, 1-46 Inf. killed a VC.

The second platoon of F Trp., 17th Cav. killed two VC after they threw a grenade out of a spider hole 25 miles northwest of Tam Ky, and **F Trp., 8th Cav**. killed a VC 21 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

Four Americal Division soldiers were killed, and 14 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Volume 2 No. 42 Americal Daily New Sheet TUESDAY February 11, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT **Tomorrow's forecast calls for fair to partly cloudy skies. Winds will be southerly at 5-15 knots. High temperature will be about 86' with a low of about 66. The moon will rise at 0251 hours and will set at 1411 hours.**

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)— F Trp., 17th Cav. and Co. B, 2-1 Inf. working separately, yesterday killed two NVA and three VC without suffering a casualty in Operation Fayette Canyon.

A good ratio ? as good as can be, and it's indicative of what's been happening in the 196th Inf. Bde. operation designed to root out enemy troops in a mountainous jungle area some 25 miles west and northwest of Tam Ky.

Throughout southern I Corps yesterday, Americal Division forces reported killing seven NVA and 30 VC, detaining 70 VC suspects and capturing 12 weapons, one crew served.

Including the Fayette Canyon success, 196th units killed two NVA and 14 VC and captured an SKS rifle.

F Trp., 17th Cav. killed three VC in two incidents 24 1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky, and Co B killed two NVA in separate actions 25 and 25 1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

Those kills brought to 173 NVA and 78 VC killed and 65 NVA and five VC bodies found the totals for the 57 days since Operation Fayette Canyon began Dec. 15. In that time, only two Americal soldiers have been killed, placing the over-all ratio at slightly better than 160 to 1.

Fayette Canyon has also produced 34 enemy suspects, four NVA prisoners of war, three Hoi Chanhs, and 69 weapons, 14 of them crew-served.

Elsewhere in the 196th area, Co. A, 3-21 Inf. chased three VC who escaped into a spider hole 12 1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky. When they refused to emerge, the three VC were killed along with a fourth VC already in the hole with an SK that was seized. The 3-21 recon unit killed three VC at the same distance but west-southwest of Tam Ky.

Co. C, 4-31., working with Popular Force troops, killed two VC in separate incidents 24 miles west of Tam Ky and then helped 13 refugees more from the area to Nui Loc Son. Co. A, 4-31 Inf. relocated 44 refugees to Nui Lac Son from an area 13 miles west of Tam Ky.

Co. A, 1-46 killed a VC 16 miles west of Tam Ky and found 1500 pounds of rice beneath the floor of a nearby hut. A mile nearer Tam Ky, the 1-46 recon unit killed a VC.

Working with the 1-46 Inf., an element of F Trp., 17th Cav. found 2100 pounds of rice in two caches in a hole camouflaged with brush 22 miles northwest of Tam Ky. Co. D, 4-31 Inf. found 500 pounds of rice 20 miles wets of Tam Ky.

Air Force CPT Jack Stitzel (Phoenix, Ariz.), a Forward Air Control pilot for the 11th Inf. Bde., gave the 11th's totals a boost by finding seven VC killed in air strikes 9 1/2 and 11 1/2 miles north-northwest of Duc Pho.

CPT Stitzel, who also discovered a VC body Sunday, located five VC at

(Continued -1)

0835 hours and two more at 0926 yesterday as the 11th killed four NVA and 14 VC, detained 23 VC suspects, and captured six weapons.

Units of the 4-21 Inf., poking through another air strike area, killed two NVA and three VC and captured a rifle-per-man 15, 16, and 17 1/2 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai.

In two incidents, Co. A killed two NVA and a VC and captured an AK-47 and two SKS rifles. In two more encounters, Co. C also killed two NVA and a VC and took two AK-47s and a K-44. Co A found two motor bikes nearby and destroyed 500 pounds of salt.

In Operation Vernon Lake II, Co. D, 3-1 Inf. engaged an unknown-size enemy force and killed two VC 12 miles west-southwest of Quang Ngai. On the outskirts of the Duc Pho compound, Co. C, 3-1 Inf. killed a VC.

Other VC kills went to Co. D, 4-31 Inf. which killed one and detained 13 VC suspects 8 1/2 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai, and to a "Shark" gunship of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. 10 1/2 miles north-northwest of Duc ho.

Busy 198th Inf. Bde. units killed only one VC but detained 46 VC suspects and captured five weapons, one crew-served.

In the Batangan Peninsula area 11 miles northeast of Quang Ngai, Co. B, 5-46 Inf. found the weapons in two places. At 1240, Co. B pulled a K-44, an M-1 rifle and to unidentified U.S. carbines from a tunnel and, in mid-afternoon, found a 57mm recoilless rifle in a hole.

Nearby 10 minutes earlier, Co B. and elements of the 3-5 ARVN inf. discovered a 200-foot tunnel harboring 37 VC suspects. That brought to 41 Co. B's total of VC suspects detained in the area yesterday.

In the Oregon area, Co. C, **1-52nd Inf**. engaged five VC and killed on 8 1/2 miles west-southwest of Tam Ky. The other five VC suspects were detained in other parts of the Oregon area.

"Blue Ghosts" of **F Trp., 8th Cav.** killed an NVA and a VC in a 25-minute span 3 1/2 miles west of Tam Ky to account for all the action in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area. Neither kill occurred in Hardin Falls, the 1-1's current combat operation north-northwest of Tam Ky.

No Americal Division soldiers were killed, and two were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 43 WEDNESDAY February 12, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT THURSDAY Tomorrow's forecast calls for fair to partly cloudy skies. Winds will be south-southeasterly at 3-10 knots, gusting to 18 knots in the afternoon. High temperature will be about 86° with a low of about 67°. Moon will rise at 0357 and set at 1516.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (Americal IO)---Gunships, working with an independent of ground troops, counted for more than two-thirds of enemy kills in southern I Corps yesterday.

Americal Division forces reported killing three NVA and 23 VC, detaining 32 VC suspects, and capturing seven individual weapons in light and scattered action.

Most active among the gunships were "**Blue Ghosts" of F Trp., 8th Cav.,** "Aero Scout" Co. B of the 123d. Avn Bn., and "Sharks" of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. Two units were active in more than one operational area.

**** "**Blue Ghosts**" killed six of eight VC recorded in the 196th Inf. Bde. area, and all six kills came in Operation Fayette Canyon. One weapon was captured.

At 1313 hours, **F Trp.** engaged and killed two VC 26 miles northwest of Tam Ky. At 1327, another VC was killed a mile further northwest and, at 1336 in the same place, **F Trp.** killed three more VC.

At 0912, a 196th Forward Air Control pilot directed ground fire to destroy a 75 meter trench and draw a secondary explosion 21 miles northwest of Tam Ky. In two incidents in the same area, the F.C. pilot also directed destruction of two bunkers and drew four secondary explosions.

Co. A, 1-46 Inf. killed a VC 15-1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky, and Co. A, 3-21 Inf. killed the other VC 15 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky. Co. A, 4-31 Inf. found an SKS rifle in a hut and detained the hut's occupant 25 miles west-southwest of Tam Ky.

In the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area, "**Blue Ghosts**" killed four VC in as many encounters and joined C Trp., 1-1 to provide the over-all totals of two NVA and six VC killed and two weapons captured.

F Trp. killed two VC in a 25 minute span 5-1/2 miles west of Tam Ky and captured a K-50 rifle and a BAR in one action. The other kills came five miles west and eight miles north of Tam Ky.

C Trp. killed two NVA and two VC in separate incidents. The VC were killed at 1150 and the NVA at 1630 when C Trp. also captured 13 B-40 rockets, 50 60mm rounds, and 10 pounds of nitro starch. Both incidents occurred five miles west of Tam Ky.

Gunships of the "Aero Scout" company and a UH-1 working with the **1-52nd Inf**. killed all six VC in the 198th Inf. Bde. area, while a ground unit found three weapons.

"Aero Scouts" killed four VC at 1400 13 miles southwest of Tam Ky and a fifth VC a half-hour later after receiving small arms fire from a hut 14-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky. The UH-1 killed a VC seven miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Also in the Oregon area, Co. C, **1-52nd Inf.** took charge of a Vietnamese male who walked into the company base camp with his mother and said he wanted to Chieu Hoi.

At 1330 in the Batangan Peninsula area 11-1/2 miles northwest of Quang Ngai City, Co B, 5-46 Inf. detained 19 VC suspects and found two M-2 carbines and a K-44 rifle in a hole nearby.

An "Aero Scout" and a "Shark" killed three VC, and Co. D, 3-1 Inf.

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added an NVA and a weapon in light action in the 11th Inf. Bde. area.

At 0920, the "Aero Scout", piloted by CW2 Allan Danforth, killed one VC 3-1/2 miles north of Duc Pho and, at 1145, an "Aero Scout" found an destroyed 14 sampans 12 miles west of Quang Ngai.

The "Shark", piloted by WO1 Warren Smith (St. Louis, Mo.) and 1Lt. Steve Kennedy (Dallas, Tex.), killed two VC 9-1/2 miles north-northwest of Duc Pho.

In Operation Vernon Lake II, Co. D killed an NVA and took his M-1 carbine 12-1/2 miles west-southwest of Quang Ngai.

One Americal Division soldier was killed, and 15 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 45 FRIDAY February 14, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT SATURDAY Tomorrow's forecast calls for fair to partly cloudy skies in the morning, becoming mostly cloudy in the afternoon. Chance of isolated rain showers in the afternoon. Winds will be southwesterly at 5-15 knots. High temperature, 84°, low, 65°.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--F Trp., 17th Cav. and Popular Force soldiers, working together, were the most productive units during a second consecutive day of very light action in southern I Corps yesterday.

Americal Division forces reported killing one NVA and 10 VC, finding one VC body, detaining eight VC suspects, and capturing eight individual weapons.

F Trp. and the PF's killed four VC in three incidents that comprised all the action in the 196th Inf. Bde area.

At 0850 hours, the two units detained two VC suspects and killed one when he tried to escape. Another escape attempt was foiled at 1330 when two VC were found hiding in a hole and were killed when they tried to flee.

At 1130, a tunnel found in a river bank was cleared with grenades. One VC was killed, and three VC suspects were detained. The latter two actions occurred 11-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky and the first a half-mile further away.

Companies from three battalions killed an NVA and two VC, found a VC body, detained four VC suspects, and captured four weapons in nine incidents in the 11th Inf. Bde. area.

Working 12 miles northwest of Duc Pho, **Co. A, 1-20 Inf.** killed a VC and captured an SKS rifle, then found a BAR nearby. Co. B, 1-20 Inf. killed a VC 4-1/2 miles north-northwest of Duc Pho. Those two companies and D. Co. detained the VC suspects.

In Operation Vernon Lake II, Co. D, 3-1 Inf. found the day-old grave of an NVA killed by small arms fire 11-1/2 miles south-southwest of Quang Ngai.

Co. C, 3-1 Inf., operating 4-1/2 miles southwest of Duc Pho, found an enemy base camp that included eight huts. Captured were two SKS rifles, five B-40 rockets, nine B-40 charges, a 30-pound shaped charge, and assorted NVA equipment.

**** Units of the 198th Inf. Bde. and supporting gunships killed three VC, captured four weapons, raided two ammo caches, and destroyed four structures.

In the Oregon area at 1020, the third platoon of Co. A, **1-52nd Inf.** found and destroyed a tunnel containing 90 Chicom and homemade grenades and, at 1230 the second platoon found a cache in a hut that contained two K-50 rifles, nine Chicom grenades, and assorted ammo and documents.

At 1515, Co. A received small arms fire from an unknown size enemy force and returned it to kill a VC and capture two AK-47 rifles. All incidents involving Co. A took place 7-1/2 miles south-southwest of Tam Ky.

Co. D, **1-52nd Inf.** killed a VC 7-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

At 1100, a gunship of the "Aero Scout" Co. of the 123d Avn. Bn., piloted by 1Lt. Andrew Wise, killed a VC carrying rice and other foodstuffs. The chopper also destroyed four structures in the area.

Forward Air Control pilots of the 198th directed five air strikes that destroyed three structures and damaged two, destroyed 50 meters of trenches, and caused one secondary fire.

**** **"Blue Ghosts" of F Trp., 8th Cav.** killed a VC 9-1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky in the only incident in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area.

**** A UH-1 resupply helicopter crashed and burned after striking a steel utility pole on takeoff 4-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky. Exploding ammo inside the chopper caused the fire. Eight Americans were injured and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report. *[14th Avn Bn, BT353184 at 1345H. 1) Resupply chopper lifting off from CAP 113 position struck telephone pole, crashed and burned. 2) D/O comp for 8 NBW (E) to 312th Surg.]*

Excluding the chopper crash, three Americal Division soldiers were killed, and nine were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 46 SATURDAY February 15, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT SUNDAY Tomorrow's forecast calls for fair skies. Winds will be southeasterly at 8-15 knots. High temperature will be about 86° with a low of about 68°. Moon rise will be at 0646 and will set at 1831.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Cos. A and B, 4-3 Inf. yesterday discovered one good reason why they've been retained to operate in the 198th Inf. Bde. area since the combat phase of Operation Russell Beach ended earth this week.

Normally part of the 11th Inf. Bde., the two "Old Guard" units encountered a large VC force in a three-mile area northeast of Quang Ngai City and killed 26 while detaining 31 VC suspects.

Including those totals, Americal Division forces reported killing one NVA and 44 VC, detaining 42 VC suspects, and capturing three individual weapons as action increased throughout southern I Corps.

Between 1030 and 1730 hours, Cos. A and B, 4-3 Inf. engaged VC seven times from 4-1/2-6-1/2 miles northeast of Quang Ngai. Those actions accounted for all but four VC kills in the 198th area where six more VC suspects were also detained.

At 1930, Co. A engaged and killed five VC, and Co. B dominated action from 1100 to 1730.

In sequence, Co. B engaged five VC and killed three, engaged and killed 11, killed one, engaged 10 and killed four, killed one hiding in the false wall of a hut, and found a VC killed by small arms fire within the previous 24 hours.

The 31 VC suspects included several military-age males without ID cards and were weeded out of a group of more than 600 people detained in the area throughout the day. The vast majority were quickly released.

In other 198th action, Co. D, **1-52nd Inf.** backed by artillery support, killed three VC and detained two VC suspects after encountering an unknown-size force 10-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky, and H Trp., 17th Cav. killed a VC 9-1/2 miles northeast of Quang Ngai no the Batangan Peninsula.

Co. A, 5-46 Inf. and the 2-5 ARVN Inf. teamed to blow a tunnel and detain four VC suspects in another tunnel on the southern end of the peninsula.

A gunship of the "Aero Scouts" Co. of the 123d Avn. Bn., piloted by WO1 Donald McKenzie (Birmingham, Ala.) and working with 198th ground troops, spotted four tunnel entrances and six fresh graves and destroyed two huts in an area some 13 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

**** Cos. C and D, 3-21 Inf. killed five VC in as many incidents to top 196th Inf. Bde. units which totaled seven VC kills.

Co. D, 3-21 Inf. killed three VC 16 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

Co. C, 1-46 Inf. and a UH-1 helicopter working with the 1-46 Inf. each killed a VC 20 and 21 miles, respectively, north-northeast of Tam Ky.

Co. A, 2-1 Inf. relocated 38 Vietnamese refugees to Que Son from an area 21 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

**** Light action concentrated in the Duc Pho area was again the story for 11th Inf. Bde. units which killed an NVA and a VC, detained five VC suspects, captured a weapon, and destroyed 42 huts.

Co. D, 4-21 Inf., working 10-1/2 miles south-southwest of Duc Pho, engaged two NVA, killed one, and captured a K-50 rifle. A "Shark" gunship of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co., piloted by WO1 Robert Thomas (Birmingham, Ala.), killed the VC and destroyed 15 huts 6-1/2 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

In Operation Vernon Lake II, Co. D, 3-1 Inf. found and destroyed 27

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huts 13 miles west-southwest of Quang Ngai, and Co. A, 3-1 Inf. found and evacuated 2000 SKS rounds and 15 60mm rounds 16 miles southwest of Quang Ngai.

**** **"Blue Ghosts" of F Trp., 8th Cav**. and C Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. each killed three VC, and C Trp. captured two weapons in four incidents in the 1/1 area.

F Trp. killed four VC in three incidents four and 5-1/2 miles west and eight miles northwest of Tam Ky. C Trp. engaged and killed three VC and captured an AK-47 rifle and an M-1 carbine four miles west-southwest of Tam Ky.

**** Eight Americal Division soldiers were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 47 SUNDAY February 16, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT Tomorrow's forecast calls for fair to partly cloudy skies. Winds will be east-southerly at 5-15 knots. High temperature will be about 85° with a low of about 68°. Moon rise will be at 0733 and will set at 1930.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--"Shark" and "Aero Scout" gunship pilots provided strong air support, and the 6-11 Arty. joined elements of three battalions on the ground to help the 11th Inf. Bde. total 18 VC kills in 10 scattered incidents yesterday.

Throughout southern I Corps, Americal Division forces reported killing 33 VC, detaining nine VC suspects, and capturing one individual weapon.

**** "Sharks" of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. and Co. C, 4-21 Inf. combined to kill 10 VC in four incidents 11 miles east and east-southeast of Quang Ngai between 1530 and 1630 hours.

At 1530, a "Shark", piloted by WO1 Robert Thomas (Birmingham, Ala.), killed a VC and, 20 minutes later, WO1 William Cooper (Alexandria, Va.) maneuvered his "Shark" to kill three VC.

At 1610, Co. C killed a VC, and 20 minutes later, killed five VC. The last three incidents occurred in the same place.

Firing from his "Aero Scout" gunship, CW2 Allan Danforth (Birmingham, Ala.), killed one VC, destroyed two huts and one bunker, and detained four VC suspects in the area.

In Operation Vernon Lake II, Cos. B and C, 3-1 Inf. each killed a VC 15-15-1/2 miles southwest of Quang Ngai.

Cos. B and C, 1-20 Inf. also killed a VC apiece six miles east and 4-1/2 miles west-northwest, respectively, of Duc Pho. Co. B, 4-21 Inf. adjusted fire from Btry. A, 6-11 Arty. to kill one of two VC spotted 9-1/2 miles west-southwest of Duc Pho.

**** Co. B, 3-21 Inf. killed five VC in three incidents to top 196th Inf. Bde. units which totaled nine VC killed in six encounters.

At 1130, the first and second platoons of Co. B each killed two VC 11-1/2 miles west of Tam Ky. Co. B added a fifth VC kill at 1910 a half-mile nearer Tam Ky.

The recon unit of the 4-31 Inf. killed two VC 21 miles west of Tam Ky, and **"Blue Ghosts" of F Trp., 8th Cav.** engaged two VC and killed one 23-1/2 miles west of Tam Ky. F Trp., 17th Cav. also engaged two VC and killed on 9-1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

**** Units of the 198th Inf. Bde. killed six VC and captured one weapon, while a Forward Air Control pilot and another "Aero Scout" pilot used air strikes and the gunship to raise havoc with enemy fortifications.

An Americal Long Range Patrol engaged seven VC, killed three and captured a Springfield model 03 rifle in a brief skirmish 11 miles southwest of Chu Lai.

Near the Batangan Peninsula, Co. B and recon, 4-3 Inf. killed three VC in two incidents six miles northeast of Quang Ngai.

Air Force CPT Jack L. Dickens (Madison, W. Va.) directed 12 air strikes throughout the 198th area to destroy 13 structures and damage one, and cause seven secondary fires and a secondary explosion.

"Aero Scout" pilot 1LT Thomas O'Hara (Boston, Mass.) destroyed 26 huts some eight miles southwest of Tam Ky.

**** In the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area, B Trp., 1-1 found and destroyed a tunnel complex, two new bunkers, and trench
lines in areas 4-1/2 and six miles west of Tam Ky.

**** The South Vietnamese Government yesterday announced a 24-hour allied standdown starting at 1800 hours today. Enemy forces had previously declared a seven-day truce beginning yesterday in observance of the TET holidays.

**** One Americal Division soldier was killed, and seven were wounded and evacuated for medial treatment, according to an initial report.

In the past week, 12 VC and 189 NVA were killed in the Americal area. Fewer than 10 Americal Division soldiers were killed.

Vol. 3 No. 50 WEDNESDAY February 19, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT THURSDAY Tomorrow's forecast calls for fair and hazy skies. Winds will be from the southeast at 5-15 knots in the afternoon. High temperature will be about 87° with a low of about 72°. Moon rise will be at 0920 hours and will set at 2209 hours.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Americal Division forces engaged and killed enemy troops in 13 incidents yesterday in light action following the 24-hour allied standdown which has slowed action to a minimum throughout southern I Corps Monday.

Twenty VC were killed and four VC bodies found in the 13 clashes, and tow individual weapons were captured in separate actions. Americal units also detained 11 VC suspects and found and destroyed 7650 pounds of and grain.

**** One unit of the 11th Inf. Bde. and supporting gunships killed six VC, found four VC bodies, detained a VC suspect, and found a small mortar cache.

In Operation Vernon Lake II, a UH-1 helicopter, working with the 3-1 Inf., directed 6-11 Arty. fire to kill one VC and later found the bodies of four VC killed by artillery more than a day ago. Both incidents occurred 17 miles south-west of Quang Ngai.

Also in Vernon Lake II, Co. D, 3-1 Inf. found and evacuated 48 82mm mortar rounds 14 miles southwest of Quang Ngai.

The recon unit of the 4-21 Inf. found in graves the badly-burned bodies of four VC killed in air strikes within the previous 24 hours 13-1/2 miles north-northwest of Duc Pho.

At 0835 hours, a "Shark" gunship of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co., piloted by WO1 Robert E. Thomas (Birmingham, Ala.), killed a VC a half-mile from the scene of the recon discovery.

**** Co. C, 3-21 Inf., working 13 miles northwest of Tam Ky, killed five VC in two incidents, an three other elements of the 196th Inf. Bde. added two more VC killed and a weapon taken.

A UH-1 helicopter, working with the 4-31 Inf., killed a VC near Highway 534 26 miles west of Tam Ky, and Co. B, 4-31 Inf. observed eight VC with packs 23 miles northwest of Tam Ky. The packs, filled with rice, were recovered along with an M-2 carbine.

Co. A, 4-31 Inf. called artillery to sink a sampan carrying two VC suspects 26 miles west of Tam Ky.

At 0950, "Blue Ghosts" of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed a VC 15 miles northwest of Tam Ky and, between 1645 and 1710, destroyed 12 sampans 25-26-1/2 miles west of Tam Ky.

At 0910, Co. A, 26th Engr. Bn. found and destroyed a booby-trapped bamboo archway built over Highway 535 17 miles northwest of Tam Ky. Several NVA propaganda leaflets were evacuated from the area.

**** Cos. A and B, 4-3 Inf. killed six VC and detained 10 VC suspects, while other units working in the 198th Inf. Bde. area captured a weapon and destroyed a tunnel and 7650 pounds of rice and grain.

Co. B, 4-3 Inf. killed five VC in three encounters five and 9-1/2 miles northeast of Quang Ngai, and Co. A killed one VC six miles northeast of Quang Ngai. In four incidents, Co. A rounded up 10 VC suspects and 26 women between ages 50-70 who had no ID cards and apparently had been forced to accompany the VC suspects.

The infantry platoon of "Aero Scout" Co. B of the 123d Avn. Bn. found a 12-gauge shotgun 10 miles west-southwest of Chu Lai where the platoon

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encountered booby-trapped trails in a well fortified old base camp area. The camp was destroyed as was assorted small arms ammo and a new squad-size camp found 100 meters away.

Co. A, 5-46 Inf. found the tunnel and grain and rice in different incidents 10 miles northeast of Quanq Ngai.

Air Force CPT David B. Griswold (Williamsport, Pa.), a 198th Forward Air Control Pilot, directed four of nine air strikes in the 198th area to destroy 23 structures and damage five, and cause two secondary explosions and two secondary fires.

Other air strikes destroyed an additional eight structures and one bunker, and caused three more secondary fires.

**** **F. Trp., 8th Cav**. killed its second VC of the day in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area 11 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

**** Six Americal Division soldiers were killed, and 23 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

****AVOID IMMERSION FOOT!

1. Massage your feet.
2. Change socks often.
3. Sometimes wear boots without socks.
4. Lace boots from third hole at bottom.
5. Expose your feet to the sun as much as possible.
6. Wear shower shoes in base camp.

Vol. 3 No. 54 SUNDAY February 23, 1969

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)----Striking with small arms fire, recoilless rifle, mortar, and rocket fire, enemy forces directed 37 attacks against 30 allied positions in southern I Corps between 0117 and 0700 hours this morning.

NVA and VC elements, sometimes working together, made ground probes at six sites, three of which were manned by Regular Force units and one of which is an ARVN OP.

The Chu Lai Defense Command area was hit at 0152, 0230, and 0700 hours by 82mm mortar and 122mm rocket rounds. The first barrage included 18-20 82mm mortars, the second three 122mm rockets, and the third brought at least 12 rocket rounds approximately 40 minutes after daybreak.

Other Americal Division positions attacked by the enemy included the following LZs: Bronco (four attacks), Bayonet (two), Gator, Cork, Dottie, Liz, Buff, Hawk Hill, Baldy, Hill 69, Professional, and Hill 38. Among other sites hit were Binh Son, Tam Ky, Song Tinh, and the An Tan bridge area.

First reports showed at least 19 enemy soldiers killed, and at least 16 individual weapons captured. Fifteen kills and all the weapons were recorded by A Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. which subdued a large enemy force slightly west of Tam Ky at 0740.

Fewer than 10 Americal Division soldiers were killed, and 51 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to initial reports. A preliminary assessment of Americal positions under attack indicated that damage was light.

**** Action before 2400 hours in southern I Corps was moderate and divided almost evenly throughout the Americal's three brigade area. Twenty-six contacts with enemy units were made.

Americal forces reported killing six NVA and 29 VC, detained 26 VC suspects, capturing seven individual weapons, and evacuating 4350 pounds of rice.

**** Four elements of the 4-31 Inf. and two of the 2-1 Inf. killed five NVA and five VC and captured four weapons in the 196th Inf. Bde. area. A sixth NVA was also killed.

Co. D, 2-1 Inf. and its companion Popular Force team were involved in the area's largest single encounter at 0822 hours when an unknown-size enemy force sprang an ambush 20-1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

After receiving 15-20 rounds of automatic weapons fire, Co. D and the PF's returned fire to kill two NVA and a VC. A later sweep of the rugged area turned up two SKS rifles and two M-16 rifles.

In three actions, Co. D, 4-31 Inf. killed an NVA and a VC and Co. B, 4-31 Inf. killed two NVA 26 miles west of Tam Ky. Co. A engaged three VC with mortar fire and killed one a mile closer to Tam Ky while a UH-1 helicopter with the 4-31 killed a VC 18 miles west of Tam Ky.

A 2-1 Inf. observation post spotted seven VC nearby and directed artillery fire to kill one 19 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

The remaining NVA was killed by Co. A, 1-46 Inf. 21 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

F. Trp., 17th Cav., working an area 14-1/2-15-1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky, found and evacuated 4350 pounds of rice in five caches ranging from

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600 to 1700 pounds apiece.

Companies of the 4-3 Inf. and C Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. totaled nine VC killed and two weapons captured in nine incidents in the 198th Inf. Bde. area. The 4-3 and C Trp. are OPCON to the 198th.

Co. D, 4-3 Inf. killed four VC in three incidents and utilized a Short Range Recon Patrol which killed a fifth VC. Four kills occurred in an area 7-1/2-8 miles northwest of Quang Ngai, and the fifth three miles further northwest.

Co. B, 4-3 Inf. killed a VC 11-1/2 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai, and the 4-3 recon unit found an AK-47 rifle a half-mile away. In separate incidents, Co. B detained 13 of 26 VC suspects halted in the 198th area and also destroyed a tunnel. Co. C also blew a tunnel after removing six VC suspects.

C Trp. killed three VC in two encounters seven miles west-southwest of Tam Ky and then found an SKS rifle in the same general area. Working with C Trp., Co. A, **1-52nd Inf**. killed two VC and, 45 minutes later, found 10 pounds of C-4 in a tunnel and blew both together.

**** Co. A, 3-1 Inf. added seven VC kills to the impressive total in Operation Vernon Lake II as 11th Inf. Bde. units killed 10 VC, detained three VC suspects, and captured one weapon.

Co. A, operating 17-18 miles southwest of Quang Ngai, engaged VC elements four times between 1400 and 17445 and killed seven. Since Vernon Lake II began Nov. 2, 118 NVA and 226 VC have been killed, and 34 NVA and 38 VC bodies found. Of 145 weapons captured, five were crew-served.

Cos. B and C, 1-20 Inf. each killed a VC 5-1/2 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai and seven miles southeast of Duc Pho, respectively. A "Shark" gunship of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co., working with Co. C, killed a VC.

The **1-20 recon** unit found an AK-47 rifle 6-1/2 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

"Blue Ghosts" of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed three VC in as many incidents in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area between 1642 and 1735. The actions occurred 6-1/2 miles and eight miles west of Tam Ky and 10 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

****

Prior to 2400, one Americal Division soldier was killed, and 12 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 55 MONDAY February 24, 1969

[Historian Note: This reports action from February 23, 1969. This was one of the most intense day of fighting in not only the Americal Division, but throughout all of South Vietnam.]

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Led by three troops of the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. and gunships of the 174 Aslt. Hel. Co. and **F. Trp., 8th Cav.,** Americal Division forces rebounded sharply from seven hours of early-morning enemy attacks against more than 40 positions in southern I Corps yesterday.

Although the number of contacts with enemy troops was average (24), action was extremely heavy as Americal units killed 10 NVA and 159 VC, found five VC bodies, and captured 32 weapons, four crew served.

The cavalry and gunships accounted for 134 enemy dead in three major incidents in the Tam Ky and Duc Pho areas.

Between 0117 and approximately 0800 hours, NVA and VC elements launched ground, small arms, recoilless rifle, mortar and rocket attacks on 11 landing zones, four observation posts, three night defensive positions, three Special Forces camps, seven district headquarters areas, and one provincial capital.

The Chu Lai Defense Command area received 66 122mm and 140mm rockets and 18-20 82mm mortars yesterday morning. Twenty-six rockets landed in the sea, and damage throughout the five-sector CLDC area was described as light.

**** Trps. A and C, 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. killed seven NVA and 59 VC, and the 1-1 command-and-control helicopter and four "Blue Ghosts" gunships of **F Trp., 8th Cav.** killed 16 in only six incidents.

The major action occurred barely west of the Tam Ky airstrip in the Pineapple Forest where Americal units caught an estimated VC battalion in the open and began a fierce 55-minute battle at 1030.

Touching off subsequent events was a ground attack by a mixed enemy force on a Regular Force OP in the Pineapple area. The enemy held half the hill at 0415 when a platoon of A Trp., arrived to extract five wounded American advisors.

By 0700, the enemy was in complete control, and the A Trp. platoon was redeployed to counterattack. Behind a 40-minute small arms and mortar barrage, the "Dragoons" routed the insurgents by killing seven NVA and eight VC and capturing 10 AK-47 rifles and six assorted M-1 rifles and carbines.

Anticipating further trouble, the 1-1 moved B Trp. in to search and clear and brought C Trp. up to block southern approaches to the Pineapple area. At 0935, the entire A Trp. entered the area to relieve pressure on an ARVN unit under fire.

Leading Trps. A, B, and C, respectively, were CPT Earl V. Shackerford (Hopkinsville, Ky.), CPT Larry Beale (Macon, Ga.), and CPT Kenneth Lamison Jr. (El Paso, Tex.).

Big action started shortly after 1000 when a recon flight by the 1-1 command-and-control helicopter drew ground fire. The C&C notified a "Blue Ghosts" team and coordinated troop moves on the ground. A platoon of A Trp. attacked a large enemy force in the open, and C Trp. advanced from the south.

The C&C chopper killed nine VC at 1030, and four "**Blue Ghosts**" moved with C Trp. as the enemy forces fanned out in an area 600 meters long and 400 meters wide. Bordered on two sides by heavy forest, the area sloped into rice paddies from a hill in the center.

"There were so many people on the ground that we had to wait before hitting while we marked friendly troop positions," said CPT Lonnie Reavis (Waterloo, Iowa), who commanded the F Trp. gunships.

(Continued -1)

Piloting the "**Blue Ghosts**" were 1LT Richard Watson (Columbus, Ga.), CW2 John Wiley (Smyrna, Tenn.), CW2 Fred Nicoley (Rodelo, W. Va.), and WO1 Thomas Hunter (South Bend, Ind.).

At 1118, A Trp. slammed into the area to kill 29 VC and C Trp. followed seven minutes later with 12 kills and two rifles captured. Working just above C Trp., the four "**Blue Ghosts**", hampered slightly by a low ceiling and haze, killed nine VC.

Ten minutes later, A Trp. chopped up a squad-size unit and killed 10 VC before contact was broken as enemy troops fled into the dense foliage. At noon, B Trp. moved through the area on a sweep but did not reestablish contact.

No Americal soldiers were killed and one was wounded and evacuated for medical treatment.

**** Four "Shark" gunships of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. killed 50 VC in two significant incidents near Duc Pho. Other 11th Bde. units killed 11 VC.

"Shark" action started in early-morning when WO1 John Pennington (Newark, Ohio) spotted rocket and mortar flashes from his perch atop a high hill in the middle of the 11th Bde. headquarters at LZ Bronco.

WO1 Pennington called artillery on the flash points, but the "Sharks" remained atop and at the foot of the hill where they waited to scramble as a reactionary force. Their work day began in earnest at 0500 when a large VC force threatened the Duc Pho airstrip.

Scrambling quickly west, four "Sharks" caught the VC in the open and killed 23 before pulling off to refuel and rearm. In addition to WO1 Pennington, the other pilots were WO1 Ellsworth Beebe (Tiffin, Ohio), WO1 William Cooper (Huddleston, Va.), and WO1 Robert Thomas (Birmingham, Ala.).

At approximately 0900 hours, rocket launches were spotted from LZ Liz. six miles northwest of Duc Pho. Artillery fire in the area was impossible because of an Americal patrol nearby.

On arrival, the "Sharks" caught a large VC group at the launch site before it could reach cover of a well-fortified bunker nearby. Despite ground fire, the "Sharks" killed 27 VC and destroyed 20 huts in the area to silence the intruders.

Elsewhere in the 11th area, four units of the 3-1 Inf. killed nine VC in four incidents in Operation Vernon Lake II. Two were killed in an unsuccessful ground attack at an LZ. The two remaining VC kills went to **Co. B, 1-20 Inf.** which put down a probe at another LZ.

**** All but one of seventeen VC killed in the 198th Inf. Bde. area were caught trying to breach perimeters in four incidents at three LZs. Of nine individual and four crew-served weapons captured, eight were taken in the abortive ground attacks.

Sweeps in the 198th area turned up approximately 60 sites from which rockets were fired in the morning. 1LT Andrew Wise (Columbus, Ga.), flying an "Aero Scout" gunship for the 123d Avn. Bn., spotted 40-60 sites in the Chu Lai area.

Co. A, **1-52nd Inf.**, working 8-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky, detained three children, ages five to 11, who indicated they had been attending a VC class on helicopter sniping techniques. Technical charts were found nearby.

**** Co. D, 2-1 Inf. killed three NVA, captured a .38-cal pistol, and found four VC killed by artillery a week ago in four incidents in the 196th Inf. Bde. area. Other 196th units killed four VC and found a fifth VC body in four other encounters.

**** Six Americal Division soldiers were killed, and 57 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 56 TUESDAY February 25, 1969

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Four units of the 3-1 Inf. and two of the 3-21 Inf. led the way as Americal Division troops engaged the enemy 17 times and withstood several assaults on Americal positions in southern I Corps yesterday.

Americal units reported killing three NVA and 27 VC, and capturing two individual and one crew-served weapons as both the rate and volume of action dropped considerably after Sunday's hectic events.

Enemy probes against four LZs were reported between 2400 hours Sunday and 0500 this morning. At 1815 yesterday, one sector of the Chu Lai Defense Command received three 122mm rockets which caused no casualties or damage.

**** Nine VC were killed by 3-1 Inf. troops in Operation Vernon Lake II, and another 3-1 unit killed two VC near Duc Pho as 11th Inf. Bde. forces killed one NVA and 14 VC.

A UH-1 helicopter, working with the 3-1, called mortar fire from Co. E, 3-1 Inf. to kill four VC 12 miles southwest of Quang Ngai, and the 3-1 recon unit killed two VC a mile beyond.

Operating 17-1/2-18 miles southwest of Quang Ngai, Co. A killed three VC in two incidents. Co. B killed two VC in separate encounters barely southeast of Duc Pho.

Air Force CPT Jack Stitzel (Phoenix, Ariz.), an 11th Bde. Forward Air Control pilot, directed air strikes seven miles west-northwest of Duc Pho to kill three VC and destroy three camouflaged huts.

A mortar platoon of Co. **C, 1-20 Inf.** killed an NVA 6-1/2 miles south of Duc Pho, and Co. C detained three VC suspects without ID cards two miles nearer Duc Pho.

**** Cos. A and B, 3-21 Inf. accounted for nine of 10 VC killed and captured a weapon in the 196th area where 2900 pounds of rice were also found.

In delayed reports of Sunday action, Co. A killed two VC at 1830 and found an AK-47 rifle 15 minutes later 8-1/2 miles west of Tam Ky. In two incidents yesterday, Co. A directed artillery fire on groups of eight and five VC to kill five and one, respectively, eight miles west of Tam Ky.

Co. B killed a VC 13 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky, and a UH-1 helicopter, working with the 4-31 Inf., killed a VC 24-1/2 miles west of Tam Ky.

Co. C, 1-46 Inf. found and evacuated 2900 pounds of rice buried in camouflaged crocks 18 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

**** Comparative quiet descended on the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area after a frenzied Sunday morning which saw 84 enemy soldiers killed in six incidents. Two NVA and a VC were killed yesterday, and one crew-served weapon was destroyed.

At 1650, B Trp., 1-1 engaged an unknown-size enemy force and killed two NVA three miles southeast of Tam Ky. Another B Trp. element found and destroyed five bunkers 3-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. flew into .50-cal fire 2-1/2 miles south of Tam Ky and eliminated the problem by killing a VC and destroyed the machinegun.

**** Two VC were killed and an AK-47 rifle taken in the 198th Inf. Bde. area as "Brave and Bold" troops intensified patrolling near Chu Lai and below Tam

(Continued -1)

Ky where several enemy rockets and mortar attacks were launched in the past two mornings.

In three incidents, two LZs reported receiving enemy fire and one attempted ground probe yesterday.

Co. A, **1-52nd Inf**. rooted out one trouble spot by finding and destroying a tunnel complex in one LZ area 11-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

H Trp., 17th Cav. killed a VC and captured the rifle 11 miles southeast of Chu Lai, and Co. C, 1-6 Inf. ambushed and killed a VC 5-1/2 miles west of Chu Lai.

A UH-1 helicopter of the 176th Aslt. Hel. Co. crashed and burned after receiving heavy .50-cal fire three miles south of Tam Ky. Four Americans were killed in the crash.

**** Seven Americal Division soldiers were killed, one was listed as missing in hostile action, and 33 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

****

Vol. 3 No. 57 WEDNESDAY February 26, 1969

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--NVA and VC elements in the Tam Ky area are finding out that large enemy gatherings within striking distance of the city are not very popular with the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav.

For the second time in three days, troops of the 1st tangled with, then mangled an estimated battalion-size enemy force harassing the Tam Ky area. Yesterday's six-hour clash killed 167 NVA and one VC after Sunday's 55-minute battle left seven NVA and 77 VC dead.

On a busy day throughout southern I Corps, Americal Division forces reported killing 171 NVA and 42 VC, and capturing 18 weapons, four crew-served.

**** Action began for the 1-1 at 1220 hours when the third platoon of B Trp., led by 1LT Larry D. Smith, ran into intense RPG and automatic weapons fire from a wooded hill near the Tam Ky River where the platoon was on a search and clear mission three miles south of Tam Ky.

After immediately returning fire, the platoon lined up and assaulted the NVA force in well-fortified trenches and underground bunkers. **"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav**. worked overhead in the densely-wooded, swampy area.

When one platoon attack was thrown back, the second platoon joined its troopmates, and elements of C Trp. began arriving in the area. All units poured heavy fire on the NVA position, and B Trp. killed the VC at 1540.

At 1600, both B Trp. platoons and the first C Trp. reinforcements grouped and stormed the hill again. Within 15 minutes, close contact was established, and heavy fighting raged until nightfall about 1900 when the Cav. troops moved into a night defensive position around the hill.

At 1740, B Trp. engaged and killed 10 NVA in the lone incident isolated from the general melee that sputtered between 1300 and 1600 and picked up from 1600 to 1900.

In six hours of fighting, C Trp., led by CPT Kenneth Lamison Jr. (El Paso, Tex.), killed 143 NVA, B Trp. nine, and a Headquarters Trp. element five. Two Americans were killed, and 11 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment.

Collected during the afternoon were four AK-47 rifles, a .45-cal pistol, a .50-cal machinegun, a 7.62mm Chicom machinegun, an RPG-7, and RPG-2.

In the 1-1's Operation Hardin Falls, A Trp. killed five VC and captured three K-44 rifles in a firefight with 10-12 VC 14 -1/2 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky.

**** Two "Aero Scout: gunships of the 123d Avn. Bn. killed 12 VC in support of an ARVN element 1-1/2 miles southwest of Quang Ngai to top action in the 198th Inf. Bde. area where four other incidents produced one NVA and seven VC killed and three weapons taken.

Co. B, **1-52nd Inf.**, led by CPT Jerry W. Lindsay (Enox, Ohio), engaged and killed five VC and captured two AK-47 rifles seven miles southwest of Tam Ky, and Co. A, **1-52nd Inf**. killed an NVA and a VC in separate incidents five miles further southwest.

Co. C, 4-3 Inf. killed a VC and took a 9mm pistol five miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

At 1450 eight miles southwest of Chu Lai, Co. B, 1-6 Inf. found a large rocket launch site with five well-camouflaged huts, all 15 by 20 feet, and 12

(Continued -1)

well-built bunkers. None of the site was visible from the air.

In the area were a rocket storage area 200 by 300 meters, a sizable room, rocket aiming stakes, and in the bunkers were empty rocket crates. Fifteen fresh graves were found.

An "Aero Scout" recon flight turned up 12 rocket blast holes, well-used trails, two camouflaged huts, five fresh graves, and an apparent enemy training center.

**** Two battalions of the 11th Inf. Bde. killed three NVA and seven VC and took a weapon, and E Trp., 1st Cav. found two weapons in six incidents in the Quang Ngai and Duc Pho areas.

Co. B, 1-20 Inf., let by CPT John R. Hill (Winchendon, Mass.), found three NVA killed by the 6-11 Arty. within the previous 24 hours five miles northwest of Duc Pho and, a half-mile away, found a VC killed by small arms fire and killed one of three VC engaged.

Co. C, 3-1 Inf. engaged seven VC and killed two a mile northwest of Duc Pho and, in Operation Vernon Lake II, Co. A, 3-1 Inf. killed three VC 16 miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

E. Trp. found an SKS rifle and an M-1 carbine seven miles south of Quang Ngai and later found and destroyed a 750-pound bomb.

**** Co. A, 1-46 Inf. killed seven of 10 VC recorded in the 196th Inf. Bde. area.

At 1130, Co. A killed a VC 21 miles northwest of Tam Ky and, at 1915, killed six of 25 VC engaged three miles nearer Tam Ky.

Co. D, 4-31 Inf., working 29 miles west of Tam Ky, killed a VC and relocated 23 Vietnamese refugees to Nui Loc Son. Co. D, 2-1 Inf. directed artillery to kill one of nine VC seen moving 21-1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

**** Three Americal Division soldiers were killed, and 16 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 58 THURSDAY February 27, 1969

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action returned to a more normal pace yesterday as the newly-proclaimed enemy offensive slogged through its fourth day in southern I Corps.

In 15 ground contacts and nine by air, Americal Division forces killed one NVA and 27 VC, found five VC bodies, and captured three individual weapons.

The first three days of the latest enemy push, termed an "offensive" yesterday by the U.S. command in Saigon, have resulted in 184 NVA and 288 VC dead in the Americal area.

Enemy units continued to harass Americal positions yesterday and early this morning by shelling three LZs, an Observation Post, and a province capital. One sector of the Chu Lai Defense Command area received two 122mm rockets which caused no casualties or damage at 2315 hours yesterday.

**** In seven incidents, elements of three battalions killed an NVA and five VC, found 15 VC bodies, and captured three weapons in the 198th Inf. Bde. area.

Co. B, 1-6 Inf., led by CPT Richard W. Jessop (Knightstown, Ind.), destroyed a small base camp seven miles south of Chu Lai and discovered 15 graves containing the bodies of 15 VC killed 7-10 days ago by air strikes.

Working 5-1/2 miles west of Chu Lai, Co. A, 1-6 Inf. killed two VC and captured an AK-47 rifle.

Co. C, 4-3 Inf. killed two VC in encounters at 0135 and 2005 hours 5-5-1/2 miles northwest of Quang Ngai, and Co. A, **1-52nd Inf**. killed an NVA and got his AK-47 rifle, then found an RPD light machinegun in two incidents 11 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. killed a VC and detained a VC suspect 8-1/2 miles north-northwest of Quang Ngai.

Seven air strikes, the three most effective directed by 198th Forward Air Control pilot Air Force CPT Jack L. Dickens (Madison, W. Va.), destroyed 16 structures, two bunkers, and 20 meters of trench line. Three structures were damaged and one secondary explosion and two secondary fires were observed.

**** Cos. C and D, 4-21 Inf. killed four VC , and a UH-1 helicopter found five VC killed by artillery to account for all the action in the 11th Inf. Bde. area.

Co. C, led by CPT Thomas S. Hyde (Leavenworth, Kan.), killed three VC in separate incidents six and seven miles south-southwest of Quang Ngai. Co. D, led by CPT Robert E. Winn (Midriff, Tex.), killed a VC a half-mile further from Quang Ngai.

The UH-1, working with the 3-1 Inf., found the dead VC 13 miles southwest of Quang Ngai in the Vernon Lake II operational area. They had been killed by the 6-11 Arty.

**** Five VC were killed and 1800 pounds of rice found in the 196th Inf. Bde. area.

Co. D, 4-31 Inf. killed two of four VC engaged 24 miles west of Tam Ky, and Co. B,4-31 Inf. killed a VC four miles nearer Tam Ky.

F. Trp., 17th Cav. killed a VC 18 miles northwest of Tam Ky, and Co. C, 2-1 Inf. killed another 3-1/2 miles further northwest.

Co. B, 1-46 Inf. found and evacuated 1000 pounds of rice 20 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky while Co. A, 2-1 Inf. found 800 pounds of rice 16 miles

(Continued -1)

northwest of Tam Ky.

**** **"Blue Ghosts" of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed eight VC in seven incidents in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area. Four kills occurred 5-9 miles north, two 15-15-1/2 miles north-northwest, and the last eight miles northwest of Tam Ky.**

155 mm howitzers from B Btry., 3rd Bn., 16th Arty., commanded by CPT Reginald Fontenot (Lake Charles, La.) fired 54 rounds in support of Civilian Irregular Defense Group forces at Tien Phuoc CIDG Camp. One secondary explosion, which produced a huge fireball, was recorded. A large number of enemy soldiers were believed to have been killed.

**** Six Americal Division soldiers were killed, and 15 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

****

******An M-16 rifle is good only as a club if it won't fire. Take care of your rifle, and it will take care of you.**

ADVA All members of the Americal Division are eligible to join the Americal Division Veteran's Association (ADVA), even FNG's. If you are DEROSing for ETS, use ADVA to keep track of your buddies. Get them to join. This growing organization needs several state adjutants. You might be a VIP in your home state. Dues are $5.00 a year in RVN; $6.00 elsewhere. Send your name, mailing address, unit, service number, hometown, and wife's name (if applicable) with check or money order to:

Americal Division Veteran's Association
P. O. Box 1381
Boston, Mass 02104

Don't delay--Go ADVA today.

Vol. 3 No. 61 SUNDAY March 2, 1969

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Three of the Americal Division's four major operations--Vernon Lake II, Fayette Canyon, and Hardin Falls--were terminated at midnight Friday, and statistics indicate unqualified success in each.

Only Operation Russell Beach, now is a pacification phase, continues into March in the effort to rid the Batangan Peninsula area of VC influence and fortifications.

March debuted on the seventh day of the enemy offensive--a day on which Americal units engaged the enemy 15 times and enemy forces attacked three LZs, a night defensive position, a Special Forces camp, and two district headquarters in southern I Corps.

Americal units reported killing five NVA and 39 VC, finding one VC body, and capturing seven individual weapons.

In the 11th Inf. Bde. area, Operation Vernon Lake II ended after 119 days of action involving units of the 3-1 and 4-21 Infs, which pushed the 3d NVA Division out of its bastion southwest of Quang Ngai. Eighty-one enemy base camps were discovered along with 121 tons of rice, 1253 mortars, 196 rockets, and over 23,400 rounds of small arms ammo.

Enemy casualties totaled 455 with 118 NVA killed and 34 found dead, and 265 VC killed and 38 found dead. Six weapons were captured and 17 enemy suspects were detained. Twenty-three Americal soldiers were killed.

Eleven VC were killed in the 11th Bde. area yesterday as a UH-1 helicopter, working with the 3-1 Inf., found eight VC killed by 6-11 Arty. fire 18 miles southwest of Quang Ngai and E Trp., 1st Cav. killed three VC in two incidents six miles southwest of Quang Ngai and five miles northwest of Duc Pho.

On a perimeter sweep a mile east of Duc Pho, **Hq. Co., 1-20 Inf.** found a .38-cal. pistol hidden under a rock.

Co. D, 4-21 Inf. found and destroyed 31 bunkers and 30 spider holes in three incidents 8-1/2 miles southwest of Quang Ngai.

Operation Fayette Canyon, which joined units of the 196th Inf. Bde.'s 2-1 and 4-31 battalions and the 198th Inf. Bde.'s 1-46 battalion, finished with an outstanding kill ratio.

Begun Dec. 15 in the region of an NVA-dominated hill 25 miles northwest of Tam Ky, Fayette Canyon killed 327 enemy soldiers--173 NVA killed and 65 found dead, and 84 VC killed and five found dead. Two Americal soldiers were killed.

Destroyed in the operation were 535 bunkers and 421 huts, while 70 weapons, including 14 crew-served, were captured.

Action in the 196th area yesterday was a repeat of the previous two days for Co. A, 1-46 Inf. which killed two NVA and four VC in five encounters 17-1/2-20-1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky. Co. A killed seven VC Thursday and six Friday.

Other 196th units killed three NVA and 11 VC, found the VC body, and captured three weapons yesterday.

An observation post of 2-1 Inf. called artillery on a large VC group 22-1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky to kill eight. In separate incidents, Co. A, 2-1 Inf. killed an NVA and captured an M-2 carbine and Co. B, 2-1 took an AK-47 rifle, and an M-1 carbine 18 and 18-1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

A UH-1 helicopter of the 26th Engr. Bn. was successful in only its

(Continued -1)

second reported major contact with enemy forces in two months. The chopper killed two NVA 17 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Co. D, 4-31 Inf. killed two VC 24 miles west of Tam Ky, and the 4-31 recon unit killed a VC 1-1/2 miles nearer Tam Ky.

Operation Hardin Falls, designed to clear and take control of six hamlets in Thang Binh district after four years of VC domination, killed 78 VC, detained 17 VC suspects, and captured six weapons. One American was killed.

Hardin Falls, which began Dec. 2, involved troops of the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav.; Co. A, 1-46 Inf.; and Co. B, 26th Engr. Bn.

In the 1-1 area yesterday, "Blue Ghost" gunships of **F Trp., 8th Cav**. killed 11 VC in five incidents. The largest encounter occurred between 1415 and 1450 hours as **F Trp**., worked with a Popular Force assault team 17 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky and killed eight VC in three actions.

The other three VC were killed six miles north and seven miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Two VC were found killed by an overnight air strike, and three weapons were captured as action slowed considerably in the 198th Inf. Bde. area.

After a prolonged firefight late Friday afternoon and an all-night vigil near the Song Tra Khuc 7-1/2 miles west of Quang Ngai City, Co. C, 4-3 Inf. and Co. B, 5-46 Inf. lost contact with an unknown-size enemy force at daybreak.

A sweep of the area by the two companies turned up the two VC bodies, and Co. C found a BAR and two M-72 LAW rockets in two places within the general area. Co. B also found a B-40 rocket, 10 shotgun shells, 30 AK-47 rounds, a Chicom grenade, two NVA packs, and an NVA helmet and canteen.

Nine miles south of Chu Lai, Co. B, 1-6 Inf. located at an apparent ambush site two claymore mines and a 40-pound shaped charged embedded in the ground near several M-16 rounds wired with det cord.

Seven air strikes in the 198th area destroyed 16 structures and 12 bunkers, damaged two structures, and caused two secondary explosions and four secondary fires.

Thirteen Americal Division soldiers were killed, and 44 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

In the week ending at midnight, the first seven days of the enemy offensive, 197 NVA and 371 VC were killed in the Americal area. In that time, 37 Americal soldiers were killed. Seventy-two weapons, 11 crew-served, were captured.

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A MALARIA PILL A DAY KEEPS THE DOCTOR AWAY

Vol. 3. No. 62 Monday March 3, 1969

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Americal Division forces met the enemy in 17 contacts, including five in each brigade area, as the enemy offensive ground through its eighth day in southern I Corps.

Americal units reported killing two NVA and 19 VC, finding one VC body, and capturing one individual weapon in light action.

Three elements of the 3-1 Inf. accounted for seven of nine killed and the lone weapon captured in the 11th Inf. Bde. area.

A UH-1 helicopter, working with the 3-1 Inf., found the bodies of three VC killed by 4.2 mortar fire from Co. E, 3-1 Inf. 12-1/2 miles southwest of Quang Ngai and, at 0145 hours, the 3-1 recon unit killed two VC outside its perimeter 14 miles southwest of Quang Ngai.

In a delayed report of action at 2345 Saturday, Co. C, 3-1 Inf. engaged three VC and killed two a mile northwest of Duc Pho.

Co. B, 4-21 Inf., working nine miles south-southwest of Quang Ngai, killed an NVA and captured his AK-47 rifle, while the 4-21 recon unit killed two VC 2-1/2 miles nearer Quang Ngai.

Eight miles south of Duc Pho, **Co. A, 1-20 Inf.** detained three VC suspects with wounds apparently inflicted by artillery fire.

A gunship of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. crashed and was destroyed 14-1/2 miles northwest of Duc Pho. No ground fire had been received prior to the crash. All four crew members were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment.

One NVA and three VC were killed, and a VC body was found in the 198th Bde. area.

Co. D, **1-52nd Inf.** killed two VC 9-1/2 miles and 10 miles west of Tam Ky, and Co. A, **1-52nd Inf.** killed a VC a mile further southwest.

Eight miles west of Quang Ngai, Co. C, 4-3 Inf. killed a VC and found the two-day-old body of a VC killed by small arms fire.

In a delayed report, the first platoon of Co. C, 1-6 Inf. fired on an unidentified object floating near a bridge 4-1/2 miles southeast of Tam Ky and caused a large underwater explosion.

Three of five VC killed by the 196th Inf. Bde. area went to three elements of the 4-31 unit.

A UH-1 helicopter, working with the 4-31 Inf., killed a VC as did Cos. C and D. The incidents occurred 19, 22 and 24 miles west of Tam Ky, respectively.

Co. D, 2-1 Inf. called artillery on three VC to kill one 19-1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky, and Co. C, 1-46 Inf. killed one of two VC engaged a half-mile further northwest.

"Blue Ghosts" of F. Trp., 8th Cav. killed single VC 8-1/2 miles and 10 miles northwest of Tam Ky in the only action in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area.

Three Americal Division soldiers were killed and 19 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3, No. 65 Thursday March 6, 1969

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)- Co. A, 1-46 Inf. raised its one week total of enemy killed to 35 to highlight increased action throughout southern I Corps yesterday.

Americal Division forces made 22 contacts with the enemy and reported killing one NVA and 46 VC, detaining 11 enemy suspects, and capturing one crew-served weapon.

In addition to seven VC killed by Co. A, 1-46 Inf., units the of the 196th Inf. Bde. killed six VC, relocated 29 Vietnamese refugees, and found and destroyed 2200 pounds of rice.

Co. A's action came in five encounters between 0730 and 1315 hours 18-1/2 miles and 18 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky. Co. A has accounted for two NVA and 36 VC killed since Feb. 27.

Co. C, 1-46 Inf. killed a VC 18 miles northwest of Tam Ky, and F Trp., 17th Cav., working with 1-46 units, found the 2200 pounds of rice 11 miles northwest of Tam Ky at 1545 and killed a VC there at 1630.

Working 15 miles southwest of Tam Ky, **"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp. 8th Cav.** killed two VC. **F Trp**. was supporting 3-21 Inf. elements.

Co. D, 4-31 Inf. killed a VC 24 miles west of Tam Ky, and Co. D, 2-1 Inf. killed a VC 18 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

Seventeen VC were killed in the 11th Bde. area where six of seven contacts occurred between 1530 and 1800 hours.

At 1040, Co. D, 4-21 Inf. found the body of a VC killed by 6-11 Arty. fire within the previous 24 hours eight miles southwest of Quang Ngai. The body was in a fresh grave.

Operating 11 miles north-northwest of Duc Pho, Co. A, 3-1 Inf. engaged 101-15 VC at 1530 and killed four. Thirty minutes later, the remaining VC were engaged again, and Co. A killed three more. At 1800, Co. A killed two VC nearby.

At 1600, a "Shark" gunship of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. killed a VC four miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Twenty minutes later, a "Shark" teamed with **Co. B, 1-20 Inf.** to kill six VC in a brief firefight five miles north-northwest of Duc Pho. Co. B killed for of the VC.

Three companies were involved in all six contacts in the 198th Inf. Bde. area as one NVA and 15 VC were killed, eight enemy suspects detained, and an RPG launcher captured.

Co. A, **1-52nd Inf.** kept pressure on enemy units for the third consecutive day 11-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky and killed an NVA and seven VC in three actions.

At 0610, Co. A killed a VC in a spider hole and took the RPG. At 1800, Co. A engaged and killed six VC in a tunnel and five minutes later, the NVA was killed nearby.

Cos. C and D, 4-3 Inf. made good use of artillery support in tow of three contacts with VC eight and nine miles northwest of Quang

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Ngai.

At 1315, Co. C directed artillery to kill two VC and, at 1750, Co. D encountered 20 VC and saw five killed by Btry. D, 1-14 Arty, and Btry. B, 1-82 Arty. Co. D killed a sixth VC in a firefight at 1325.

At 0940, Co. D rounded up eight VC suspects, including seven females with no ID cards and an old man with an ID card suspected of bearing someone else's picture.

At 1005, gunships escorting a dustoff received automatic weapons fire near Tien Phouc. One went down and was extracted at 1130. No one on board was killed.

Air Force MAJ O.D. Robertson (Russell Springs, Ky.), a Forward Air Control pilot for the 198th, directed two of four air strikes in the 198th area after he spotted 50 bunkers 13 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

His strikes and direction of artillery fire destroyed 10 bunkers, damaged five, and exposed 10 more.

"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. scored their third kill of the day when they caught an evading VC in the 1st Sqdn, 1st Cav. area 9-1/2 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky.

Four Americal soldiers were killed, and four were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3, No. 67 Saturday March 8, 1969

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--- Elements of the **1-52nd Inf.**, the 3-21 Inf. and the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. jointed the 6th ARVN Regt. in a day-long engagement with an unknown size enemy force in which nine NVA and one VC were killed and seven individual weapons captured 12 miles southwest of Tam Ky yesterday.

Throughout the southern I Corps, Americal Division units made 19 contacts with the enemy and reported killing eight NVA and 30 VC and capturing eight individual weapons. F Trp., 17th Cav found 12-1/2 tons of rice in four locations northwest of Tam Ky.

Cos. A, B, and C, **1-52nd Inf.** made five contacts and killed five NVA and one VC and captured three weapons in an area of heavy enemy concentration 12 miles southwest of Tam Ky in the 196th Inf. Bde. area.

A reconnaissance aircraft, flown by Forward Air Control pilot Air Force Capt. Wendell Springston (Richmond, Va.), directed an air strike to kill one VC and destroy an AK-47 rifle in the same area.

A Short Range Patrol of Co. D, 4-3 Inf., found one VC killed by mortar fire seven miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

F Trp., 17th Cav. found seven tons of rice 11 miles northwest of Tam Ky, three tons were found buried in baskets and the other four in cement crocks under ground. Regional Force troops later found another 18-1/2 tons of rice in the area.

F Trp. discovered five more tons buried in cement crocks seven miles northwest of Tam Ky, and another 1,000 pounds buried in cement crocks under hedgerows 20-1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky. The rice will be extracted.

Co. A, 1-46th Inf. spotted and killed four VC 20 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

In the 11th Inf. Bde. area, 15 VC were killed.

At 0830 hours, 3-1 Inf. SRP team spotted an unknown size VC force and called for support from Btry. C, 3-18 Arty. which killed five VC.

At 1350 hours, "Shark" helicopters of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. spotted five VC three miles northwest of Duc Pho and killed four wearing packs. Flying the gunships were WO1 John Pennington (Newark, Ohio) and WO1 John Gendreau (Bellflower, Calif.).

Co. A, 3-1 Inf. spotted and killed one VC and captured one unidentified weapon 11 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Three of five VC killed in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area went to **"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav**. in scattered action north and northwest of Tam Ky.

F Trp. killed three VC in separate incidents, nine and ten miles north and 16 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

B Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. killed two VC 6-1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Six Americal Division soldiers were killed, and 42 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 68 Sunday March 9, 1969

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Elements of the 198th and 196th Inf. Bdes and the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. engaged an unknown-size enemy force 12 miles southwest of Tam Ky for the second consecutive day in which nine NVA were killed and four weapons captured yesterday.

Americal Division units made 24 contacts with the enemy in southern I Corps and reported killing 19 NVA and 21 VC, while detaining six enemy suspects, and capturing 10 weapons, one crew-served.

F Trp., 17th Cav. found a 20-ton rice cache in an area 11 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Fighting was heavy around Duc Pho as units of the 11th Inf. Bde. killed 11 NVA and eight VC, detaining six suspects, and capturing five weapons.

Co. D, 1-20 Inf., backed by E Trp., 1st Cav., killed four NVA 1-1/2 miles northwest of Duc Pho. Co. C, 3-1 Inf. killed four NVA and B, 3-1 killed two in the same area. "Shark" helicopters of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. worked overhead.

At 0800 hours, **Co. D, 1-20**, found two VC killed by air strikes being carried out of a village by a burial party two miles west of Duc Pho. Co. D later found another VC killed by air strikes near the village.

At 1630 hours **Co. D** found two NVA killed by air strikes and captured two AK-47 rifles three miles northwest of Duc Pho.

F. Trp., 17th Cav., working with 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. 11 miles northwest of Tam Ky found 20 tons of unpolished rice buried in crocks under hootches in the hamlet of An Binh. The rice was extracted. The find brought to 41 tons F Trp.'s total rice discovery in the past week.

Co. C, **1-52nd Inf**. renewed contact with an NVA force and killed three, 12 miles southwest of Tam Ky. Co. A, **1-52nd Inf** found one NVA killed in an air strike which destroyed one unknown type machine gun.

Co. A, 3-21 Inf. of the 196th Inf. Bde. killed three NVA and captured two AK-47 and one K-50 rifles two miles away. Co. D, 3-21 killed one NVA seven miles southwest of Tam Ky.

B. Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. killed done VC a half-mile away.

In other action by units of the 196th Bde., Co. A, 1-46 Inf. killed five VC and captured an SKS rifle 20 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky.

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"**Blue Ghosts" of F Trp., 8th Cav.,** operating in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area, killed four VC 8-1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

Ten Americal soldiers were killed and 60 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

In the past week, 49 NVA and 189 VC were killed in the Americal Division area. In that time, 35 Americal soldiers were killed.

Vol. 3 No. 70 Tuesday March 11, 1969

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action was relatively light with most of the action around Duc Pho for the third consecutive day yesterday. The "Jungle Warriors" of the 11th Inf. Bde. killed 20 VC and six NVA, and captured 10 weapons, two crew-served.

Americal units made 13 contacts in the southern I Corps area and reported killing 25 VC and eight NVA.

Two Vietnamese boys turned in a boobytrapped M-79 round to a unit of the 2-1 Inf., 196th Bde., for a reward under the VIP program.

A forward air-controller, working with the 198th Inf. Bde. discovered three enemy bunkers 11 miles northwest of Quang Ngai, and called in an air strike which destroyed one of the bunkers.

Co. A, 3-1 if., 11th Inf. Bde. killed 11 VC with the aid of the 6-11 Arty. Bn, which killed six of the enemy 11 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Co. B, 4-21 Inf. engaged an unknown-size enemy force in a marshy area four miles west of Duc Pho, killing three NVA, capturing two AK-47 rifles, one RPD machinegun, and one Chicom machinegun.

The Short Range Recon Patrol (SRP) of the 3-1 Inf. spotted a VC force moving through the Song Ve Valley and called in artillery which killed nine of the enemy 16 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Co. B, 3-1 killed two NVA and captured two AK-47 rifles, two Chicom machineguns, and one RPG-2 and one RPG-7 rocket launcher two miles west-southwest of Duc Pho.

E. Trp., 1st Cav. working with Co. B, 3-1 engaged and killed one NVA in the same area.

196th Inf. Bde. had four kills in light action around Tam Ky.

F Trp., 17th Cav. working with Vietnamese Popular Forces (PF) eight miles west-northwest of Tam Ky engaged three VC and killed two. The PF's killed the third VC.

At 0730 hours, Co. C, 3-21 spotted and killed one VC in a marshy and hilly area 10 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Co. D, 3-21 killed another VC in the same area in the afternoon.

Co. A, 4-3 Inf. found two VC that had been killed by artillery 11 miles northwest of Quang Ngai. This is the hilly terrain where enemy the bunkers had been destroyed earlier in the day.

F Trp., 8th Cav., with the 123 Avn. Bn., working in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area spotted and killed one VC 12 miles west of Tam Ky.

Five Americal soldiers were killed and 25 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 72 Thursday March 13, 1969

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action was light throughout the southern I Corps area yesterday with Americal units reporting 21 NVA and 10 VC killed, four weapons captured, one crew-served, and 27 enemy bunkers destroyed.

Twenty-one NVA and two VC were killed in the 196th Inf. Bde. area, along with one crew served and three individual weapons captured, and 27 bunkers destroyed.

Co. B, 3-21 Inf. discovered 20 bunkers, connected by small tunnels on a hill overlooking the Suoi Ong Dinh river, 10 miles southwest of Tam Ky. The bunkers were about four by five feet in size and had overhead coverings of logs. Near the bunkers, Co. B found 12 NVA that had been killed within the last 24 hours. Two had been killed by artillery, three by air strikes, and seven by small arms fire. They had been carried to the bunkers and were covered by dirt. A M-72 LAW (Light Antitank Weapon) was found inside one of the bunkers.

Co. D, 1-46 Inf. found seven bunkers along with one VC that had been killed by small arms fire, on a hill one mile south of the one Co. B was on. Co. D found approximately 400 pounds of polished rice inside the bunkers.

At 0820 hours, the recon unit of the 3-21 Inf. killed one VC seven miles southwest of Tam Ky. They later spotted an unknown size force of VC moving in the same area and called in artillery on them. When the recon unit searched the area they found five VC bodies and three AK-47 rifles.

Co. C, 3-21 Inf. engaged two VC, killing one, a mile away.

Seven VC were killed in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav.'s area.

The "Blue Ghosts" helicopters of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed four VC in the four separate incidents, 10 to 15 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

A Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. killed three VC and destroyed a shop in which hand grenades and small arms had been manufactured, 17 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

The 11th Inf. Bde. had the only other kill in the Americal Division, and it was when Co. A, 3-1 Inf. was on a search and clear mission at 1900 hours. They were moving through rice fields 9-1/2 miles north of Duc Pho, when they spotted a VC trying to evade them in the woods ahead. They engaged and killed him.

Two Americal soldiers were killed and 22 wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report. Three Americal soldiers were reported missing in the hostile actions.

Vol. 3 No. 73 Friday March 14, 1969

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action was light in the southern I Corps area again yesterday, as Americal units reported killing 21 VC and two NVA, in 16 contacts, and capturing 20 weapons, one crew-served. The 11th Inf. Bde. killed nine VC and found one body in a shallow grave.

Co. C, 3-1 Inf. killed two VC in a night ambush, 10-1/2 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Two VC were killed by E Trp., 1st Cav. in an area eight miles southeast of Duc Pho.

"Shark" helicopter gunships of the 174th Avn. Bn. killed one VC, two miles to the northeast.

At 1125 hours, during a sweep of an area 2-1/2 miles southwest of Duc Pho, Co. A, 4-21 Inf. discovered the grave of a VC that had been killed by artillery four to five days earlier.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. reported six VC killed in its area of operation north of Tam Ky.

In four contacts, ranging from 17 to 12 miles north of Tam Ky, units of A Trp., 1st Cav. killed five VC.

F Trp., 8th Cav. gunships accounted for another, when they killed one VC 16-1/2 miles north of Tam Ky.

A weapons cache as well as five enemy kills were the 196th Inf. Bde.'s totals from an area where twenty-seven bunkers were discovered the day before.

At 1730 hours, Co. A, 3-21 Inf. found a weapons cache, in which were four AK-47 rifles, a shotgun, and a RPG-7 rocket launcher. Co. A had earlier killed three VC, wearing green uniforms, and capturing three AK-47 rifles, in the same area.

1-52nd Inf. working with Regional Forces, discovered 18 60mm mortar rounds which the RF kept, 12 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Co. C, 3-21 Inf. killed one NVA and captured an AK-47 rifle, 13-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Co. A, 1-46 Inf. engaged three NVA killing one, in a rough, hilly area 12-1/2 miles south-southwest of Tam Ky.

In the 198th Inf. Bde., the recon unit of the 1-6 Inf. killed one VC, nine miles southeast of Tam Ky. Later in the day they spotted an unknown size VC force moving through the same area and called in B Btry., 1-14 Arty. which killed one of the enemy.

Co. A, 4-3 Inf. reported two Vietnamese children told them where a "Bouncing Betty" antipersonnel mine was buried near Quang Ngai. The Vietnamese received a reward for their actions.

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One Americal soldier was killed and seven wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 76 Monday March 17, 1969

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Discovery of 167 enemy bodies, including 152 NVA found in 40 graves, highlighted an otherwise light day of action for Americal Division units in southern I Corps yesterday.

Americal forces reported killing four NVA and nine VC, detaining eight enemy suspects, capturing five individual weapons, and finding and destroying 5-1/2 tons of rice.

Yesterday's kills hiked the total of enemy soldiers killed past the 26,000 mark since the Americal was reactivated for Vietnam duty in 1967.

Only two VC were killed in the 198th Inf. Bde. area, but Co. A, 3-21 Inf. reported two discoveries of graves containing 152 NVA bodies 10-1/2 - 11 miles southwest of Tam Ky where several major conflicts occurred last week. In other action, fifteen VC were found in graves, and two weapons were captured.

Co. A's main find came at noon Sunday when patrols, searching a brushy and wooded area, turned up 35 graves containing 140 bodies. The graves ranged in size from six to eight feet long, two to four feet wide, depending on how many bodies they contained.

The NVA had been killed by air strikes, artillery, and small arms fire during several days of fighting with units of the **1-52nd Inf.**, 3-21 Inf., and B Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. last week.

At 1330 yesterday, Co. A patrols found five more graves containing the bodies of 12 NVA, also victims of last week's fighting.

Co. C, 4-3 Inf. made a third major discovery at 1430 Sunday when patrols located 15 graves containing the bodies of 15 VC killed in air strikes nine miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

B Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. continued successful operations 5-1/2 miles west of Tam Ky for the second consecutive day by killing three NVA and four VC. B Trp. also made a delayed report of destruction of five tons of rice in the area Sunday.

The first platoon of B Trp., which killed three VC in a tunnel Sunday, resumed its recon mission nearby yesterday. At 1410, 1LT Greg L. Yasovou (Norwich, Conn.), the platoon leader, spotted three VC running near his tracks. Two were killed, and two RPG-7 rounds and a VC flag were found with the bodies.

Some 35 minutes later in the same area, Regional Force soldiers, working with the first platoon, found a tunnel whose occupants threw out grenades.

Platoon sergeant SFC Neil P. Farmer saw the action. "I

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fired on the VC and pinned them down until two tracks maneuvered near the tunnel and threw in a satchel charge," he said.

Three NVA and two VC were killed and a M-1 carbine captured. The "Dragoons" also found several RPG rounds, eight 60mm mortar rounds, 500 rounds of M-16 ammo, two Chicom grenades, and two gas masks.

B Trp.'s action Sunday had been triggered when "Blue Ghost" gunships of **F Trp., 8th Cav**. spotted the tunnel complex with green and black enemy uniforms hanging on adjacent vegetation. The kills occurred when the tunnel was satchel-charged.

In other 1-1 area action yesterday, **F Trp**. killed one of two VC engaged 7-1/2 miles north of Tam Ky and destroyed five sampans, and C Trp., 1-1 killed one VC 3-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Units operating in the 196th Inf. Bde. area killed one VC, captured two weapons, and found and destroyed 950 pounds of rice.

The recon unit of the **1-52nd Inf.** killed the VC 16 miles northwest of Tam Ky while working OPCON to the 196th just as the 1-46 and 3-21 Infs. are now working OPCON to the 198th.

F Trp., 17th Cav. found a Thompson submachinegun and a Chicom carbine hidden in underbrush 20 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

Co. C, **1-52nd Inf.**, working 15 miles northwest of Tam Ky, destroyed the 950 pounds of rice found buried in crocks near a pagoda.

Action slowed in the 11th Inf. Bde. area as Co. B, 4-21 Inf. killed an NVA and captured an AK-47 rifle three miles north of Duc Pho in the only contact.

Co. D, 1-20 Inf. found and destroyed four 82mm mortar rounds with fuses and charges and found an AK-47 rifle 1-1/2 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

COL. Leslie B. Hardy yesterday assumed command of Division Artillery, the largest artillery element in Vietnam. Outgoing commander COL Lawrence M. Jones, Jr. was awarded the Vietnamese Medal of Honor, First Class, by BG Nguyen Van Toan, commander of the 2d ARVN Division.

Eight Americal Division soldiers were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to initial reports.

Vol. 3 No. 77 Tuesday March 18, 1969

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--WO1 Thomas R. Shagen (Columbus, Ga.) turned a test flight into the real thing yesterday when he broke his flight pattern to rescue two engineers injured when their bulldozer detonated a pressure mine.

Flying for the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co., WO1 Shagen was cruising above Highway 1 a half-mile north of Duc Pho when his crew chief, SP5 Jim Swimson (Houston, Tex.), spotted a cloud of smoke rising along the highway. The chopper dropped to investigate.

"From 500 feet, I couldn't tell what had happened," said WO1 Shagen. "I broke our pattern and flew low. Then I could see the bulldozer overturned after hitting the mine.

"I also saw two men lying in the roadway and went in to pick them up."

Landing on the highway, the chopper loaded the men and whisked them to a nearby LZ for medical treatment. The heavy bulldozer was a total loss, but its bulk prevented serious injury to the two engineers.

Combat action in southern I Corps was light as Americal Division forces reported killing three NVA and 14 VC, detaining five enemy suspects and a Hoi Chanh, and capturing three individual weapons.

Most active among Americal elements were "Blue Ghost" gunships of **F Trp., 8th Cav**. which killed eight VC in seven contacts and destroyed 29 sampans and one bunker 7-16 miles west, north and northwest of Tam Ky in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area.

Five units killed two NVA and three VC and found and destroyed 850 pounds of rice and salt in the 196th Inf. Bde. area.

Co. A, 3-21 Inf. killed an NVA in the morning and a VC in the afternoon 8-9 miles southwest of Tam Ky, and Co. C, 3-21 Inf. killed a VC and captured miscellaneous documents in the same area.

Working with the 4-31 Inf., F Trp., 17th Cav. killed one of two VC engaged in a rice paddy 18 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky. During a subsequent search of the area, a VC jumped out of the bushes, yelled "Chieu Hoi!" and claimed he was a labor leader in a nearby village.

Operating 13-1/2 miles south-southwest of Tam Ky, a recon patrol of the 1-46 Inf. adjusted artillery on 30-40 NVA with

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packs and weapons. One NVA was found killed.

Co. C, **1-52nd Inf.** discovered the rice and salt buried in two 55-gallon drums and six crocks beneath hootches 21-1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Cos. A and C, 1-6 Inf. killed an NVA and a VC and captured a pistol, while Co. A, 4-3 Inf. took two weapons in the 198th Inf. Bde. area. Two of three incidents were delayed reports.

At 0845 hours Saturday, Co. A, 4-3 Inf. found and evacuated an unidentified submachinegun and an M-16 rifle near Quang Ngai and, at 1030, Co. C, 1-6 Inf. found a VC killed by small arms fire within the previous 24 hours.

At 1955 yesterday, Co. A, 1-6 Inf. killed one of two NVA engaged and captured the pistol five miles west of Chu Lai.

In the 11th Inf. Bde. area, **Co. D, 1-20 Inf.** found a VC killed by artillery eight miles west of Duc Pho. In an incident reported two days late, Co. A, 3-1 Inf. killed a VC at 1115 Saturday.

On a sweep a mile north of Duc Pho yesterday, Co. A chased and caught six VC suspects, including one wounded in the contact. The wounded man had no ID card.

One Americal soldier was killed, and six were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 78 Wednesday March 19, 1969

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Light action prevailed again yesterday in southern I Corps as Americal Division forces reported killing five NVA and seven VC, detaining 16 enemy suspects, and capturing five individual weapons.

Three NVA and three VC were killed and four weapons captured in the 196th Inf. Bde. area.

At 1230 hours eight miles southwest of Tam Ky, an unknown size enemy force opened up from a bunker on Co. C, 3-21 Inf. with small arms fire and hand grenades. In the exchange, one NVA was killed and an SKS rifle captured.

Three miles further southwest, Co. D, 2-1 Inf. killed a VC and took an AK-47 rifle during a sweep operation in a thickly-vegetated area. Two hours later at noon, Co. D killed one of two VC engaged and took another AK-47.

In afternoon action, Co. A, 2-1 Inf. killed an NVA and captured an AK-47 near Co. D's morning encounters, and Co. A, **1-52nd Inf**. killed one of four VC engaged 15-1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

In a delayed report of action Monday at 1905H, the recon unit of the 4-31 Inf. killed an NVA 24-1/2 miles west of Tam Ky.

"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed three VC in as many incidents in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area. Two VC were caught in rice paddies 16 miles northwest of Tam Ky, and one was killed among hootches 17-1/2 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky.

The action gave **F. Trp**. 11 VC kills in the past two days.

Two NVA were killed, one weapon captured, and four suspects detained in the 11th Inf. Bde. area.

Perimeter guards fired into an area where a trip flare had been ignited three miles southwest of Duc Pho and, at 0615, a 4-21 Inf. recon unit found an NVA killed there by small arms fire. Twenty Chicom grenades in his pack were destroyed.

Four hours later, the recon unit killed another NVA and captured an M-2 carbine in the area. Nearby at 1100, the unit discovered two tons of rice hidden under the false floor of one of three huts. The rice and huts were destroyed.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. recorded the only kill in the 198th Inf. Bde. area at 1730 when a VC was caught among hootches five miles west of Chu Lai.

Three Americal Division soldiers were killed, and 16 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 79 Thursday March 20, 1969

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Enemy rocket, mortar, and small arms fire pounded into some 30 military installations and Vietnamese population centers between midnight Tuesday and 0700 hours this morning as action picked up sharply in southern I Corps.

More than 50 incidents of enemy attacks were reported. Only two ground probes were made against Americal Division LZ's, and both were turned back.

LZ Bronco, headquarters of the 11th Inf. Bde., was shelled four times with B-40 and 140mm rockets, and three other LZ's, two night defensive positions, and a Special Forces camp wee hit three times apiece.

Twelve sites were hit more than once in the 37-hour period.

Combat action also increased as Americal Division forces reported killing 32 NVA and 10 VC, detaining 13 enemy suspects, and capturing nine weapons, three crew-served. Only three times in the past month were more NVA killed in a single day.

Heaviest action occurred in the 196th Inf. Bde. area where the 4-31 Inf. repulsed a platoon-sized NVA ground attack at LZ West and joined units of the three other battalions to kill 24 NVA and five VC and capture six weapons, two crew-served.

Twelve bunkers on the LZ West perimeter bore the brunt of the NVA's assault with RPG-7 rockets, satchel charges, grenades, and small arms fire. The 4-31 soldiers were on semi-alert when the attack began at 0300.

Only two NVA penetrated the perimeter. In that incident, SP4 Larry D. Tabor (Pulaski, Va.) heard his squad leader, SGT Steven Martin (Calimesa, Calif.), yell that two NVA were in the sergeant's bunker.

"I ran over and saw SGT Martin fighting bare-handed," said SP4 Tabor. "He must have dropped his rifle because he was atop one NVA and another was on his back and trying to stab him.

"I dropped the one on his back and, when SGT Martin rolled over, I got the other one."

Both men are members of the first squad, first platoon of Co. C, 4-31 Inf.

In the fierce fighting, eight NVA were killed and a K-50 rifle and two RPG-7 launchers were captured. A daylight sweep turned up an NVA captive outside the perimeter. No Americans were killed in the attack.

At 1300, Co. C, 4-31 Inf. engaged three VC in the area and killed one.

Eight more NVA were killed at 1430 when Co. A, 2-1 Inf., working 10-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky, engaged the eight riding bicycles. At 1725, Co. A killed one of two NVA engaged in the same area.

Cos. C an D, 2-1 Inf. accounted for six more NVA 11 miles southwest of Tam Ky where, at 1000, Co. C received fire from fortified

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positions and returned it to kill three of four NVA. Gunships and air strikes supported the company.

At 1445, Co. D received five 82mm mortar rounds and directed artillery fire into the area from which the mortars had come. Three NVA were found killed, and two AK-47 rifles were taken.

Co. D, 1-46 Inf. killed the other NVA and captured his AK-47 not far from the 2-1 Inf. action. Co. C, 1-46 If. killed one of three VC engaged there.

Co. B, 3-21 Inf. discovered 10 VC who appeared to be positioning a mortar tube eight miles west-southwest of Tam Ky. Artillery fire killed two VC. West of Tam Ky, Co. D, 3-21 Inf. killed a VC.

Units of the 4-21 Inf. turned back the other NVA ground probe after receiving RPG fire and grenades at LZ Amy at 0305 hours.

An unknown-size NVA force moved on the perimeter but lost eight men killed. A sweep also turned up an RPG-2 launcher and two K-50 rifles. One American soldier was killed.

The abortive probe of LZ Amy was the only reported contact with the enemy in the 11th Inf. Bde. area.

"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed their 12th and 13th VC in the past three days, and B Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. found two VC killed by artillery 5-1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky in the only 1-1 area action.

In the lone incident in the 198th Inf. Bde. area, Co. D, 4-3 Inf. killed a VC in rice paddies 7-1/2 miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

Seven Americal Division soldiers were killed, and 54 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report. Five Americal soldiers were listed as missing in action.

Vol. 3 No. 80 Friday March 21, 1969

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--For the second straight day, activity was increased in the southern I Corps yesterday, with 25 reports of enemy rocket, mortar, recoilless rifle, and small arms fire attacks throughout the area.

The Chu Lai Defense Command area received four 122mm rockets near the Americal Division Combat Center at 2120 hours, with no casualties. Three more unknown type rockets impacted at 0655 today.

LZ Bronco, headquarters of the 11th Inf. Bde., was shelled three times Thursday and has received enemy fire six times in two days. LZ Liz spotted flashes of two 140mm rockets that hit outside LZ Bronco's perimeter and called gunships to the area where the rockets had been fired.

Over 200 rockets, mortars, and recoilless rifle rounds have been fired into Americal Division installations from a few minutes after midnight Thursday, through this morning at 0253 when LZ Fat City received 40 rounds of mixed RPG rockets and 82mm mortars, most received in any one area at one time in two days.

Americal units made 13 contacts with the enemy and reported killing 14 NVA and 27 VC, and capturing seven weapons, one crew-served.

The 198th Inf. Bde. killed 18 VC in the vicinity of Quang Ngai City.

At 1930 hours, D Btry., 1-14 Arty. engaged a force of 60 VC and killed 15 of the enemy, 7-1/2 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai.

H Trp., 17th Cav. working with Co. A, 4-3 Inf .engaged five VC, killing three, 6-1/2 miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

Twelve NVA and six VC were killed in the 196th Inf. Bde. area, and six weapons, one crew-served, were captured.

Btry. B, 3-18 Arty. engaged and killed five NVA three miles southwest of Tam Ky.

During a sweep of heavy jungle 23 miles west-southwest of Tam Ky, Co. D, 4-31 Inf. engaged and killed four VC and destroyed two sampans.

An NVA entering a foxhole opened up on Co. C, 3-21 Inf. Co. C returned fire, killing two NVA and capturing two AK-47 rifles 7-1/2 miles west-southwest of Tam Ky.

Two miles southwest of Tam Ky, Co. C, 1-46 Inf. engaged six VC wearing packs in the triple-canopy jungle and killed two and captured a M-16 rifle and miscellaneous documents.

During a sweep of an area 11 miles southwest of Tam Ky, Co. C, 2-1 Inf. found four NVA killed by small arms fire. Co. C also found an AK-47 rifle, a K-44 rifle, and an RPG launcher.

The 11th Inf. Bde. had three NVA and one VC killed and one weapon captured in action in its area.

Co. C, 4-21 Inf. killed three NVA in three incidents near its landing zone 22 miles northwest of Duc Pho. The first NVA was killed five minutes after midnight. An AK-47 rifle wad captured when a second NVA was killed nearby at 1100 hours, and a third NVA was killed in the same locale later in the evening.

A Recon patrol of the 1-20 Inf. engaged and killed one VC five miles northwest of Duc Pho.

"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed two VC in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area 6-1/2 miles west of Tam Ky. This gives F Trp. 15 enemy kills in four days.

Thirteen Americal soldiers were killed and 19 wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report. Five of the 13 soldiers killed were listed as missing in action Wednesday.

There have been 571 NVA and 835 VC killed in the division area since the post-Tet offensive began Feb. 23.

During this time, 113 Americal soldiers have been killed.

Vol. 3 No. 83 Monday March 24, 1969

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action was moderate in southern I Corps yesterday with Americal Division units reporting 31 NVA and 17 VC killed, nine suspects detained, 15 enemy bunkers destroyed, three NVA bodies found, and six weapons captured.

The 11th Inf. Bde. had the most action Sunday, after two days without enemy contact, when it reported 18 NVA and six VC killed, three NVA bodies discovered, six suspects detained, eight bunkers destroyed in its area of operation.

A Ranger Patrol of Co. G, 75 Inf. killed a VC while on a sweep through the jungle six miles southwest of Duc Pho. The patrol leader, SGT Ronald Olsen (Watertown, S.D.) said, When we were inserted into the area we knew there had been enemy activity there. We found a fresh garden and well used trails. We came into a 16 hootch complex, with water and food in some of the hootches. Two more complexes were found along the trail as well as two logs that were 15 feet long and had been hollowed out. They had been used for rocket launchers and were aimed toward LZ Bronco.

"As we moved along the trail," SGT Olsen continued, "we ran into a VC and killed him, soon afterwards, we engaged three more VC and found three blood trails leading away from the trail.

"When we started receiving heavy small arms fire we called for a helicopter, and were extracted at 1500 hours.

An air strike was called into the area which resulted in seven secondary explosions.

Three NVA bodies, killed within the last 48 hours, wee found by Co. D, 3-1 Inf. They had been killed by small arms fire near the Tra Cau River, three miles north of Duc Pho. Eight bunkers, one booby-trapped, were destroyed in the same location. Co. D, 3-1 Inf. killed another NVA and found one VC a half-mile away from the bunker.

Gunships of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. killed four VC three of whom were killed 2-1/2 miles northwest of Duc Pho. One was killed 22 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Co. A, 4-21 Inf. killed two NVA in a rice paddy and captured an M-79 grenade launcher eight miles west of Quang Ngai.

Co. C, 1-20 Inf. detained five enemy suspects without proper I.D. cards 4-1/2 miles south of Duc Pho. Co. B, 4-21 Inf. also detained one suspect seven miles west of Quang Ngai.

In the 196th Inf. Bde. area 13 NVA and ten VC were killed, seven bunkers destroyed, and five weapons captured.

Co. D, 1-46 Inf. killed seven of the NVA and one VC, and captured three weapons. Two NVA and a VC were killed when the tunnel they were hiding in was blown up. The tunnel was 25 feet long and an SKS rifle was found in it after it had been destroyed 10-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky. Earlier Co. D, 1-46 Inf. killed two NVA, capturing an AK-47 rifle and an SKS rifle in the same location. Later, at 1930 hours, Co. D, 1-46 inf. engaged and killed three more NVA in the same area.

Another Ranger Patrol of Co. G, 75 Inf. killed four VC after the patrol received small arms fire during a sweep through heavy jungle 11-1/2 miles west-southwest of Tam Ky.

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"**Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav**., working in the 196th Inf. Bde. area 13-1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky, killed three VC in three separate incidents within a mile of each other in the foot hills of that area.

Two NVA were killed and one SKS rifle captured in a rice paddy by Co. B, 3-21 Inf. eight miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Co. A, 2-1 Inf. found two NVA killed by artillery and seven bunkers which had been destroyed 10 miles southwest of Tam Ky. Co. C, 1-46 Inf. found another NVA and an AK-47 rifle none mile west.

Co. B, 2-1 Inf. killed one NVA in an incident five miles southeast of Tien Phouc.

Btry. A, 3-16 Arty. firing five miles north of Tam Ky accounted for two VC killed.

A "Blue Ghost" gunship of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed another VC Sunday, this time in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area 13-1/2 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky.

There were no enemy kills in the 198th Inf. Bde. area Sunday, but three enemy suspects were detained. Two were detained by Co. C, 1-6 Inf. five miles southwest of Chu Lai, in an area where Co. A, 1-6 Inf. found five rocket charge holes and aiming sticks. Co. A, 4-3 Inf. detained one suspect two miles east of Quang Ngai.

Three Americal soldiers were killed, and 24 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 84 Tuesday March 25, 1969

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action was moderate throughout the southern I Corps yesterday, with Americal Division units reporting 21 NVA and 21 VC killed, 17 enemy bunkers destroyed, and nine suspects detained.

Heaviest action was in the 11th Inf. Bde. area with 19 NVA and three VC killed and five suspects detained.

At 1525 hours, Co. A, 4-21 Inf. was on a search and clear mission in hills seven miles west of Quang Ngai, when it came under intense small arms, automatic weapons, and 82mm mortar fire from an unknown size NVA force in bunkers. Gunships from the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. were called in to help pin down the enemy.

Twenty minutes after contact, a Recon unit of 4-21 Inf. and armored personnel carriers of E Trp., 1st Cav. were called in to assist Co. A.

When contact was broken by the enemy at 1815 hours, five NVA had been killed.

In a delayed report C Btry., 3-18 Arty. killed 14 NVA Saturday, 8-1/2 miles south of Quang Ngai City.

Co.'s A, C, and D, 3-1 Inf. each killed a VC in scattered actions. Co. C, 3-1 Inf. engaged five VC killing one, 1-1/2 miles west-northwest of Duc Pho, and Co. A, 3-1 Inf. killed another in a rice paddy 1-1/2 miles northeast of Duc Pho. Co. D, 3-1 Inf. killed one VC and detained four enemy suspects nine miles southeast of Quang Ngai. Co. D, 3-1 Inf. earlier detained an enemy suspect one mile west.

In the 198th Inf. Bde. area 11 VC were killed in two incidents.

Ten VC were killed when A Btry., 3-18 Arty. engaged 100 enemy soldiers in a mountainous region 24 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai.

Co. B, 1-6 Inf. killed the other VC after receiving small arms, automatic weapons, and Chicom grenades fire in foothills five miles west of Chu Lai. Co. B, 1-6 Inf. detained four enemy suspects in the same vicinity.

Two NVA and six VC were reported killed, as well as 17 bunkers destroyed in the 196th Inf. Bde. area of operation.

Co. B, 1-46 Inf. was on a search and clear mission in hills 12 miles southwest of Tam Ky, when it discovered an NVA base camp, which had a perimeter 500 feet long. Co. B, 1-46 Inf. pulled back and called in air strikes.

After the air strikes, Co. B, 1-46 Inf. returned to the area and found two NVA killed by the air strikes. Seven cement bunkers and two cement substructures destroyed. Also found in the vicinity were 10 cement bunkers and 14 cement machinegun emplacements not damaged by air strikes, which Co. B, 1-46 Inf. destroyed.

Co. D, **1-52nd Inf**. spotted four VC in heavy jungle 19 miles northwest of Tam Ky, and called in artillery which killed three.

"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav., working in the 196th Inf. Bde. area for the second consecutive day, killed two VC 5-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Co. D, 3-21 Inf. killed one VC in the triple-canopy jungle nine miles southwest of Tam Ky.

B Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. killed one VC 5-1/2 miles west of Tam Ky.

Three Americal soldiers were killed, and 27 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 85 Wednesday March 26, 1969

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action was light most of the day in the southern I Corps yesterday.

Americal Division units reported 16 VC killed, four NVA bodies discovered, five suspects detained, and ten weapons, two crew-served, captured.

In Operation Russell Beach Tuesday, the nearly 12,000 refugees who were evacuated during the early phases of the operation returned to the Batangan Peninsula.

The move began on March 14 when the first refugees departed the CHIC (Combined Holding and Interrogation Center) outside of Quang Ngai, in sampans, trucks and helicopters.

The village and hamlet sites on the peninsula were secured by two Regional Force companies as well as Americal Division soldiers from the 198th Inf. Bde.'s 5-46 Inf.

The people will be living in temporary lean-tos on new village sites prepared by Americal's 26th Engr. Bn. until they can build their new homes with the division's help.

The rebuilding in the vicinities of the old villages is part of the final phase of the operation.

The 196th Inf. Bde. found four NVA bodies and reported killing five VC in its area of operation.

Four NVA wearing green uniforms who were killed two days ago, were found 12 miles southwest of Tam Ky, in the vicinity of an NVA base camp found Monday. Tow of the NVA had been killed by artillery and the other two had been killed by air strikes. A .30 caliber BAR (Browning Automatic Rifle) and an M-72 LAW (Light Antitank Weapon) was found in the same location.

Co. D, 4-31 Inf. killed four VC in the mountainous region 21 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

The point man of a Ranger Patrol of Co. G, 75 Inf. engaged and killed one VC only 10 minutes after the patrol had been inserted into the mountains 22-1/2 miles west-southwest of Tam Ky.

During a sweep of an area 8-1/2 miles west-southwest of Tam Ky, Co. B, 3-21 Inf. found a cache near some hootches which contained two carbines, an AK-47 rifle, and an SKS rifle.

Eight VC were killed and two weapons captured in the 11th Inf. Bde. area.

"Shark" gunships of the 174 Aslt. He. Co. killed three VC in a rice paddy five miles northwest of Duc Pho. Co. A, 3-1 Inf. detained two enemy suspects without I.D. cards, among some hootches a mile away.

Co. D, 3-1 Inf. killed two VC and captured an M-14 rifle 1-1/2 miles southeast of Duc Pho. Co. D, 3-1 Inf. later found another VC killed by small arms fire in a tunnel along with documents and a French pistol.

E Trp., 1st Cav. engaged and killed two VC by Lake Ankhe, 9-1/2 miles southeast of Duc Pho.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. , reported three VC killed in this area of operation.

B Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav., working with A Btry., 3-16 Arty., in an area 5-1/2 miles west of Tam Ky, killed two VC.

A **"Blue Ghost" gunship of F Trp., 8th Cav**. killed one VC in the jungle 10-1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

The 198th Inf. Bde. reported no enemy kills, but Co. B, 1-6 Inf. detained three suspects five mile west of Chu Lai.

Two Americal soldiers were killed, and 12 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 86 Thursday March 27, 1969

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Light action prevailed throughout southern I Corps yesterday with Americal Division units reporting six NVA and 16 VC killed, one NVA body found, and three individual weapons captured, one of which was blown in place.

In the 198th Inf. Bde. operational area, eight VC were killed by artillery and aviation units.

D Btry., 1-14 Arty. engaged 20 VC nine miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai City killing two. Forty-five minutes later, the battery was called upon again and engaged eight VC, killing four, two miles east.

A "Minuteman" gunship of the 14th Avn. Bn.'s 176th Aslt. Hel. Co., piloted by 1LT David Grieger (Weatherford, Tex.) engaged and killed two VC trying to flee from his craft near the Thai Can River, eight miles southeast of Chu Lai.

One NVA body was found and seven VC were killed in the 196th Inf. Bde. area.

Co. B, 1-46 Inf. engaged and killed four VC, three wearing packs, in the jungle 11 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Two VC were killed by Co. D, **1-52nd Inf.** in the mountainous region 21 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

A **"Blue Ghost" gunship of F Trp., 8th Cav.** killed one VC in the triple-canopy jungle 12 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

An NVA killed three days ago by small arms fire was found in heavy jungle 11 miles southwest of Tam Ky by D Co., 1-46 Inf.

The 11th Inf. Bde. reported six NVA and one VC killed, two weapons captured and one destroyed in its area of operation.

Co. A, 4-21 Inf. killed three NVA and captured an AK-47 rifle two miles south of Quang Ngai City, near the Bau Giang River.

Co. B, 4-21 Inf. found two NVA killed by artillery the day before in the same vicinity.

A Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. working in the same location found another NVA killed by air strikes in a cane field near hootches destroyed by the jets.

After the strike they swept the area and spotted an M-72 LAW in the road. It was blown in place.

Four miles west of Quang Ngai City, Co. C, 4-3 Inf. engaged and killed one VC trying to avoid the company in a wooded region.

There were no enemy contacts reported in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area of operations.

One Americal soldier was killed and 12 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 87 Friday March 28, 1969

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action was light in the southern I Corps yesterday. Americal Division units reported seven NVA and 26 VC killed, and seven weapons captured.

The seven NVA and six of the VC were killed in the 196th Inf. Bde. as well as six of the weapons captured.

Co. C, 1-46 Inf. killed three NVA and one VC in three contacts. At 1100 hours, the "Professionals" killed one NVA in the triple-canopy jungle nine miles southwest of Tam Ky. About the same time a mile further west, the company also engaged four enemy soldiers both NVA and VC, and killed one of each. Another VC was killed in the same location 1-1/2 hours later.

The command and control helicopter of the 1-46 Inf. engaged six VC, killing one a mile east.

In the high elephant grass eight miles southwest of Tam Ky, Co. D, 3-21 Inf. engaged four NVA killing three and captured three AK-47 rifles, an M-1 carbine and an M-16 rifle.

A half-mile west, Co. C, 3-21 Inf. killed one NVA and a VC who tried to avoid the company in the jungle. Shortly after, another VC was killed in the same area.

A Recon patrol of the 3-21 Inf. spotted and killed one VC 11 miles west of Tam Ky.

Co. D, **1-52nd Inf**. killed one VC and captured a carbine near the An Tan River two miles northwest of Chu Lai.

"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed 12 VC for the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav.'s only kills Thursday.

Eight VC were killed when the gunships engaged an unknown size enemy force in the rice paddies 2-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky. The other four were killed in four separate contacts along the coast of the South China Sea, from 13 miles northwest to 7-1/2 miles north of Tam Ky.

The 11th Inf. Bde. reported three VC were killed and one weapon captured in its area of operation.

A "Shark" gunship of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co., piloted by 1LT James H. Towle (Palo Alto, Calif.), engaged an unknown size enemy force of VC killing two among hootches near the coast 10 miles southeast of Duc Pho.

Another VC was killed by Co. C, 3-1 Inf. in a rice paddy 7-1/2 miles southeast of Quang Ngai.

Co. A, 3-1 Inf. found one Chicom carbine in a wooded area by the Tra Cau River 2-1/2 miles northeast of Duc Pho.

Three VC were killed in two contacts in the 198th Inf. Bde. area.

The C & C helicopter of the 5-46 Inf. killed two VC among hootches 10-1/2 miles northeast of Quang Ngai.

At 2300 hours Wednesday, movement was seen along Co. D, 1-6 Inf.'s perimeter and the alert guards set off a claymore mine. The next morning a VC body was found during a search of the area eight miles southeast of Tam Ky.

Five Americal soldiers were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 88 Saturday March 29, 1969
AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action was light in the southern I Corps yesterday, with Americal Division units reporting 28 VC and no NVA killed, eight suspects detained, 10 bunkers and 20 fighting positions destroyed, and one weapon captured.

Co. B, 1-20 Inf. reported 15 VC killed, seven suspects detained, and one weapon captured.

Co. B, 1-20 Inf. was on a combat assault mission when it spotted 13 VC moving along a trail and called in "Shark" gunships of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. which killed the VC.

Co. A, 1-20 Inf. on a sweep along the coast 10-1/2 miles southeast of Duc Pho, engaged three VC, killing two, and captured a .45 caliber pistol. The company also detained three enemy suspects, two males and a female without I.D. cards, in the same location.

Two more suspects were detained by the Co. A, 4-21 Inf. in a rice paddy eight miles west of Quang Ngai.

A VC suspect was detained five miles southeast of Duc Pho, by **Co. B, 1-20 Inf.** with fragmentation wounds on his head and neck. Another suspect was detained by Co. A, 3-1 Inf. three miles north of Duc Pho on Highway 1.

"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed eight VC in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area Friday.

Three of the VC were killed in a wooded area 9-1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky. Two more were killed when they tried to avoid the helicopter by ducking into a hootch that was destroyed. Two VC were killed in a rice paddy five miles west-northwest of Tam Ky, and another was killed in hills 8-1/2 miles west of Tam Ky.

Four VC were reported killed in the 196th Inf. Bde. as well as 10 bunkers and 20 fighting positions destroyed.

The command and control helicopter of the 4-31 Inf. engaged two VC, killing one, in a mountainous region 20-1/2 miles west of Tam Ky. Three miles north, the helicopter killed another VC.

A **"Blue Ghost" gunship of F Trp., 8th Cav**. killed one VC in high elephant grass 13 miles west of Tam Ky.

Co. B, 3-21 Inf. found and destroyed 20 fighting positions along jungle covered hills 17-1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

Co. C, 3-21 Inf. killed one VC in the triple-canopy jungle nine miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Co. D, 1-46 Inf. discovered 10 large bunkers that measured six feet by six feet and were well camouflaged. After a thorough search of the area 12-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky, the bunkers were destroyed.

The 198th Inf. Bde.'s Co. B, 5-46 Inf. found one VC who had been killed by a .50 caliber machinegun, on the Batangan Peninsula, 10-1/2 miles northeast of Quang Ngai, where Operation Russell Beach is in its final phase.

The company detained one enemy suspect with a false I.D. card in

(Continued -1)

the same area.

For the past week, from March 21 activity was mostly light in the southern I Corps, with Americal Division units accounting for 72 NVA and 135 VC killed, 31 weapons, two crew-served, captured, and over 40 enemy suspect detained.

Fifty-two enemy bunkers were destroyed during the week's action. Twenty-five bunkers and machinegun emplacements were destroyed during the week's action. Twenty-five bunkers and machine gun emplacements were destroyed by combined air strikes and Co. B, 1-46 Inf., who uncovered an NVA base camp while on a search and clear mission in hills 12 miles southwest of Tam Ky, Monday.

Americal's Artillery was active the past week accounting for 30 enemy killed.

A Btry., 3-18 Arty. killed 10 VC when they engaged 100 enemy soldiers in the mountainous region 24 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai, Monday.

C Btry., 3-18 Arty. killed 14 NVA Saturday 8-1/2 miles south of Quang Ngai.

Six kills were credited to D Btry., 1-14 Arty. Wednesday, when the batter engaged 28 VC nine miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai.

In the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area **"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav.** killed 19 VC for the past week.

In Operation Russell Beach, the nearly 12,000 refugees who were evacuated during the early phases of the operation returned to the Batangan Peninsula. The people will be living in temporary lean-tos on new village sites prepared by the Americal's 26th Engr. Bn. until they can build their new home with the division's help.

One Americal soldier was killed, and five were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

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IT'S SALT TABLET WEATHER AGAIN

Vol. 3 No. 89 Sunday March 30, 1969

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action was moderate in the Americal Division area Saturday as units killed 11 NVA and 23 VC, detained 12 enemy suspects, and captured six weapons.

The 11th Inf. Bde. posted the largest number of kills as two companies of the 3-1 Inf. clashed with a combination NVA/VC force in an all-day battle killing six NVA.

In the north, a 196th Bde. company from the 4-31 Inf. uncovered a large cache of AK-47 ammunition.

11th Inf. Bde. units accounted for 10 NVA and one VC killed, 12 suspects detained, and two weapons captured.

The day of combat for Co. C, 3-1 Inf. began with the assault by helicopter into a sandy region on the South China Sea coast, six miles north of LZ Bronco at 1110 hours.

Shortly after the beginning a search of the area, the company came in contact with an unknown size force of VC and NVA. Six NVA regulars were killed and one AK-47 was captured.

The contact continued into the afternoon when Co. A, 3-1 Inf. was combat assaulted to the south of Co. C to establish a blocking force. Contact was broken by the enemy at 1400 hours, but occasional sniping lasted until late in the night.

Co. C, 3-1 Inf. also detained eight enemy suspects in the same area.

At 0851 hours, Co. D, 3-1 inf. received small arms and M-79 fire. Fire was returned with one NVA killed and his AK-47 rifle captured near a stream 1-1/2 miles west of Duc Pho. Later the company was working with E Trp., 1st Cav. in the same area when they engaged and killed three NVA.

One VC was killed along the beach seven miles southeast of Duc Pho, by a "Shark" gunship of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co.

Co. D, 1-20 Inf. detained two enemy suspects and captured their motor bikes along with a damaged one, as well as three disassembled bicycles, six miles northeast of Duc Pho.

Two more suspects without I.D. cards were detained by **Co. B, 1-20 Inf.** seven miles southeast of Duc Pho.

Of the 11 VC killed in the 198th Inf. Bde. area, nine were killed by artillery.

D Btry., 1-14 Arty. engaged 40 VC killing seven in hills seven miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai.

A half-mile west and two hours earlier, Co. B, 4-3 Inf. spotted two VC crossing a river and called in artillery which killed the two. The company later found an M-72 LAW in underbrush by a trail five miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai,

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and blew it in place.

Co. C, 4-3 inf. engaged four VC and killed two, seven miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai.

The 196th Inf. Bde.'s Co. D, 4-31 Inf. discovered a large ammo cache when a VC suspect, detained Friday, led a patrol to a well-camouflaged pit along a trail in heavy underbrush 20 miles west-southwest of Tam Ky.

Inside the six-by-six foot pit were 22,500 rounds of AK-47 ammo, 100 rounds of 82mm and nine rounds of 60mm mortar ammo, and three B-40 rockets.

In other brigade activity, one NVA and seven VC were killed and three individual weapons captured.

Co. D, 4-31 Inf. also killed three VC hiding in a hootch near the site of the ammo cache. An SKS rifle and an M-1 carbine were also found. A mile away, the company killed another VC in the mountainous region.

A Ranger patrol of Co. G, 75 Inf. killed one NVA and captured his K-44 rifle in mountains 21-1/2 miles west-southwest of Tam Ky. Shortly afterwards the patrol killed one VC in the same vicinity.

A recon unit of the 3-21 Inf. engaged three VC killing one, after being fired upon with M-79's 12-1/2 miles west of Tam Ky. In the afternoon, another VC was killed when artillery fire was called on a group of six VC.

"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed four VC in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area in four incidents from 16-1/2 miles north-northwest to 10 miles north of Tam Ky.

Five Americal soldiers were killed, and 31 wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report. Four Americal soldiers were also reported missing in action.

Volume 3 No. 91 Americal Daily New Sheet MONDAY March 31, 1969
AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) – Action was light in southern I Corps yesterday with Americal Division units reporting one NVA and 36 VC killed, 15 suspects detained, seven bunkers destroyed, one weapon captured and over 2 1/2 tons of rice discovered.

In a delayed report, the 196th Inf. Bde.'s Co. A, 2-1 Inf. discovered a small NVA defensive position nine miles southwest of Tam Ky, while on a search and clear mission through the triple-canopy jungle. The position consisted of a rock fence 75'x 68' feet long, three feet wide, and three feet high behind which were seven bunkers made of earth and logs. Two tons of polished rice, three rounds of 60mm mortar, and an M-72 LAW with a 40 pound high explosive round in its tube also found in the area and destroyed. (located at BT199134).

The 11th Inf. Bde. reported 27 enemy soldiers, one and NVA, killed in actions in its area the day before.

In a delayed report, "Aero Scouts" gunships of the 123d Avn. Bn. killed 26 VC among hootches two miles east of Quang Ngai, Saturday.

Co. C, 3-1 Inf. found one NVA killed by small arms fire, while on a search of the area six miles north of Duc Pho, where the company had tangled with a large combined NVA and VC force Saturday.

Two enemy suspects were detained by **Co. D, 1-20 Inf.** along Highway 1, five miles northwest of Duc Pho, Sunday.

In the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area **"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav.**, killed five VC in four incidents within a half-mile of each other, 6 1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky. This gives the troop nine VC kills in the 1st Cav. area in two days.

The four VC killed in the 198th Inf. Bde were killed by Co. B, 4-3 Inf. when the VC ran into its ambush eight miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai.

Besides the seven bunkers destroyed in the 196th Inf. Bde. one VC was killed 13 suspects detained, and one weapon was captured.

Co. D, **1-52nd Inf.** engaged two VC, killing one and wounding the other, in the heavy jungle, 19 miles northwest of Tam Ky. Nearby, the company found and destroyed a tunnel, with two entrances 400 meters apart, which had been used recently. The company later discovered 700 pounds of rice, two rice mills, as well as detaining seven suspects 17 1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky. The rice was destroyed and the rice mills extracted.

Co. A, 1-46 Inf. engaged two NVA in the heavy jungle 10 miles south-south-west of Tam Ky, wounding one which dropped his K-44 rifle which the company captured.

Another half-ton of rice was found in a hootch, and extracted by Co. B, 2-1 Inf., 8 1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Co. D, 1-46 Inf. detained six enemy suspects while making a sweep of an area nine miles south-southwest of Tam Ky.

Three enemy suspects without I.D. cards were detained by a Recon unit of 3-21 Inf. while it was on a search of the jungle 14 west of Tam Ky.

Four Americal soldiers were killed, and six wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report. The four soldiers reported killed had been reported missing in action the day before (D 3-1st Inf. Bn.)

Vol. 3 No. 91 Tuesday April 1, 1969

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Three new operations began on Mar. 18 in the Americal Division area, marking common boundaries in which Americal Troops and 2nd ARVN Div. soldiers will work jointly.

The 196th Bde., 1st Sqdn, 1st Cav., and the 5th ARVN Regt. have joined in Operation Frederick Hill. The 198th Bde. and 6th ARVN Regt. are participating in Operation Geneva Park, and the 11th Bde. and 4th ARVN Rgt. are conducting Operation Iron Mountain.

Action was light in southern I Corps yesterday, with Americal units reporting one NVA and 27 VC killed, over two tons of rice discovered and three weapons captured.

Heaviest action was in Operation Frederick Hill area with 24 enemy soldiers, one an NVA, killed by the 196th Inf. Bde., and the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav.

The 1st Cav. reported 15 VC killed and one weapon captured in its area Monday.

C Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. working with Popular Force units 8-1/2 miles north of Tam Ky, engaged and killed 10 VC in heavy underbrush and captured one Thompson submachinegun, and 81 Chicom grenades.

"**Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav**. killed five VC in five contacts near the coast from 10 miles to 7-1/2 miles north of Tam Ky.

In the 196th Inf. Bde. one NVA and seven VC were killed.

Co. A, 26 Engr. Bn. found two VC who had been killed when a mine they were trying to plant in Highway 535 went off, 17 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

A Recon patrol of 3-21 Inf. killed two VC in two incidents in rice paddies 1-1/2 miles west of Tam Ky. Later the patrol was led by a VC suspect, detained the day before, to an SKS rifle hidden in underbrush a half-mile away.

One VC was killed by Co. D, 4-31 Inf. when the company engaged four VC with packs in a mountainous region 20 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

Co. D, **1-52nd Inf**. killed one VC after receiving M-79 rounds at 0300 hours, 19-1/2 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky. Co. D also found and extracted two tons of rice from a tunnel in the same area.

While Co. C, 2-1 Inf. was on a search and clear mission 9-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky, the point man heard movement to the left of the trail and fired into the area. When the location was searched, one NVA was found as well as an M-16 rifle.

Another VC was killed in heavy jungle by Co. A, 3-21 Inf., 14-1/2 miles west of Tam Ky.

Three VC were killed in the 198th Inf. Bde.'s Operation Geneva Park area by a "Minuteman" gunship of the 176th Aslt. Hel. Co., piloted by WO1 Richard McLean (Miami, Fla.), eight miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

Co. D, 5-46 Inf. found and destroyed 400 pounds of rice hidden under a fireplace in a hootch and another 300 pounds hidden in a cane bin seven miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

The 11th Inf. Bde. reported two VC were killed in its Operation Iron Mountain area.

One VC was killed outside a village six miles north of Duc Pho by Co. A, 3-1 Inf., and the other was killed by an observation post 6-1/2 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Twelve Americal soldiers were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report

Vol. 3 No. 92 Thursday April 3, 1969
AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action was light in southern I Corps yesterday, with Americal Division units reporting two NVA and eight VC killed in eight contacts, 11 enemy suspects detained, and three weapons captured.

In Operation Frederick Hill, the 196th Inf. Bde. reported two NVA and six VC killed, and one weapon captured.

One VC was killed when Co. A, 4-31 Inf. engaged three in the mountainous region 24-1/2 miles west of Tam Ky.

A half-mile away, Co. C, 2-1 Inf. engaged and killed one VC and while searching the area the company found another VC body and a .30 caliber carbine.

Co. A, 1-46 Inf. killed one VC hiding in a hole 8-1/2 miles south-southwest of Tam Ky. He had a large sum of money on his person which it is thought he was going to use to buy rice. He also had GVN and VC passports.

A half-mile south Co. D, 1-46 Inf. killed another VC in a rice paddy.

A **"Blue Ghost" gunship of F Trp., 8th Cav**. killed one VC while flying in support of the 196th Inf. Bde. 12 miles west of Tam Ky.

Co. C, 2-1 Inf., while on a search and clear mission nine miles southwest of Tam Ky, found three bunkers, two 8x10 feet in size and one 20x12 feet, with VC propaganda leaflets in them. The bunkers were destroyed and the leaflets extracted.

A Popular Forces unit, working with Co. A, 4-31 Inf. detained five suspects along with an SKS rifle, an AK-47 rifle, a Springfield rifle, a shotgun, and a carbine, 24 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

One VC was killed in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area Wednesday. An Americal Division PSYOP Team of SP4 James Dixon and ARVN SSG Nguyen Troung Ginng were broadcasting to villagers around 0930 hours, when they came under attack by a 12 man VC force in a rice field along Highway 1, 15 miles northwest of Tam Ky. The ensuing fight lasted about 30 minutes until the VC retreated when they saw a helicopter passing overhead. One VC body and a CKC rifle were left behind which the PSYOP Team brought back to its bullet-riddled truck and resumed broadcasting.

The only contact in the 198th Inf. Bde. was west of the Operation Russell Beach area, when Co. D, 5-46 Inf. engaged two VC and killed one, 6-1/2 miles northeast of Quang Ngai.

A short time later, the company found an M-72 LAW hidden in underbrush by a trail, a half-mile away.

Co. C, 5-46 Inf. found an ammo cache, with 59 rounds of M-79 ammo, five M-26 hand grenades, four CS grenades and over 300 rounds of M-14 ammo which had been buried so long it was unusable. A VC suspect was also detained in the area seven miles northeast of Quang Ngai.

Five more enemy suspects without I.D. cards were detained by Co. D, 4-1 Inf., 9-1/2 miles south of Chu Lai. ***[Typo Note: There was no 4/1st Inf. Bn in the Americal. The S2/S3 report shows D Co 4/3 detained at least 2 suspects this day while OPCON to the 198th Bde near LZ Sue].***

In Operation Iron Mountain, the 11th Inf. Bde. reported no enemy contacts, but Co. A, 4-21 Inf. found and destroyed an estimated company size enemy base camp in foothills six miles west of Duc Pho. In it were 14 fighting positions and 14 sleeping positions and it was estimated to be over a month old.

Four suspects were detained by Co. D, 3-1 Inf. along the coast 2-1/2 miles northeast of Duc Pho.

Another suspect was detained in a rice paddy six miles northwest of Duc Pho, by **Co. D, 1-20 Inf.**

Eleven Americal soldiers were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 94 Friday April 4, 1969
AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Light action prevailed throughout southern I Corps yesterday, with Americal Division units reporting nine NVA and eight VC killed in 10 contacts, and 10 weapons, two crew-served, captured.

The 196th Inf. Bde. reported moderate action in **Operation Frederick Hill** with five NVA and three VC killed, seven individual and two crew-served weapons captured.

During a sweep through jungle-covered foot hills 10 miles south-southwest of Tam Ky, Co. D, 1-46 Inf. came under attack by an estimated squad of NVA. The "Professionals" returned fire killing three NVA.

Co. C, 1-46 Inf. was working in an area, two miles north when it spotted and killed two NVA soldiers running from a hootch, and captured their AK-47 rifles.

During a search of the surrounding area, the company found another AK-47 rifle, an SKS rifle, two complete 82mm mortars and eight rounds of 82mm mortar ammo, 500 pound of rice, 10 NVA uniforms and numerous documents.

One VC was killed, and his AK-47 rifle captures when Co. D, 3-21 Inf. engaged three VC wearing packs, 10 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

A Recon Patrol of 1-46 Inf. spotted and engaged four VC, killing one, in the triple-canopy jungle 14-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Another VC was killed while trying to slip past F Trp., 17th Cav. in the mountains 24 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky. Later in the day, they found and destroyed four 82mm mortar rounds rigged as a pressure mine.

Co. A, 2-1 Inf. found two small caches Thursday. The first was 9-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky, where the "Guardians" found an M-1 carbine, 1000 pounds of rice, a Chinese telephone switchboard, and 20 pounds of documents. The other was a mile and a half away and consisted of six bunkers in which were an M-2 carbine, 20 pounds of maps, and 10 pounds of documents and notes.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. reported no enemy kills in its area.

In Operation Iron Mountain the 11th Inf. Bde. reported four NVA and three VC killed and one weapon captured.

Shortly after a Ranger patrol of Co. G, 75 Inf. was inserted into an area 6-1/2 miles west of Duc Pho, it found 20 fresh bunkers. The patrol then moved to a position by the trail to call in its find. While calling in, the patrol came under intense fire from 10-15 NVA soldiers. Fire was returned and the NVA broke contact, after which the area was searched. Four NVA bodies were found as well as an SKS rifle.

Three VC were killed when Co. D, 3-1 Inf. blew up the tunnel they were hiding in with a hand grenade, three miles southeast of Duc Pho, by Lake Lam Ininh.

Two VC were killed in the 198th Inf. Bde.'s **Operation Geneva Park area.**

Co. C, 4-3 Inf. spotted four VC moving along a trail 9-1/2 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai, and engaged them killing one VC wearing black pajamas.

The other VC was killed by a "Blue Ghost" gunship of **F Trp., 8th Cav**. when he refused to stop for questioning five miles south of Chu Lai.

Co. D, 5-46 Inf. found 13 rounds of 82mm mortar ammo, a box of fused, a box of detonator caps, and 300 rounds of .30 caliber ammo, in a pagoda seven miles northeast of Quang Ngai.

Five Americal soldiers were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 98 Tuesday April 8, 1969

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Light action prevailed in southern I Corps yesterday, with Americal Division units reporting two NVA and 15 VC killed, 12 contacts, three VC bodies discovered and seven suspects detained.

FREDERICK HILL--The 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. reported 11 VC killed in its area of operation.

H Trp., 1st Cav. engaged and killed three VC among hootches 13 miles northwest of Tam Ky. The troop killed four more VC in a rice paddy 11 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

"**Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav**. killed four VC in four contacts along the coast ranging from 7-1/2 miles north to 16 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky.

The 196th Inf. Bde. had one NVA and two VC killed in its area.

F Trp., 17th Cav. killed a lone NVA in the mountains 22 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

One VC was killed running from a hootch by Co. C, 3-21 Inf. 10-1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

The recon patrol of the 1-46 Inf. observed a VC coming from a hootch and opened up with small arms fire killing the VC 13-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

A Co., 26th Eng. Bn. working southwest of LZ Baldy found and destroyed a pair of mines made from 175mm and 8 inch howitzer rounds.

Co. D, 1-46 Inf. evacuated 70 refugees to Tam Ky, from an area 15 miles south of that city.

GENEVA PARK--In the 198th Inf. Bde. area three VC killed by air strikes were found by Co. D, 4-3 Inf. in triple-canopy jungle 13 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai.

IRON MOUNTAIN--One NVA and two VC were killed, and seven suspects detained in the 11th Inf. Bde. area.

The **recon** patrol of the **1-20 Inf**. engaged and killed one NVA in a rice paddy 2-1/2 miles south-southeast of Duc Pho.

Co. B, 1-20 Inf. engaged three VC 4-1/2 miles southeast of Duc Pho, killing one VC and detained two wounded suspects.

Co. A, 4-21 Inf. killed one VC in a rice paddy 10 miles north of Duc Pho. The company also detained three female VC suspects in the same area, one was in a bunker.

Co. D, 4-21 Inf. detained two female suspects without I.D. Cards five miles north of Duc Pho.

Eleven Americal soldiers were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 99 Wednesday April 9, 1969

MIRACLE SAFETY REMINDER 70% of all hospital admissions to US Military Hospitals in Vietnam are due to DISEASE NOT WOUNDS--USE YOUR SMARTS. GOOD LUCK

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Americal Division units reported five NVA and six VC were killed, two VC bodies found, and six weapons captured in light action in southern I Corps yesterday.

FREDERICK HILL--The 196th Inf. Bde. reported four NVA and one VC killed, and three weapons captured in its area of operation.

Co. C, 4-31 Inf. killed one NVA and captured his AK-47 rifle during a search and clear mission 26-1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky. During the search of the mountainous region, the company found an NVA base camp which had been used recently. The camp consisted of two camouflaged hootches and two underground classrooms which were 15 by 10 by eight feet in size. Forty wooden practice Chicom grenades and vines used to simulate barbed wire were found as well as 10 pairs of wire cutters, eight NVA shovels and a pick, 15 AK-47 magazines and 1,500 rounds of ammo, 26 B-40 rockets and 31 B-40 rocket boosters, five 25 pound shape charges, 14 bangalore torpedoes, 250 pounds of rice, and five pounds of documents found during the search of the area.

Co. C, **1-52nd Inf**. killed one NVA in a mountainous region 23 miles northwest of Tam Ky. A small tunnel complex which an NVA killed recently by small arms fire, was also found.

Another NVA was killed when Co. A, 1-46 Inf. engaged two enemy soldiers in the jungle eight miles southwest of Tam Ky, a submachinegun and five Chicom grenades, were also captured.

Co. C, 3-21 Inf. engaged three VC killing one in foothills 10-1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky. Earlier the company had found an M-1 carbine without a stock, behind a hootch a mile away.

IRON MOUNTAIN--One NVA and two VC were killed, two bodies found, and three weapons captured in the 11th Inf. Bde. area Tuesday.

Co. A, 4-21 Inf. killed one NVA and captured his AK-47 rifle six miles southwest of Duc Pho.

A Ranger patrol of Co. G, 75 Inf. working with "Shark" gunships of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. 8-1/2 miles northwest of Duc Pho, killed one VC and found two SKS rifles which the "Sharks" had destroyed.

A recon patrol of the 3-1 Inf. found a VC killed by artillery near a stream in foothills 15 miles southwest of Quang Ngai.

Co. D, 4-21 Inf. found two VC buried in graves three to four days old among eight more graves in an area 5-1/2 miles southwest of Duc Pho.****

GENEVA PARK-- Two VC were killed in the 198th Inf. Bde. area Tuesday.

A **"Blue Ghost" gunship of F Trp., 8th Cav**. killed one VC running towards a tree line four miles southwest of Chu Lai.

The other was killed by Co. D, 1-6 Inf. in a rice paddy nine miles northwest of Chu Lai.

Another "**Blue Ghost" gunship of F Trp., 8th Cav**. killed a lone VC in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area of Operation Frederick Hill, 16 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky.

Thirteen Americal soldiers were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 100 Thursday April 10, 1969

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action was light in southern I Corps yesterday, with Americal Division units reporting one NVA and eight VC killed, 15 suspects detained, and one weapon captured.

IRON MOUNTAIN--Four VC were killed, and seven enemy suspects detained in scattered action in the 11th Inf. Bde.'s area of operation.

A "Shark" gunship of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. killed one VC among hootches 5-1/2 miles southeast of Duc Pho.

Co. B,1-20 Inf. killed a VC, who was thought to be a security chief, 5-1/2 miles southeast of Duc Pho. The company also detained five VC suspects in the same area.

E Trp., 1st Cav. killed another VC along the coast three miles east of Duc Pho.

Co. C, 26 Eng. Bn. was working in an area a half mile north when it came under fire from an enemy bunker. The company returned fire and blew the bunker up with an M-72 LAW which killed one VC.

Two enemy suspects were detained by Co. D, 3-1 Inf. six miles southeast of Duc Pho.

GENEVA PARK--One VC was killed and, one weapon was captured in the 198th Inf. Bde. area Wednesday.

A recon patrol of the 5-46 Inf. engaged four VC, killing one, and capturing a carbine eight miles south of Chu Lai.

FREDERICK HILL--In the 1st Sqdn. 1st Cav. area, two VC were killed by **"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav**. One was killed seven miles west and the other was killed 10-1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

The 196th Inf. Bde. reported one NVA body found, and nine suspects detained in its area.

Co. C, 4-31 Inf. found an NVA in a fresh grave, who had been killed by small arms fire within the past 24 hours in a mountainous region 26 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

Two enemy suspects were detained a mile away by Co. B, 1-20 Inf.

Co. C, **1-52nd Inf.** detained two males and five females as VC suspects during a sweep of an area 21 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

One Americal soldier was killed, and 11 wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 103 Sunday April 13, 1969

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action was moderate for the second consecutive day in southern I Corps yesterday, with Americal Division units reporting two NVA and 23 VC killed, and 30 weapons, one crew-served, captured.

Co. C of the 11th Inf. Bde.'s 4-21 Inf. found a weapon cache while on a search and clear mission 14 miles north-northwest of Duc Pho. The company found a well camouflaged hootch in triple-canopy jungle, and on the floor inside it found 26 weapons covered with grass and other vegetation. In all, the company found four MAS-36 rifles, five M-1 rifles, two BAR's, 12 K-44 rifles, an M-1 carbine, an M-2 carbine, and a M-60 machinegun which were extracted, as well as one and a half 55 gallon drums of polished rice, 100 rounds of AK-47 ammo, four B-40 rockets, and 147 Chicom detonation caps which were destroyed.

FREDERICK HILL--The 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. reported 10 VC killed and two weapons captured in scattered actions in its area.

For the second straight day B Trp., 1st Cav. encountered day long activity. At 0915 hours, the troop came under attack with hand grenades while on a combat sweep 18 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky, and it returned fire killing four VC and capturing a SKS rifle. The troop later killed three more VC in three separate contacts 19-1/2 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky, and also found another SKS rifle in heavy underbrush a mile north.

C Trp., 1st Cav. killed two more VC in a rice paddy six miles west of Tam Ky.

A **"Blue Ghost" gunship of F Trp., 8th Cav.** killed a lone VC among trees 15 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky.

The 196th Inf. Bde. accounted for one NVA and seven VC killed, and two weapons captured in its area.

An NVA was killed when the recon patrol of the 4-31 Inf. engaged two, also capturing an AK-47 rifle and a SKS rifle in a mountainous region 24 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

Co. D, 4-31 Inf. killed one VC a mile away.

Eight VC carrying a large crate were spotted by Co. D, **1-52nd Inf.** which engaged them, killing two and capturing the crate in the Khe Suoi Mountains 23-1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky. Inside the crate were 2,000 rounds of .51 caliber ammo and 100 rounds of AK-47 ammo.

Co. A, **1-52nd Inf.** engaged and killed another VC a half mile away.

Co. B, 1-46 Inf. killed a lone VC in triple-canopy jungle 11 miles southwest of Tam Ky and the recon patrol of the 1-46 Inf. killed one VC when it engaged two in the jungle a half mile away.

Another VC was killed by Co. C, 3-21 Inf. in foothills 10-1/2 miles west of Tam Ky.

IRON MOUNTAIN--Besides the weapons cache found, one NVA and four VC were killed in the 11th Inf. Bde.'s area of operation.

The recon patrol of the 4-21 Inf. found a NVA who had been killed by artillery within the last 24 hours near a bunker where three tons of rice were found, which the patrol destroyed, 14-1/2 miles northwest of Duc Pho. The patrol later engaged and killed two VC near the Ve River a half mile away, and another VC was killed in the foothills above the river.

Co. B, 1-20 Inf. killed a VC along the beach seven miles southeast of Duc Pho.

GENEVA PARK-- "Aero Scouts" gunships of the 123 Avn. Bn. killed two VC in the 198th Inf. Bde. area of operation 19 miles southwest of Chu Lai, for the only kills reported in the brigade area Saturday.

Three Americal soldiers were killed and 19 wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 104 Monday April 14, 1969

MIRACLE SAFETY REMINDER; Today is orange pill day. Guard against malaria. Also remember a salt tablet, Now that the weather is hot.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Moderate action prevailed in southern I Corps yesterday, with Americal Division units reporting eight NVA and 47 VC killed, and three weapons captured in 26 contacts.

FREDERICK HILL--The 196th Inf. Bde. accounted for eight NVA and 19 VC killed as well as one weapon captured in widespread action in its area of operation.

Eleven VC were killed by "Firebirds" of the 71st Aslt. Hel. Co. in five combat assault missions in a mountainous region 29 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

Besides killing one NVA, Co. D, **1-52nd Inf.** observed an 18-20 man NVA and VC force in mountains 25 miles northwest of Tam Ky, and called in air strikes and artillery which killed six NVA.

The recon patrol of the 1-46 Inf. killed one NVA when it engaged three in jungle covered foothills 10 miles southwest of Tam Ky. Earlier the patrol killed two VC when it engaged three in the same vicinity.

Two more VC were killed and an M-1 carbine captured by F Trp., 17th Cav. in mountains 23-1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

Co. A, 4-31 Inf. killed two VC with packs 26 miles west of Tam Ky, and Co. C, 3-21 Inf. killed two in heavy jungle 12 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. reported 18 VC killed, and two weapons captured in its area.

For the third consecutive day, B Trp., 1st Cav. has encountered enemy activity on Barrier Island, 20 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky. Sunday, a Hoi Chanh showed the troops where enemy bunkers were hidden among the four to eight foot high dikes which cover much of the island. The troop killed 12 VC in bunkers and captured a BAR and a K-44 rifle that was in one of the bunkers.

"**Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav.** killed five more VC while flying in support of the 1st Cav. in the same locale.

A Trp., 1st Cav. engaged three VC, killing one, in the same area.

GENEVA PARK--The nine VC killed in the 198th Inf. Bde. area were killed by gunships.

Five VC were killed by two "Firebird" gunships of the 71st Aslt. Hel. Co., piloted by WO1 Lloyd Gfeller, and WO1 Kelly McHugh, after the VC opened up on the gunships with small arms fire and broke into the open from their hiding places among the thick underbrush 11 miles northeast of Quang Ngai.

Four more VC were killed by "Aeroscout" gunships of the 123rd Avn. Bn., when they engaged an unknown size force in triple-canopy jungle 15-1/2 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai.

IRON MOUNTAIN--The recon patrol of the 11th Inf. bde.'s 4-21 Inf. killed a lone VC near the Ve River, 11-1/2 miles northwest of Duc Pho, for the only kill reported in the brigade area.

One Americal soldier was killed and 11 wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report. Four Americal soldiers were reported missing in action.

Vol. 3 No. 106 Wednesday April 16, 1969

MIRACLE SAFETY REMINDER Sweat And Live. Take your salt tablets regularly.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Americal Division units reported nine NVA and 19 VC killed, three tons of rice discovered, and two weapons captured in light action in southern I Corps yesterday.

FREDERICK HILL--The 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. was again busy on Barrier Island, Tuesday, with five NVA and four VC killed.

B Trp., 1st Cav. engaged and killed five NVA in a bunker amid four to eight feet high dikes which cover the island 16-1/2 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky.

A Trp., 1st Cav. killed two VC in two separate actions a half mile north.

"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed two VC in a rice paddy on the island 14-1/2 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky.

The 196th Inf. Bde. accounted for three NVA and six VC killed, three tons of rice found, and one weapon captured.

Co. B, 1-46 Inf. killed one NVA and found two more killed by gunships working with the company in jungle covered foothills 13-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky. The company also found one VC who had been killed by artillery in the same area.

Co. D, 4-31 Inf. killed one VC when it engaged two in the afternoon 21-1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky. At 2330 hours, the company engaged three more VC killing one 24-1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

Co. D, 1-46 Inf. killed a lone VC 13-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Co. C, **1-52nd Inf**. killed a VC and captured his AK-47 rifle in a mountainous region 24 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Co. C, 2-1 Inf. engaged three VC killing one 17 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

A unit from the 2-1 Inf. was working on a MEDCAP project in a village 17 miles northwest of Tam Ky, which treated 170 Vietnamese. While it was treating the people, possible VC were being questioned, one of whom said he knew where a large amount of rice was buried. Popular Force units went with the Vietnamese to an area not far from the village. They found 30 crocks of rice, each weighing 200 pounds, buried under a hedgerow. The three tons of rice is to be extracted.

RUSSELL BEACH AND GENEVA PARK--The 198th Inf. Bde. reported nine VC killed in its operation areas Tuesday.

In Operation Russell Beach, Co. E, 5-46 Inf. killed five VC after engaging an unknown size enemy force 6-1/2 miles northeast of Quang Ngai.

The command and control helicopter of the 5-46 Inf., piloted by 1LT David L. Grieger (Weatherford, Tex.) killed one VC in a rice paddy 11 miles northeast of Quang Ngai.

Co. B, 5-46 Inf. killed two more VC in the same area.

In Operation Geneva Park, Co. A, 4-3 Inf. killed one VC when it engaged two in the triple-canopy jungle 8-1/2 miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

IRON MOUNTAIN--The recon patrol of the 11th Inf. Bde.'s 4-21 Inf. killed a lone VC in the foothills 12 miles northwest of Duc Pho, for the only kill reported in the brigade area.

Co. B, 3-1 Inf. found a carbine which had been destroyed and an AK-47 bayonet 7-1/2 miles south of Duc Pho.

Four Americal soldiers were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 108 Friday April 18, 1969
AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action was moderate in southern I Corps yesterday, 32 NVA and 17 VC killed, and 12 weapons, two crew served, captured.

IRON MOUNTAIN--The 11th Inf. Bde. accounted for 24 NVA and one VC killed, and four weapons captured, two crew-served.

Soon after Co. C, 3-1 Inf. was combat assaulted into a valley 6-1/2 miles west of Duc Pho, CPT. John Blanks (Macon, Ga.), the commanding officer of the company, led it in a charge against enemy bunkers, killing six NVA and capturing two 50 caliber machineguns mounted on tripods.

CPT. John S. Walker, (Wakefield, R.I.), from the 3-1 Inf.'s S-2 section, said, "There were between 30 and 40 NVA in well dug in positions. They were thought to be the heavy weapons company of the 22nd NVA Regt. whose job it was to position themselves in the valley to secure the regiment's passing through it."

"Aero Scout" gunships of the 123rd Avn. Bn. engaged nine NVA killing seven a mile east, while flying in support of the company.

Co. D, 3-1 Inf. engaged an unknown size NVA force 3-1/2 miles west of Duc Pho, killing nine NVA, detaining a wounded enemy suspect, and capturing an SKS rifle. The company also found a VC in a tunnel who had been dead a week, in the same area.

Co. C, 4-21 Inf. killed two more NVA in the triple-canopy jungle 9-1/2 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Co. B, 1-20 Inf. found an unknown type weapon in a hootch 5-1/2 miles southeast of Duc Pho.

FREDERICK HILL--The 196th Inf. Bde. reported eight NVA and five VC killed, and four weapons captured in its area.

Co. A, **1-52nd Inf.** engaged and killed five NVA, and captured an AK-47 rifle, an SKS rifle, and a Vz-58P rifle, after a heavy contact in the mountainous region 23 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Co. D, 4-3 Inf. killed two NVA when it engaged five amid jungle covered foothills 20-1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky, where the company had killed a VC after he refused to come out of a tunnel.

Another NVA was killed and his AK-47 rifle captured by F Trp., 17th Cav. working with P.F.'s in the mountains 23-1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Two VC were killed by Co. B, 2-1 Inf. in two separate contacts 18-1/2 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky, where the company found a ton of rice buried under a hootch.

One VC was killed by Co. D, 3-21 Inf. 11 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky, and the command and control helicopter of the 1-46 Inf. killed another VC 11-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed 10 VC in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area 17-1/2 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky, west of the Troung River.

GENEVA PARK and RUSSELL BEACH--One VC was killed and four weapons captured in the 198th Inf. Bde. areas of operation.

A "Minuteman" gunship of the 176th Aslt. Hel. Co. killed a lone VC in a rice paddy seven miles north of Quang Ngai.

Two AK-47 rifles and a M-14 rifle were captured after Co. C, 1-6 Inf. engaged four VC in foothills six miles west of Chu Lai.

In **Operation Russell Beach**, Co. A, 5-46 Inf. captured an M-2 carbine after engaging four VC 11 miles northeast of Quang Ngai.****

Seven Americal soldiers were killed and 24 wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 109 Saturday April 19, 1969

MIRACLE SAFETY REMINDER A bore cleaning job better follow the use of tracer ammo in your M16A1 rifle. KEEP IT CLEAN.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Americal Division units reported 16 NVA and 22 VC killed, and one weapon captured in light action in southern I Corps yesterday.

FREDERICK HILL--The 196th Inf. Bde. reported killing seven NVA and 10 VC, and extracting 1-1/2 tons of rice.

Co. B, 1-46 Inf. was on a search and clear mission 18 miles southwest of Tam Ky, when it observed an unknown size enemy force moving through foothills and called air strikes which killed six NVA and eight VC.

Another NVA was killed by Co. D, 4-31 Inf. on a search and clear mission in mountains 21 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

Co. B, 3-21 Inf. killed a lone VC in a mountainous region 25-1/2 miles west of Tam Ky.

Another VC was killed by Co. A, 1-46 Inf. six miles southwest of Tam Ky.

It seems as though an intelligence officer from the 2-1 Inf. has suddenly acquired a taste for rice. CPT. Robert Netter (Kingston, N.Y.) was sitting on top of a dozen 100 pound bags of rice that had been unearthed by Co. B, 2-1 Inf. working with local R.F.'s 19 miles northwest of LZ Baldy, 15 miles northwest of Tam Ky, it came under intense automatic weapons fire. The sacks of rice CPT. Netter was sitting on absorbed the rounds.

CPT. Netter said, "I was hugging the rice bags and darn glad they were there." He added, "I'll be happy to eat rice very day from now on!"

Over a ton and a half of rice was extracted from cement crocks buried under hootches.

"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed five VC in five contacts on Barrier Island from 8-1/2 miles north to 17-1/2 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky, from the only kills reported in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area.

IRON MOUNTAIN--Nine NVA and two VC were reported killed in the 11th Inf. Bde.

While the recon patrol of the 4-21 Inf. was searching an area 10-1/2 miles west-northwest of Duc Pho, it came under small arms fire which it returned killing two NVA. Four NVA were killed after they threw hand grenades at the patrol from a bunker which was destroyed.

The patrol had earlier called artillery which killed two VC a half mile away.

GENEVA PARK--The 198th Inf. Bde. reported five VC killed as well as a weapon captured in its area.

Three VC were killed by Co. C, 4-3 Inf. 6-1/2 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai. One VC was killed in the underbrush and under a pile of rocks nearby the company found 230 rounds of 30 caliber ammo, 310 rounds of M-16 ammo, as well as documents. Two more VC were killed when the bunker they were in was blown up by a hand grenade. Co. B, 5-46 Inf. killed two VC and captured an AK-47 rifle eight miles northeast of Quang Ngai.

Action was moderate to light in southern I Corps, with Americal Division units accounting for 75 NVA and 187 VC killed, and 55 weapons, five crew-served, captured.

The heaviest action was in the 196th Inf. Bde. area of **Operation Frederick Hill**, where 38 NVA and 66 VC were killed, and 12 weapons captured,

(Continued -1)

one crew-served.

"Firebird" gunships of the 71st Aslt. He. Co. killed 11 VC in five combat assault missions in a mountainous region 29 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky, Sunday.

Co. B, 1-46 Inf. accounted for four NVA and six VC killed in its area of Operation Frederick Hill.

Most of the action was on Barrier Island where Trps. A and B, 1st Cav. met well entrenched NVA and VC forces in five days of contact which began last Friday. A Trp., 1st Cav. accounted for five NVA and 10 VC killed, and two weapons captured, B Trp., 1st Cav. killed five more NVA and 32 VC as well as capturing four weapons, and **"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav**. killed five VC while flying in support of the 1st Cav. on the island.

"Blue Ghost" had a total of 28 VC killed in the area last week.

The 11th Inf. Bde. reported 35 NVA and 12 VC killed, and 32 weapons, three crew-served, captured in Operation Iron Mountain.

Thursday, Co. C, 3-1 Inf. was on a combat assault mission in a valley 6-1/2 miles west of Duc Pho, when it engaged enemy bunkers killing six NVA and capturing two 50 caliber machineguns.

"Aero Scout" gunships of the 123rd Avn. Bn. killed seven NVA a mile away.

Co. D, 3-1 Inf. killed nine more NVA as well as capturing an SKS rifle 3-1/2 miles west of Duc Pho.

Saturday, Co. C, 4-21 Inf. found a weapons cache on a search and clear mission 14 miles north-northwest of Duc Pho. On the floor of a well camouflaged hootch the company found 26 weapons covered with grass and other vegetation.

In the 198th Inf. Bde. 41 VC were killed and five weapons captured.

Tuesday, Co. E, 5-46 inf. killed five VC 6-1/2 miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

One Americal soldier was killed, and seven wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report. Twenty Americal soldiers were killed in the fighting last week.

Vol. 3 No. 110 Sunday April 20, 1969
MIRACLE SAFETY REMINDER SALT YOUR TROUBLES AWAY TAKE A COUPLE EVERYDAY.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action was light in southern I Corps yesterday, with Americal Division units reporting 20 NVA and 41 VC killed, and four weapons captured, one crew-served.

IRON MOUNTAIN--The 11th Inf. Bde. accounted for 18 NVA and 18 VC killed, and two weapons captured.

The recon patrol of the 4-21 Inf. found 18 NVA killed by air strikes that had been called into the area 10-1/2 miles west-northwest of Duc Pho, the day before the patrol when it spotted an unknown size enemy force moving through the jungle.

"Warlord" gunships of Co. B, 123rd Avn. Bn. killed 11 VC near the Vo River 14-1/2 miles northwest of Duc Pho. Fifteen minutes later the "Warlords" killed eight more VC and captured an AK-47 rifle and a M-79 grenade launcher a half mile away.

Three VC were killed by **Co. D, 1-20 Inf.** in a rice paddy three miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Co. B, 1-20 Inf. killed two on the coast seven miles southeast of Duc Pho, in two separate actions.

Co. **C, 1-20 Inf.** killed one VC after engaging two on the coast 11-1/2 miles southeast of Duc Pho.

A VC killed by artillery was found by Co. D, 4-21 Inf. in the triple-canopy jungle 12 miles west-northwest of Duc Pho.

GENEVA PARK and RUSSELL BEACH---The 198th Inf. Bde. accounted for 10 VC killed in its area of operation.

In Operation Geneva Park, Co. B, 5-46 Inf. found four VC in a tunnel it had blown the day before eight miles north-northwest of Quang Ngai.

Co. C, 4-3 Inf. engaged and killed three more VC 9-1/2 miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

Co. C, 5-46 Inf. engaged five VC killing one and detaining a VC suspect six miles south of Chu Lai.

Another VC was killed by H Trp., 17th Cav. in a rice paddy eight miles north-northwest of Quang Ngai.

Using a hand grenade Co. A 5-46 Inf. killed a VC on the Batangan Peninsula 10 miles northeast of Quang Ngai.

FREDERICK HILL---The 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. reported 10 VC killed and two weapons captured in its area.

C. Trp., 1st Cav. killed six VC in two separate contacts seven miles west of Tam Ky. In the first contact, four VC were killed and an AK-47 rifle captured, in the other two VC were killed after the troop engaged three, and a 57 caliber recoilless rifle was captured.

F Trp., 8th Cav.'s "Blue Ghost" gunships killed four VC in three contacts from nine miles north to 18 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky.

Two NVA and three VC were killed in the 196th Inf. Bde. area of operation.

Two NVA were killed after a ranger patrol of Co. G, 75th Inf. engaged 10 in the jungle covered foothills 12-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Co. A, 4-31 inf. killed two VC, one after engaging three in a mountainous region 23-1/2 miles west of Tam Ky, and another in the same location later in the afternoon.

Co. C, 2-1 Inf. engaged eight VC killing one in heavy jungle 16 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Three Americal soldiers were killed and 13 wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 111 Monday April 21, 1969

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Americal Division units encountered light action in southern I Corps yesterday, reporting four NVA and 21 VC killed, and six weapons captured.

Sunday marked the second year of the U.S. Army operations in the I Corps tactical zone. Americal Division, then Task Force Oregon, deployed into the Chu Lai area and began combat operations on April 20, 1967.

IRON MOUNTAIN--The 11th Inf. Bde. accounted for two NVA and 12 VC killed as well as three weapons captured.

Air Force CPT. John P. Stitzel (Phoenix, Ariz.) flying a recon mission for **Co. C, 1-20 Inf.** directed Air Force and Marine air strikes against an unknown size enemy force in a valley 12 miles southeast of Duc Pho, which killed 11 VC and destroyed 19 structures. Co. C killed another VC a half mile away near the coast.

Co. D, 4-21 Inf. killed two NVA in two separate contacts, also capturing an AK-47 rifle and a K-50 rifle 11 miles west-northwest of Duc Pho.

Another AK-47 rifle was found in underbrush near a mortar pit 10 miles west of Duc Pho.

FREDERICK HILL--Two NVA and four VC were killed, and three weapons captured in the 196th Inf. Bde. area of operation.

Co. A, 1-46 Inf. killed two NVA and one VC, as well as capturing an AK-47 rifle, and a M-1 carbine and a M-2 carbine in the triple-canopy jungle eight miles southwest of Tam Ky.

The recon patrol of the 4-31 Inf. killed three VC after engaging six NVA and VC in a mountainous region 21-1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. reported **"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav.** killing five VC in three contacts on Barrier Island 16 to 17 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky.

GENEVA PARK--The 198th Inf. Bde. reported no incidents.

Nineteen Americal soldiers were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 112 Tuesday April 22, 1969
AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Light action prevailed in southern I Corps yesterday, with Americal Division units reporting 15 VC killed, six enemy suspects detained, and four weapons captured.

FREDERICK HILL--The 196th Inf. Bde. reported four VC killed and three weapons captured.

PFC Joseph Rodriquez (Puerto Rico), the point man of a patrol from Co. D, 3-21 Inf. spotted two VC among hootches in front of him and engaged them killing one, detaining a wounded suspect, and capturing an SKS rifle 14-1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed two VC in two contacts; one was killed 12 miles west of Tam Ky, in the dense jungle, and the other was killed in a rice paddy 11-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Co. B, 1-46 Inf. engaged two VC killing one in a mountainous region 22 miles southwest of Tam Ky, who broke contact and escaped through the jungle. During a search of the area an SKS rifle and a Chicom type 53 carbine was found.

Nine of the 10 VC killed in the 1st. Sqdn., 1st Cav. area were **killed by gunships.**

"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed six VC in five contacts within a half mile of each other in rice paddies 18 miles northwest of Tam Ky. Three more VC were killed along the coast, one killed seven miles north and two killed 10 miles north of Tam Ky.

A Trp., 1st Cav. killed a lone VC in a rice paddy eight miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

GENEVA PARK and RUSSELL BEACH--One VC was killed and a weapon captured in the 198th Inf. Bde. area Monday.

Co. B, **1-52nd Inf**. engaged four VC killing one and detaining a wounded VC suspect in foothills seven miles northwest of Quang Ngai in Operation Geneva Park.

In Operation Russell Beach, Co. A, 5-46 Inf. spotted four VC sitting around a campfire at 0530 hours, and engaged them. The VC ran into a tunnel and out another exit before the company blew the tunnel up. A M-16 rifle was found during a search of the area 9-1/2 miles northeast of Quang Ngai, on the Batangan Peninsula.

IRON MOUNTAIN--No enemy kills were reported in the 11th Inf. Bde. area where four enemy suspects were detained.

The **recon patrol of the 1-20 Inf**. detained two enemy suspects during a search of an area seven miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Co. A, 3-1 Inf. detained two more suspects near the coast four miles southeast of Duc Pho.

Thirteen Americal soldiers were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report

Vol. 3 No. 113 Wednesday April 23, 1969

MIRACLE SAFETY REMINDER
Protect your health;
Take your pills;
Clean your weapon.
****

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Americal Division units reported 15 VC killed and 18 enemy suspects detained in southern I Corps yesterday. All the kills occurred in operation Frederick Hill.

In a delayed report, Co. D of the 196th Inf. Bde.'s 2-1 Inf. found over 13 tons of unpolished rice buried and camouflaged near a river 19 miles northwest of Tam Ky during a search and clear operation Monday.

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FREDERICK HILL--"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed all but one of the 15 VC killed in the operation area.

In the 196th Inf. Bde. area eight VC were killed and four suspects detained.

F Trp. killed five VC in a rice paddy 11 miles west of Tam Ky. The gunships killed another VC in the triple-canopy jungle 14 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky, and one near the Chang River 18 miles west of Tam Ky.

Co. C, 4-31 Inf. killed one VC as she ran from a hootch in a mountain region 25-1/2 miles west of Tam Ky. The company also detained three VC suspects in the same area.

Co. D, 3-21 Inf. detained an enemy suspect 14-1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area, **"Blue Ghosts" of F Trp., 8th Cav.** killed seven VC in five contacts on Barrier Island 9-1/2 miles north to 14 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky.

IRON MOUNTAIN--No enemy kills were reported in the 11th Inf. Bde. area but 10 suspects were detained.

E Trp., 1st Cav. detained seven enemy suspects in a rice paddy not far from where the troop found a mine three miles south of Duc Pho.

Co. A, 3-1 Inf. detained three more suspects a half mile away.

GENEVA PARK--Four enemy suspects were detained in the 198th Inf. Bde. area Tuesday.

Co. C, 1-6 Inf. detained two suspects while on a search and clear mission five miles west of Chu Lai.

Co. C, **1-52nd Inf**. detained two suspects a half mile west.

Three Americal soldiers were killed and four were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 114 Thursday April 24, 1969

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action was light in southern I Corps yesterday, with Americal Division units reporting eight VC killed, one weapon captured, and 1,450 pounds of rice found.

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FREDERICK HILL--The 196th Inf. Bde. accounted for five VC killed in its area.

Co. A, 3-21 Inf. working with PF's nine miles west of Tam Ky, came under small arms and M-79 fire from an unknown size enemy force and returned fire killing one VC. The company killed another VC after engaging three in triple-canopy jungle 12 miles west of Tam Ky.

F Trp., 8th Cav.'s "Blue Ghost" gunships killed two VC in a rice paddy 7-1/2 miles south of Tam Ky.

The recon patrol of the 1-46 Inf. engaged two VC in green uniforms killing one in foothills nine miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Co. D, 2-1 Inf. found 500 pounds of polished rice buried in jars 17 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

There were no major contacts or enemy kills in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav.

IRON MOUNTAIN--The 11th Inf. Bde. reported three VC killed and one weapon captured.

A Btry., 6-11 Arty engaged 10 VC who were spotted near a stream two miles east of Duc Pho, with artillery killing two of the enemy.

A VC killed by small arms fire and buried in a shallow grave over two weeks old was uncovered by **Co. C, 1-20 Inf.** 2-1/2 miles west of Duc Pho.

Co. A, 4-3 Inf. was on a search and clear mission when it came upon a small enemy encampment in the jungle covered foothills 8-1/2 miles west of Duc Pho. A search of the encampment resulted in a 12 gauge shotgun, 950 pounds of rice, medical supplies, and 37 cans of sardines found.

An enemy suspect without an I.D. card was detained by Co. D, 1-20 Inf. during a sweep of an area five miles northwest of Duc Pho.

GENEVA PARK--The 198th Inf. Bde. reported six bunkers and 900 pounds of potatoes destroyed, and one VC suspect detained.

LTC. Walter Renelt (Ft. Waldon Beach, Fla.) directed air strikes which destroyed four bunkers while flying forward air control missions for the Americal Division six miles west of Chu Lai.

Co. C, 1-6 Inf. destroyed two more bunkers connected by a four foot wide trench 5-1/2 miles west-southwest of Chu Lai.

Co. B, **1-52nd Inf.** detained a VC suspect near where it found and destroyed 900 pounds of dried potatoes buried under a hootch 8-1/2 miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

Five Americal soldiers were killed, and nine wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Volume 3 No. 115 Americal Daily New Sheet Friday April 25, 1968

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

Fair to partly cloudy, gusty winds from the southeast during the afternoon hours. Today's high will be in the mid 90's and the low will be in the mid 70's.

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) – Light action prevailed in southern I Corps yesterday, with Americal division units reporting three NVA and five VC killed and one weapon captured.

FREDERICK HILL—All of the enemy killed in action Thursday were killed in the Operation Frederick Hill area, as well as one weapon captured.

The 196th Inf. Bde. accounted for three NVA and three VC killed, and one weapon captured.

Co. C, 1-46 Inf. engaged one NVA and 5 VC 13 miles southwest of Tam Ky. This incident resulted in one NVA killed.

Co. D, 2-1 Inf. killed another NVA in a mountainous region 20 1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

An NVA was killed when Co. C, 1-46 Inf. engaged two in jungle covered foot hills 9 1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

The recon patrol of the 1-46 Inf. engaged and killed a lone VC 10 1/2 miles west-southwest of Tam Ky.

Co. A, 3-21 Inf. killed one VC and captured his AK-47 rifle in a rice paddy 8 1/2 miles west of Tam Ky.

A "**Blue Ghost" gunship of F Trp., 8th Cav**. killed a VC in the triple-canopy jungle 13 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

"**Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp. 8th Cav**. killed two more VC for the only kills reported in the 1st Sqdn. 1st Cav. area Thursday.

One VC was killed among hootches nine miles north of Tam Ky, on Barrier Island near the Thuong River which separates the island from the mainland. The other VC was killed in a rice paddy 12 miles west of Chu Lai.

GENEVA PARK—There were no major contacts or enemy killed in the 198th Inf. Bde. area.

"**Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav**. spotted what is thought to be an enemy base camp 11 miles southwest of Chu Lai, which consisted of well camouflaged hootches and bunkers, fresh cut wood, and well used trails.

Co A, 5-46th Inf. found a 155 round, a 4.2 round, a 105 round, a five inch naval round, material for making boobytraps, and documents during a search of a tunnel found on the Batangan Peninsula 10 miles northeast of Quang Ngai northeast of Quang Ngai, All but the documents and naval round were destroyed.

IRON MOUNTAIN—The 11th Inf. Bde. reported no enemy kills in its area of operation.

Co. C., 4-21 Inf. found seven hootches 10 by 12 feet in size which had been used recently, possibly as a base camp. The company found a bulletin board with documents, two cross-bows, and a spear in the hootches 12 miles southwest of Duc Pho.

Thirteen Americal soldiers were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Volume 3 No. 116 Americal Daily New Sheet Saturday April 26, 1968
(AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) – Action was light in southern I Corps yesterday, with Americal Division units reporting four NVA and 26 VC killed, and eight weapons captured.

GENEVA PARK – The 198th Inf. Bde. accounted for one NVA and 13 VC killed, and six weapons captured.

Co. B, 5-46 Inf. spotted three VC crossing a bridge at 2400 hours 4 1/2 miles northeast of Quang Ngai. The VC opened up on the company and it returned fire. The area was searched at first light and the three VC were found dead. Two AK-47 rifles and eight Chicom grenades were found with them. Later the company engaged an unknown size force which resulted in five VC killed, an M-16 rifle and three carbines captured 8 1/2 miles northeast of Quang Ngai.

Co. A, 5-46 Inf. killed one VC in the same vicinity.

"Aero Scout" gunships of the 123rd Avn. Bn. spotted and engaged three NVA in a mountainous region 27 miles west-southwest of Quang Ngai, which killed one.

A Ranger patrol of Co. G, 75 Inf. spotted 12 VC in an area nine miles west of Chu Lai, and called artillery which killed three of the enemy.

A gunship from the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. killed one VC in the triple-canopy jungle 13 miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

At 1800, FAC airplanes directed air strikes which destroyed 18 structures and two bunkers nine miles northeast of Quang Ngai.

WO1 Kenneth G. Wood (Idaho Falls, Idaho) destroyed 15 structures while flying a "Musket" gunship of the 176th Aslt. Hel. Co. in support of the 5-46 Inf. 21 miles southwest of Chu Lai.

FREDERICK HILL – The 196th Inf. Bde. reported three NVA and eight VC killed and one weapon captured in its area of operation.

Co. D, 2-1 Inf. spotted 15 NVA in mountains 22 1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky and killed one in a light skirmish, after which the company called artillery which killed two more NVA.

Co. D, 4-31 Inf. engaged five VC, killing four, in a mountainous region 21 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

Co. A, 3-21 Inf. killed a lone VC and captured an M-16 rile in a rice paddy 8 1/2 miles west of Tam Ky.

One VC was killed when Co. C, 3-21 Inf. spotted two VC moving through the jungle-covered foothills 14 miles west of Tam Ky, and called artillery.

Co. D, 3-21 Inf. killed a VC trying to avoid the company in the dense jungle 14 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

Another VC was killed by Co. B, 1-46 Inf. while on a sweep of an area 14 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

"Blue Ghost" gunships of **F Trp., 8th Cav**. killed three VC in three contacts from two miles north to 17 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky, on Barrier Island for the only kills reported in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area Friday.

IRON MOUNTAIN-Co. B of the 11th Inf. Bde.'s 1-20 Inf. killed two VC after engaging 10 in a rice paddy 6 1/2 miles northwest of Duc Pho, also capturing a weapon, for the only kills reported in the brigade area.

Action the past week was light in southern I Corps, with Americal Division units accounting for 31 NVA and 131 VC killed, and 24 weapons, one crew-served, captured.

Sunday marked the second year of U.S. Army operations in the I Corps tactical zone. Americal Division, then Task Force Oregon, deployed into the Chu Lai area and began combat operations on April 20, 1967.

(Continued -1)

In **Operation Frederick Hill**, the 196th Inf. Bde. accounted for 10 NVA and 35 VC killed, 13 tons of rice captured, and eight weapons captured.

Co. D, 2-1 Inf. found over 13 tons of unpolished rice buried and camouflaged near a river 19 miles northwest of Tam Ky, during a search and clear operation Monday.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. had 37 VC killed in its area, as well as two weapons, one crew-served, captured. **"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav.** accounted for 30 of the VC killed.

In operation Iron Mountain, the 11th Inf. Bde accounted for 20 NVA and 35 VC killed, as well as seven weapons captured.

The recon patrol of the 4-21 Inf., Saturday, found 18 NVA killed by air strikes that had been called into the day before by the patrol when it spotted an unknown size force moving through the jungle.

In **Operation Geneva Park and Russell Beach**, one NVA and 24 VC were killed, and seven weapons captured in the 198th Inf. Bde. area of operation.

Six Americal soldiers were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report. Eleven Americal soldiers were killed in action last week.

Vol. 3 No. 118 Monday April 28, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST 28 APRIL 69 Partly to mostly cloudy tomorrow.
Isolated thunder showers over the mountains. High tomorrow- 90 Low tonight- 77

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action was light in southern I Corps yesterday with Americal Division units reporting one NVA and 11 VC killed, and seven weapons captured, two crew-served.

The 1-46 Inf. encounter began when two platoons began to get sniper fire early in the morning. Artillery was called on suspected targets. Then the first platoon swept into the area after the sniper and uncovered the hidden base camp.

The camp consisted of three hootches 15 feet by 15 feet in size, 300 meters of tunnels, and small caves in which the company found an AK-47, an AK-50, an M-16, and a SKS rifle along with 16,320 rounds of miscellaneous ammo. Two complete 82 mm mortars and 84 rounds of ammo, 10 RPG rounds, 124 rounds of 60 mm mortar, two Claymore mines, and three civilian radios were also found in the caves.

The find came only hours after the beginning of joint Americal-ARVN sweep in the hilly terrain which had been a communist stronghold for a long time.

"We ran into what I think were about 12 men as we approached the area," said 1LT Ron Piggee (Gary, Ind.), the platoon leader of the unit that swept into the base camp. "The rest of them went south and those who fired at us apparently ran off too."

The area was well hidden in the rugged terrain only three miles from LZ Professional, 20 miles northwest of Tam Ky, the forward base camp for the 1-46 Inf.

FREDERICK HILL--The 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. accounted for four VC killed in its area Sunday.

"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed three VC in three contacts on Barrier Island. One was killed among hootches 11-1/2 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky. Another VC was killed outside a village 13 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky, and one was killed a mile north among hootches.

A Trp., 1st Cav. killed a VC after engaging four amid pine shrubs on the island 16 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky.

Other 196th Bde. units reported three VC were killed.

The recon patrol of the 3-21 Inf. spotted two VC in the jungle covered foothills 15 miles northwest of Tam Ky, and called artillery which killed the two.

Another VC was killed by Co. A, 3-21 Inf. in the triple-canopy jungle 9-1/2 miles west of Tam Ky.

GENEVA PARK--The 198th Inf. Bde. reported four VC killed by the command and control helicopter of the 5-46 Inf. in its area of operation.

IRON MOUNTAIN--Co. A of the 11th Inf. Bde.'s 4-3 Inf. engaged two NVA killing one, the other Chieu Hoied, in an area 9-1/2 miles southwest of Duc Pho, for the only major action in the area.

The Hoi Chan led the company to a base camp 11 miles southwest of Duc Pho, which had been used recently.

Three Americal soldiers were killed and five were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 119 Tuesday April 29, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST 30 Apr 69 Partly cloudy, scattered rain, isolated thundershowers over mountains. High tomorrow 92 Low tonight 77

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action was moderate in southern I Corps yesterday, with Americal Division units reporting four NVA and 51 VC killed, nine suspects detained, and four weapons captured.

FREDERICK HILL--Of the 25 VC killed in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area, 23 were killed by **"Blue Ghost"** gunships of **F Trp., 8th Cav.**

The **"Blue Ghost" gunships** engaged an unknown size enemy force 15-1/2 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky, which resulted in 17 VC killed. The gunships killed another VC about an hour later in the same location. Two more VC were killed and an AK-47 rifle captured after the gunships engaged three VC six miles south-southwest of Tam Ky. Three VC were killed in three separate contacts from14 miles north-northwest to 15-1/2 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky.

C Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. killed two VC in a rice paddy six miles south-southwest of Tam Ky.

The 196th Inf. Bde. accounted for two NVA and 14 VC killed in its area of operation.

A **"Blue Ghost" gunship of F Trp., 8th Cav**. killed one NVA 7-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Co. D, 1-46 Inf. killed another NVA after engaging eight in the dense jungle 13-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky. An M-1 carbine was also captured.

Co. B, 1-46 Inf. spotted 60 VC moving through the jungle covered foothills 17 miles southwest of Tam Ky, and called in artillery which killed five of the enemy.

Co. A, 3-21 Inf. engaged and killed four VC during a sweep of the jungle nine miles west of Tam Ky.

Two VC were killed in the triple-canopy jungle 19-1/2 miles west of Tam Ky, by Co. D, 4-31 Inf.

A lone VC was killed and his SKS rifle captured by the recon patrol of the 1-46 Inf. 14-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

The command and control helicopter of the 4-31 Inf. killed a VC in a mountainous region 24 miles west-southwest of Tam Ky.

The recon patrol of the 2-1 Inf. killed one VC during a search and clear operation 15-1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

IRON MOUNTAIN--Two NVA and 11 VC were killed in the 11th Inf. Bde. area, nine suspects were detained.

"Shark" gunships of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. engaged and killed nine VC in rice paddies two miles southwest of Duc Pho.

Two more VC were killed by **Co. B, 1-20 Inf.** in foothills 7-1/2 miles northwest of Duc Pho, after it received hand grenades from the two VC.

Co. D, 1-20 Inf. engaged two NVA killing one in a rice field below the foothills a mile away. An AK-47 was captured in the incident.

Another NVA was killed nine miles southwest of Duc Pho, by Co. A, 4-3 Inf. Co. A also found a small base camp 12 miles west of Duc Pho which had been abandoned for two to three months.

Co. A, 3-1 Inf. detained two enemy suspects on the beach 11 miles southwest of Duc Pho; one had a false I.D. card. The company detained two more suspects near Lake An Khe, nine miles southeast of Duc Pho.

E Trp., 1st Cav. detained five VC suspects during a search and clear mission 10 miles southeast of Duc Pho.

GENEVA PARK-- The command and control helicopter for the **1-52nd Inf.** killed one VC seven miles northwest of Quang Ngai, for the only reported kill in the 198th Inf. Bde. area Monday.

Two Americal soldiers were killed, and 21 wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 120 Wednesday April 30, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST 1 May 69 Partly cloudy, ground fog in the morning, scattered showers in the afternoon, winds southeast 5 to 10 knots with gusts to 15. High 93 Low 77

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Americal Division units reported one NVA and nine VC killed, as well as two weapons captured in light action in southern I Corps yesterday.

FREDERICK HILL--The 196th Inf. Bde. accounted for five VC killed and two weapons captured.

Co. D, 4-31 Inf. killed three VC in three separate contacts, one in the mountains 18 miles west of Tam Ky, where the company engaged two VC. Another VC was killed in a mountainous area 21 miles west of Tam Ky, and one was killed a half mile north.

The recon patrol from the 4-31 Inf. killed a VC after engaging two in the mountains 21 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

A half mile away the recon patrol from the 4-31 Inf. killed a lone VC while making a sweep of the mountainous region.

Co. A, 1-46 Inf. found an SKS rifle during a sweep of an area 14 miles southwest of Tam Ky, and an MAS rifle was found hidden in underbrush a half mile away by Co. C, 1-46 Inf.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. reported three VC killed by **"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav**. Two were killed in a rice paddy 5-1/2 miles west of Tam Ky, and the other killed in another rice paddy eight miles west of Tam Ky, for the only kills in the area Tuesday.

IRON MOUNTAIN--One NVA and a VC were killed in the 11th Inf. Bde. area of operation.

Co. A, 1-20 Inf. was on a search and clear mission nine miles southwest of Duc Pho, when it spotted two NVA in a rice paddy and engaged them killing one in a brief skirmish.

Co. A also found a small enemy base camp 11 miles southwest of Duc Pho, which consisted of six hootches, 10 to 30 feet in size, and six bunkers. A search of the area turned up 16 targets with stands, two SKS bayonets, and five crossbows.

An "Aero Scout" gunship from the 123rd Avn. Bn. killed a lone VC in the foothills 11-1/2 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai.

Co. A, 3-1 Inf. detained seven enemy suspects while on a sweep of the coast 10 miles southwest of Duc Pho.

GENEVA PARK--There were no enemy kills reported in the 198th Inf. Bde. area Tuesday, but Co. B, 1-6 Inf. detained an enemy suspect without an I.D. card while on a search and clear mission six miles southwest of Chu Lai.

One Americal soldier was killed, and four were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 121 Thursday May 1, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST 2 May Partly to mostly cloudy with thunder showers over the mountains. High 91 Low 77 -- Temp.
High 98 Low 55 -- Humidity

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action was light to moderate in southern I Corps yesterday, with Americal Division units reporting six NVA and 37 VC killed, nine weapons captured, and 1,200 pounds of rice found.

FREDERICK HILL-- The 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. reported 23 VC were killed in its area of operation.

"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed 16 VC in 10 contacts. Four VC were killed in a rice paddy 7 1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky, and three were killed among pine shrubs 12 1/2 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky. Nine more were killed in widespread actions from eight miles west-northwest to 15 1/2 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky.

B Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. killed seven VC in skirmishes on Barrier Island from 11 miles north-northwest to 12 1/2 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky.

The 196th Inf. Bde. accounted for four NVA and 10 VC killed, and eight weapons captured in its area of operation.

Four VC were killed when the recon patrol of the 4-31 Inf. engaged an estimated squad size enemy force in a mountainous region 20 1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

F Trp., 17th Cav. killed two NVA and captured their SKS rifles during a search and clear operation in the foot-hills 15 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

F Trp. also killed a VC while working an area 10 1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

The recon patrol of the 1-46 Inf. engaged three NVA killing one and capturing his AK-47 rifle 15 1/2 miles south-southwest of Tam Ky. A half mile away the patrol killed a VC after engaging two as well as capturing another AK-47 rifle.

Co. C, 1-46 Inf. killed one NVA and captured an AK-50 rifle during a sweep a mile northwest.

The recon patrol of the 3-21 Inf. killed a VC and captured two AK-47 rifles 15 miles south-southwest of Tam Ky.

Co. A, 3-21 Inf. killed a lone VC during a search and clear mission 15 1/2 miles west of Tam Ky.

A **"Blue Ghost" gunship from F Trp., 8th Cav**. killed another VC in the jungle 15 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Co. A, 1-46 Inf. found what is believed to be an NVA hospital 15 1/2 miles south-southwest of Tam Ky. The company found 15 hootches which had bandages, medical supplies, NVA uniforms, and nurses uniforms. Also found was a rusty 45 caliber pistol and five Chicom grenades.

Co. A, 2-1 Inf. killed a VC 20 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

IRON MOUNTAIN--The 11th Inf. Bde. reported two NVA and four VC were killed in its area of operation as well as one weapon captured.

Three VC were killed by artillery 14 1/2 miles southwest of Duc Pho, after a ranger patrol form Co. G, 75 Inf. had observed eight VC while working in the brigade area.

Co. B, 1-20 Inf. found the graves of two NVA who had been killed recently by small arms fire seven miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Co. B also found a small enemy base camp with 10 hootches and natural rock fortification for protection in the same area.

Co. B, 4-3 Inf. killed a VC 13 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

GENEVA PARK--No enemy kills were reported in the 198th Inf. Bde. area, but Co. B, **1-52nd Inf.** found 1,200 pounds of rice buried under hootches, during a search of an area six miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

Seven Americal soldiers were killed and 19 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3. No. 122 Friday May 2, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT May 3: Partly cloudy, over mountains mostly cloudy with showers. Light winds morning and night blowing east-southeast by afternoon 8 to 10 knots with gusts 18 to 22. Tmp. H-92 L-77; Humidity H-95 L-55.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Light action prevailed in southern I Corps yesterday, with Americal Division units reporting one NVA and 22 VC killed. Operation Frederick Hill reported all the kills.

FREDERICK HILL--The 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. accounted for 17 VC killed in its area of operation.

B Trp., 1st Cav. battled enemy forces for the second consecutive day on Barrier Island killing 16 VC in five engagements within a half mile of each other 9 1/2 miles north of Tam Ky.

A **"Blue Ghost" gunship from F Trp., 8th Cav.** killed a lone VC in a rice paddy 9 1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

One NVA and five VC were killed in the 196th Inf. Bde. area Thursday.

Three VC were killed by the recon patrol of the 3-21 Inf. in the jungle covered foothills 15 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

The 4-31 Inf.'s recon patrol engaged five VC in a mountainous region 21 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky, killing one.

A ranger patrol from Co. G, 75 Inf. spotted three VC and engaged them killing one, 10 1/2 miles south of Tam Ky.

An NVA killed recently by small arms fire was found in the triple-canopy jungle 16 miles southwest of Tam Ky, by the recon patrol of the 1-46 Inf.

Co. B, 1-46 Inf. found seven well camouflaged hootches 18 miles southwest of Tam Ky, with 1,500 pounds of corn and another 1,500 pounds of rice in them, which was destroyed, as well as documents which were extracted.

GENEVA PARK--Again there were no enemy kills in the 198th Inf. Bde. area Thursday.

Collection of armaments under the VIP program totaled 50 rounds of 105 ammo, 21 rounds of 155 ammo, 10 eight inch rounds, and 30 claymore mines Thursday.

IRON MOUNTAIN-The 11th Inf. Bde. had a light day of action without any enemy kills reported.

"Warlord" gunships of Co. B, 123rd Avn. Bn. destroyed three hootches and a camouflaged well, as well as finding a cage full of monkeys in an area 12 miles southwest of Duc Pho.

Co. A, 1-20 Inf. found and destroyed eight bunkers and five underground hootches 11 miles southwest of Duc Pho.

Thirteen Americal soldiers were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3. No. 123 Saturday May 3, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT May 4 Partly Cloudy, warmer tomorrow, showers in the mountains during the afternoon. Winds southeast gusting to 20 knots by noon.
Temp. H 93 L 55 Humidity H 95 L 55

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Americal Division units encountered light action in southern I Corps yesterday, with a reported 19 VC killed and two weapons captured.

GENEVA PARK --The 198th Inf. Bde. accounted for seven VC killed in its area of operation.

Co. B, **1-52nd Inf.** killed two VC during a search and clear operation 14 1/2 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai, where the company later found two more VC who had been killed by gunships.

Co. D, **1-52nd Inf.** killed another VC while working in the vicinity.

Co. A, 5-46 Inf. engaged four VC, killing one, in a rice paddy 7 1/2 miles northeast of Quang Ngai. A short while later, the company engaged an unknown size force in the same location killing another VC.

IRON MOUNTAIN--Five VC were killed when the recon patrol from the 11th Inf. Bde.'s 3-1 Inf. engaged seven among hootches along Highway 1, 9 1/2 miles southeast of Duc Pho, for the only kills reported in the brigade area.

Co. C, 4-21 Inf. engaged an unknown size force 12 miles southwest of Duc Pho and followed blood trails to a wounded NVA who was detained.

FREDERICK HILL--"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed four VC in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area eight miles west of Tam Ky.

In a delayed report, C Trp., 1st Cav. found an AK-47 rifle and a carbine in a tunnel it was searching Thursday, five miles west of Tam Ky.

Three VC were killed in two contacts in the 196th Inf. Bde. area of operation.

Two VC were killed by Co. B, 1-46 Inf. in the foothills 16 1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky, where the company found and destroyed five hootches.

Co. B, 4-31 Inf. engaged two VC, killing one with a pack, in a mountainous region 22 1/2 miles west of Tam Ky.

Three Americal soldiers were killed and 13 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report. Sixteen Americal soldiers were killed in action last week.

Action the past week was mostly light in southern I Corps, with Americal Division troops accounting for 16 NVA and 164 VC killed, and 25 weapons, two crew-served, captured.

In Operation **Frederick Hill**, the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. reported killing 77 VC and capturing three weapons.

"Blue Ghost" gunships from F Trp., 8th Cav. accounted for 50 of the VC killed. The gunships killed 17 after engaging an unknown size enemy force 15 1/2 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky, Monday.

Eight NVA and 43 VC were killed by units from the 196th Inf. Bde. as well as 18 weapons captured, two of which were crew-served.

Sunday, Co. A, 1-46 Inf. found an enemy base camp just hours after the NVA had abandoned it. The camp consisted of three hootches, 300 meters of tunnels, and caves in which the company found four individual weapons with 16,320 rounds of small arms ammo, two complete 82mm mortars with 84 rounds of 82mm mortar ammo, 10 RPG rounds, and 124 rounds of 60mm mortar ammo.

The area was well hidden in the rugged terrain 20 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

In **Operation Iron Mountain**, the 11th Inf. Bde. accounted for eight NVA and 25 VC killed, and three weapons captured.

"Shark" gunships of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. engaged and killed nine VC two miles southwest of Duc Pho, Monday.

The 198th Inf. Bde. accounted for 19 VC killed and one weapon captured in widespread action in its areas of operation in Geneva Park and Russell Beach.

Vol. 3 No. 124 Sunday May 4, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST May 5 Fair to partly cloudy. Winds southeasterly morning and night. In afternoon winds 8 to 12 knots gusting 18 to 22.
Temp. H 94 L 77 Humidity H 95 L 55

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action in southern I Corps was light yesterday, with Americal Division units reporting six NVA and 32 VC killed, as well as six weapons captured.

FREDERICK HILL- The 196th Inf. Bde accounted for five NVA and eight VC killed, and two weapons captured in its area of operation.

At 0730 hours, Co. B, 3-21 Inf. encountered 25 NVA soldiers in a brief skirmish 11 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky, killing four of the enemy. In the afternoon, the company engaged and killed a lone VC in the same vicinity.

Co. A, 1-46 Inf. killed another NVA after engaging two, also capturing an AK-47 rifle in the triple canopy jungle 14 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Co. B, 1-46 Inf. killed one VC where it found two VC who had been killed by gunships flying in the area day before 17 miles west-southwest of Tam Ky.

Co. D 1-46 Inf. found a carbine during a search of an area 16 1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Co. B, 4-31 Inf. engaged four VC killing two in a mountainous region 24 1/2 miles west of Tam Ky.

The recon patrol of 2-1 Inf. spotted and engaged five VC in the dense jungle 18 miles northwest of Tam Ky, killing one.

A **"Blue Ghost" gunship from F Trp., 8th Cav.** killed one VC after engaging three in a rocky area 11 1/2 miles south-southwest of Tam Ky.

"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. also accounted for three of the four VC killed in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area.

The three VC were killed in three contacts from 6 1/2 miles west-southwest of Tam Ky, where C Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. killed one VC, to 15 1/2 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky.

IRON MOUNTAIN-One NVA and 10 VC were killed in the 11th Inf. Bde. area of operation Saturday.

A FAC airplane, flown by MAJ Donald L. Mrugatroyd, directed air strikes against a 15 man VC force 5 1/2 miles south-southeast of Duc Pho, which resulted in five VC killed.

Co. B, 3-1 Inf. working with E Trp., 1st Cav. near Lake Lam Binh, four miles southeast of Duc Pho, killed two VC. E Trp. killed another VC after engaging two.

Co. A, 3-1 Inf. killed two VC in a skirmish among hootches four miles south-southeast of Duc Pho.

An NVA was killed and his AK-47 rifle captured by Co. A, 4-3 Inf. during action 9 1/2 miles west-northwest of Duc Pho.

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GENEVA PARK and RUSSELL BEACH-The 198th Inf. Bde. reported 10 VC killed and three weapons captured in its areas of operation.

In Operation Geneva Park, Co. A, 5-46 Inf. engaged five to six VC in a rice paddy seven miles northeast of Quang Ngai, killing three.

The command and control helicopter for the 5-46 Inf. killed another VC in the vicinity.

Co. D, **1-52nd Inf.** engaged a two or three man force killing two VC and capturing two K-44 rifles 16 1/2 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai.

The second platoon of H Trp., 17th Cav., led by PSG S. Zernell (Glendale Pa.) destroyed four bunkers, five foot square, and three spider holes during a search of an area seven miles southwest of Chu Lai.

Co. A, 5-46 Inf. killed three more VC and captured an AK-47 rifle in the Operation Russell Beach area six miles east-northeast of Quang Ngai.

A VC was killed when Co. C, 5-46 Inf. engaged three on the Batangan Peninsula 11 miles northeast of Quang Ngai.

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One Americal soldier was killed, and 17 wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 125 Monday May 5, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST May 6 Fair to partly cloudy. Winds will continue from southeast to easterly direction 5 to 10 knots gusting to 18 knots in the afternoon.
Temperature: High in mid 90's Low in high 70's

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Light action prevailed in southern I Corps yesterday, with Americal Division unit's reporting three NVA and 13 VC killed, and four weapons captured.

GENEVA PARK--The 198th Inf. Bde. accounted for one NVA and six VC killed along with one weapon captured.

Three of the VC were killed by the utility helicopter for the **1-52nd Inf.** in jungle covered foothills 11 miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

The command and control helicopter for the 5-46 Inf. killed two VC in a rice paddy six miles northeast of Quang Ngai.

Co. B, **1-52nd Inf.** engaged and killed an NVA and captured his AK-47 rifle during a search of an area15 1/2 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai.

Co. D, **1-52nd Inf.** killed another VC after engaging three in the same area, where it also found and destroyed a hootch with three tons of salt in it.

FREDERICK HILL--Two NVA and four VC were killed, and three weapons captured in the 196th Inf. Bde. area.

Co. D, 1-46 Inf. killed one NVA and captured his AK-47 rifle 16 miles southwest of Tam Ky, where the company found an NVA who had been killed by air strikes two or three days ago.

Co. B, 4-31 Inf. engaged four VC, killing two and capturing two AK-47 rifles, as well as detaining a wounded VC suspect in a mountainous region 20 miles west of Tam Ky. Later the company killed another VC in the mountains 25 1/2 miles west of Tam Ky.

A **"Blue Ghost" gunship from F Trp., 8th Cav.** killed one VC in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav., 1st Cav. area eight miles west of Tam Ky.

IRON MOUNTAIN- Co. D, of the 11th Inf. Bde.'s **1-20 Inf.** engaged three VC killing two in a rice paddy five miles north of Duc Pho, for the only kills reported in the brigade area.

Four Americal soldiers were killed, and four wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 126 Tuesday May 6, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST May 7 Fair to partly cloudy with thunderstorms over mountains. Winds southeast at 5 to 10 knots gusting to 20 knots by afternoon.
Temperatures: H 93 L 78 Humidity: H 95 L 60

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Americal Division units reported 14 NVA and six VC killed, and 26 weapons, 11 crew-served, captured in light action in southern I Corps yesterday.

GENEVA PARK--The 198th Inf. Bde. accounted for nine NVA killed and 11 weapons captured in its area of operation.

The moon was low at 0155 when a trip flare illuminated Co. D, **1-52nd Inf.**'s night defensive position 16 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai, revealing 10 NVA trying to break through the line. The alert guards set off two claymore mines which killed seven of the enemy and a search of the area turned up 7 AK-47 rifles and an unknown type pistol.

Co. B, **1-52nd Inf.** killed two more NVA after engaging six a half mile away and six hours later captured three AK-47 rifles and six packs.

FREDERICK HILL- Five NVA and two VC were killed, and 14 weapons, 11 crew-served, captured in the 196th Inf. Bde. area.

Co. D, 1-46 Inf. found eleven 122mm rockets during a search and clear mission 16 1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky. Many of the rockets still crated were discovered laying on sticks and covered with plastic and leaves. Two rockets were extracted and the rest destroyed. Co. B, 1-46 Inf. was working with two companies from the 4th Inf. Bn., 5th ARVN Regt. in an area 17 miles west-southwest of Tam Ky, when it engaged and killed and NVA, nearby it found three NVA killed by artillery fire.

The recon patrol of the 1-46 Inf. killed another NVA in the dense jungle 15 1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky, where it and Co. C, 1-46 Inf. found two carbines and an SKS rifle during a sweep of the area. Co. C also killed a VC earlier two miles north.

Another VC was killed in a rice paddy 18 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky, by F Trp., 17th Cav.

A **"Blue Ghost" gunship from F Trp., 8th Cav.** killed a lone VC in a rice paddy not far from F Trp., 17th Cav. for the only kill reported in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area Monday.

IRON MOUNTAIN-The 11th Inf. Bde. reported three VC killed and one weapon captured in two contacts in its area of operation.

At 0055 hours Co. B 3-1 Inf. engaged three VC killing one just south of Lake Lam Binh four miles southeast of Duc Pho. In the afternoon the company killed another VC two miles southeast of Duc Pho, just west of the lake.

Co. A, 4-3 Inf. found a VC who had been recently killed by air strikes 12 miles west of Duc Pho, a U.S. carbine was found.

Two Americal soldiers were killed, and 15 wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

MOTHER'S DAY May 11, 1969

JUST THINK

Good health is many things, It is taking salt and malaria pills just as much as keeping the old M-16 in firing condition.

To return home healthy takes a little time and effort, so make each day a good health day.

Vol. 3 No. 127 Wednesday May 7, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST May 8 Possible scattered rain showers winds blowing from the east at 10 knots gusting to 15 knots. Temperature: H 95 L 75

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action was light in southern I Corps yesterday, with Americal Division units reporting seven NVA and 12 VC killed, and three weapons captured.

FREDERICK HILL-The 196th Inf. Bde. accounted for seven NVA and two VC killed as well as two weapons captured.

The First Co., 4-5 ARVN Regt. found the bodies of seven NVA killed by air strikes in the area 17 miles southwest of Tam Ky, where Co. B, 1-46 Inf. was working with ARVN's.

Co. D, 1-46 Inf. engaged and killed two VC in the triple canopy jungle a mile away.

Co. D, 3-21 Inf. found a carbine and an M-79 during a search of the dense jungle 18 1/2 miles west-southwest of Tam Ky.

A **"Blue Ghost" gunship from F Trp., 8th Cav**. killed two VC during an air strike in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area of operation, for the only kills reported Tuesday.

IRON MOUNTAIN -- Eight VC were killed and one weapon captured during light action in the 11th Inf. Bde.

Co. B, 3-1 Inf. was on a combat sweep with E Trp., 1st Cav. when they spotted and engaged several VC in rice paddies one mile south of Duc Pho. Co. B killed four of the enemy in the skirmish and E Trp. killed the other three.

A "Shark" gunship from the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. killed a lone VC near the Tra Cau river 2 1/2 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Nearby **Co. C, 1-20 Inf**. found a 45 caliber pistol which SP4 Donald A. Thorpe (Novi, Mich.), battalion S1 at LZ Liz said, "The pistol was very rusty and appeared to have been in the area for about two years." Co. C. also detained two suspects, one a female, in the same area. SGT Wilbur B. Brown said, "The girl gave us such a difficult time that we almost had to drag her to the command post. An interpreter said she would probably be a good source for information about VC activity in the area."

GENEVA PARK- Units from the 198th Inf. Bde. reported that there were no enemy kills in its area of operation.

Five Americal soldiers were killed, and four wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

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This News Sheet is published daily under the supervision of the IO, Americal Division, APO 96374, as an authorized Army publication. Views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army.

Vol. 3 No. 130 Saturday May 10, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST May 11 Partly to mostly cloudy with light showers along the coast. Winds blowing east-southeast 8-12 knots gusting to 20 knots.
Temperature: H 94 L 77 Humidity: H 95% L 55%

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action was light in southern I Corps yesterday, with Americal Division units reporting three NVA and 12 VC killed, two NVA bodies found, and 13 weapons, two crew-served, captured.

IRON MOUNTAIN--The 11th Inf. Bde. accounted for one NVA and seven VC killed, two NVA found in graves, and four weapons captured.

Six VC were killed by the **recon patrol of the 1-20 Inf.** seven miles northwest of Duc Pho, who, related CPT Joseph Clary (North Charleston, S.C.) from the 11th Inf. Bde.'s TOC, "was setting up camp under a very large tree. One of the men looked up and noticed someone looking back, he immediately fired and killed the VC. The body did not fall so he went up to bring it down to be searched. While in the tree he looked down and noticed five VC hiding in the hollow of the tree. He killed the other five at that time."

Co. A, 4-3 Inf. engaged and killed one NVA in the jungle covered foothills 12 1/2 miles west-northwest of Duc Pho. A half mile away the company found the graves of two NVA who had been killed by air strikes two to three weeks ago.

A VC was killed after **Co. D, 1-20 Inf.** engaged two amid hootches along Highway 1, 3 1/2 miles north of Duc Pho.

Co. A, 4-21 Inf. found a small enemy base camp with five huts eight by ten feet in size and three 10 by 12 feet in size which were newly built bunker style huts, 9 1/2 miles southwest of Duc Pho. A small weapons cache was also found in which was a French sub-machinegun, an 808 Stone 3.6 rifle, a Remington 3.6 rifle with a grenade launcher, and a Winchester 3.6 rifle was buried in the same area.

FREDERICK HILL--Two NVA and two VC were killed, and eight weapons captured two crew-served in the 196th Inf. Bde. area Friday.

Another cache was found 17 miles southwest of Tam Ky, near where three others had been found in the past two days. The recon patrol of the 1-46 Inf. found three French Mausers, a Chicom .53 caliber rifle, and two French 7.52 machineguns in a hootch with a false floor like the rest of the caches found.

Co. C, 3-21 Inf. killed two NVA when it engaged four in a mountainous region 24 miles west-southwest of Tam Ky.

Co. A, 3-21 Inf. killed a VC and captured his SKS rifle in the mountains 20 miles west-southwest of Tam Ky.

A **"Blue Ghost" gunship from F Trp., 8th Cav**. killed another VC in the foothills 12 1/2 miles west of Tam Ky.

The recon patrol of the 3-21 Inf. found a carbine in the underbrush during a search of the mountains 21 miles west-southwest of Tam Ky.

RUSSELL BEACH-The 198th Inf. Bde. accounted for three VC killed in its area of operation on the Batangan Peninsula.

Co. A, 5-46 Inf. engaged 10 to 15 VC at 0450 hours 9 1/2 miles northwest of Quang Ngai, killing three of the enemy.

Air Force CPT Vernon D. Nutter (Syracuse, N.Y.), Flying FAC missions in the same area, directed air strikes which destroyed 30 military structures, caused eight explosions, and three secondary fires.

Two Americal soldiers were killed and two were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 131 Sunday May 11, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST May 12 Fair to partly cloudy, winds blowing from the southeast 10 knots gusting 18-20 in afternoon. Isolated showers in the area.
Temperature H 95 L 78 Humidity H 95% L 55%

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Light action prevailed in the southern I Corps yesterday, with Americal Division units reporting 25 NVA and 18 VC killed in 14 contacts.

IRON MOUNTAIN--The 11th Inf. Bde. reported 25 NVA and eight VC killed in its area of operation.

The 1-4 ARVN Regt. reported the finding of 25 NVA soldiers who had been killed by air strikes within the last 24 hours in the mountains 12 miles west of Duc Pho.

Co. B, 3-1 Inf. was on a search and clear operation with E Trp., 1st Cav. near the coast six to 8 1/2 miles southeast of Duc Pho. Co. B found two VC killed earlier by mortar fire six miles southeast of Duc Pho, near where it found one VC in a shallow grave who had been killed two to three days ago by small arms fire. Later the company engaged and killed a VC in a bunker near Lake Ankhem 8 1/2 miles southeast of Duc Pho, nearby E Trp., 1st Cav. killed and VC. (huh??)

The recon patrol of the 3-1 Inf. killed another VC along the coast 10 miles southeast of Duc Pho.

A "Shark" gunship form the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. engaged and killed two VC in a rice paddy 5 1/2 miles north of Duc Pho.

Co. A, 4-21 Inf. was on a search and clear mission 11 miles west-south-west of Duc Pho, when it came on to an enemy base camp with 35 bunkers and a mess hall with two stoves. A search turned up 50 training hand grenades and 16 training mortar tubes all made of wood, plus a small ammo cache with 200 boxes of SKS and .51 caliber ammo with 270 rounds in each box, 12 rifle firing grenades, 12 rounds of 82mm mortar, five 60 mm mortar rounds, and one bicycle. Nearby was another cache with 6,070 rounds of .51 caliber ammo, 15,800 boxes of SKS ammo, 12 hand grenades, and seven rounds of ..75 caliber recoilless rifle ammo.

Co. A, 1-20 Inf. found and destroyed 4-50,000 pounds of polished rice and 20 pounds of marijuana during a search of an area 5 1/2 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

FREDERICK HILL-Eight VC were killed in action in the 196th Inf. Bde. area of operation.

Co. A, 3-21 Inf. killed four VC in two contacts in the mountains 20 1/2 miles west-southwest of Tam Ky. A mile away it found a VC classroom 15 by 30 feet in size, with benches and a blackboard. Drawings on the blackboard indicated that classes had been held on hand to hand combat. The company questioned people from a nearby village and detained two VC suspects.

A mile north from where Co. A killed the VC, Co. B, 3-21 Inf. engaged and killed one.

"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed two VC in two contacts one 14 1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky, and the other 11 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Co D, 4-31 Inf. killed a lone VC in a mountainous region 24 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

GENEVA PARK--A ranger patrol from Co. G, 75 Inf. was working an area 11 1/2 miles west of Chu Lai, when it spotted a small base camp with 30 VC in it. Three of the VC were crossing a river near the patrol and it went after them.

(Continued -1)

The patrol killed two of the VC and were after the third when it started receiving fire from the base camp and called in helicopters which extracted the patrol.

Action the past week was mostly light in southern I Corps, with Americal Division troops accounting for 58 NVA and 79 VC killed, and 100 weapons, 15 crew-served.

In Operation **Frederick Hill, Co.** C 1-46 Inf. discovered two caches during a sweep of an area 16 1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Found were two U.S. carbines, 10 K-44 rifles and a 122mm rocket.

Later the company uncovered an M-16 rifle, a Swiss .45 caliber machinegun, a Chicom machinegun, two M-1 carbines, and 29 SKS rifles.

The cache also included 55 rounds of 57mm RR ammo, 44 RPG rounds, 1,680 Chicom hand grenades, 10 cases of blasting caps, 26 cases of AK-47 ammo, 72 cases of .30 caliber ammo two cases of .51 caliber ammo and three bags of flake powder.

More refugees returned to the Hiep Duc Valley with the assistance of units from the 196th Inf. Bde. on Thursday.

They had been forced to leave their homes because of terrorists attacks by VC and NVA.

The 11th Inf. Bde. netted 34 NVA, 45 VC and seven weapons captured.

The 196th Inf. Bde. killed 25 VC 16 NVA and uncovered large weapons caches.

Ten NVA and 11 VC were killed in the 198th Bde.'s area of **Geneva Park** and **Russell Beach**, 11 weapons were captured.

Six VC were reported killed in scattered action by the 1st Sqdn. 1st Cav.

Three Americal soldiers were killed and 10 wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report. Sixteen Americal soldiers were killed in action last week.

Vol. 3 No. 139 Monday May 19, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST May 20 Fair to partly cloudy with thundershowers over the mountains. Winds blowing east-southeast 5-10 knots gusting to 20 knots in the afternoon. Temperature: H 98 L 78

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Americal Division units reported seven NVA and 18 VC killed, and three weapons captured in southern I Corps yesterday.

FREDERICK HILL--The 196th Inf. Bde. accounted for six NVA and 8 VC killed and captured two weapons.

Co. C, 4-31 Inf. killed nine VC and captured two weapons in five separate contacts, all in an area 28 miles west of Tam Ky.

F Trp., 8th Cav. operation 12 miles west of Tam Ky, accounted for seven VC killed in four separate contacts.

Co B, 4-31 Inf. killed one VC at noon.

Six mile southwest of Tam Ky, "Gimlets" of Co. C, 3-21 Inf. engaged and killed four NVA.

Cos. A and D, 3-21 Inf. bagged one NVA apiece.

Just before lunch, Co. C, 2-1 Inf. killed one VC five miles southwest of LZ Baldy.

Btry. D, 3-16 Arty. fired a mission against an unknown size enemy force, 11 miles west-southwest of Tam Ky, killing six VC.

An M-16 rifle was found by Co. B, 1-46 Inf.

IRON MOUNTAIN--One NVA was killed in the 11th Inf. Bde. area of operation. Co. D, 4-21 Inf. engaged and killed one NVA, hiding in a tree, four miles west of Duc Pho.

Tunnels were found by the recon element 3-1 Inf., six miles south of Duc Pho. Found were 10 graves, three 60mm mortar rounds, one RPG found, two entrenching tools, and several canteens and helmets.

GENEVA PARK-No enemy kills were reported in the 198th Inf. Bde. area yesterday.

In an area 11 miles northwest of Quang Ngai, air strikes by 198th forward air control destroyed 22 military structures and seven bunkers.

(Continued -1)

(Continued -1)

HERE'S YOUR PAY AFTER JULY 1

Pay Grade	Under 2	Over 2	Over 3	Over 4	Over 6
			OFFICERS		
O-3	561.00	627.00	669.60	741.60	776.70
O-2	449.70	534.00	641.40	662.70	676.50
O-1	386.40	427.80	534.00	534.00	534.00
			WARRANT OFFICERS		
W-4	571.20	612.90	612.90	627.00	655.20
W-3	519.30	563.40	563.40	570.30	577.20
W-2	454.80	491.70	491.70	506.10	534.00
W-1	378.90	434.70	434.70	470.70	491.70
			ENLISTED		
E-7	342.30	410.10	425.40	440.40	455.60
E-6	294.90	358.20	372.90	388.20	403.20
E-5	254.70	313.80	328.80	343.20	365.70
E-4	214.20	268.50	283.50	305.70	321.00
E-3	155.10	216.30	231.30	246.30	246.30
E-2	127.80	179.10	179.10	179.10	179.10
E-1	123.30	163.80	163.80	163.80	163.80
*E-1	115.20				

(*Under 4 months)

Vol. 3 No. 140 Tuesday May 20, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST May 21 Fair to partly cloudy, showers and/or thunder showers over the mountains. Winds blowing southeast 5-10 knots gusting to 15 knots in the afternoon. Temperature: H 98 L 78

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action was light again in the southern I Corps area yesterday. Americal troops accounted for 10 NVA and 13 VC killed, and captured eight weapons, one crew-served.

FREDERICK HILL--The 196th Inf. Bde. had the most contacts with enemy forces again yesterday, as two NVA and 11 VC were killed and two weapons captured.

Within an area 20 miles northwest of Tam Ky, **"Blue Ghost" of F Trp., 8th Cav.** engaged and killed nine VC in four contacts with the enemy.

The recon element of 4-31 Inf. engaged and killed nine VC in four contacts with the enemy.

The recon element of 4-31 Inf. engaged an unknown size enemy force, 24 miles west of Tam Ky.

After the small arms duel was over the "Polar Bears" found two VC killed in action and two AK-47 rifles captured.

Four miles southwest of Tam Ky, Co. D, 3-21 Inf. found two NVA killed by small arms fire.

IRON MOUNTAIN--The 11th Inf. Bde. reported seven NVA and one VC killed, and seven weapons, one crew-served captured.

Co. B, 1-20 Inf., four miles northwest of Duc Pho, found the bodies of five NVA killed by air strikes.

While working with elements of the **1-20 Inf.**, E Trp., 1st Cav. engaged and killed two NVA, four miles northwest of Duc Pho.

A mile to the south, Co. C, 4-21 Inf. found a small weapons cache including two M-16 rifles, two U.S. carbines, and one .30 caliber machinegun. The company also detained two VC suspects.

Co. C, 3-1 Inf, working 11 miles southeast of Duc Pho on the coast found one M-16 rifle and 18 rounds of ammo, one carbine, and one anti-tank mine.

GENEVA PARK--Again the 198th Inf. Bde. encountered light action yesterday killing one NVA and one VC.

At 0730 hours a ranger unit engaged and killed on NVA, 15 miles west of Chu Lai.

The command and control chopper of Co. C, **1-52nd Inf.**, while on a visual recon, observed one VC, 12 miles south of Chu Lai. He had been killed by artillery.

Vol. 3 No. 141 Wednesday May 21, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST May 22 Late afternoon thunder showers over the mountains with scattered showers along the coast. Fair to partly cloudy. Temperature: H 98 L 79

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--In eight contacts with enemy force yesterday, soldiers of the Americal Division accounted for five NVA and seven VC killed, and three weapons, one crew-served captured.

FREDERICK HILL--Action slowed throughout the entire division yesterday including the 196th Inf. Bde. area. The "Chargers reported killing two NVA and three VC and capturing one weapon.

Co's A and C, 3-21 Inf. working in a sweep five miles southwest of Tam Ky, came under intense automatic weapons fire. The strikes silenced the enemy positions. A check of the area found two NVA killed.

"**Blue Ghost gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav**. accounted for two VC killed in two separate contacts, 11 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

One VC was killed by the recon element of the 4-31 Inf., 23 miles west of Tam Ky. Found in the area was .38 caliber pistol and five Chicom grenades.

GENEVA PARK--In the 198th Inf. Bde. area of operations three NVA and one VC were killed and two weapons, one crew-served captured.

After receiving sporadic sniper fire from NVA snipers on a hilltop, eight miles northwest of Quang Ngai, Co. C, **1-52nd Inf.** laid down a heavy barrage of small arms fire, then went up after the enemy.

The "Brave and Bold" soldiers captured the hill and put an end to the sniper business for three NVA.

A check of the hilltop area by the Americal soldiers netted one 82mm mortar with seven rounds, and one AK-47 rifle.

Co. A, 5-46 Inf. engaged and killed one VC, 11 1/2 miles northwest of Quang Ngai. They also detained one VC suspect in the area.

While working in an area, six miles west of Chu Lai, Co. D, 1-6 Inf. found five suspected rocket sites with aiming stakes.

IRON MOUNTAIN--Three VC were killed in the 11th Inf. Bde. area yesterday.

Co. A, 3-1 Inf. while in a night perimeter position had trip flares around them ignite twice during the night.

In both cases VC trying to invade the perimeter set off the flares and both times the company was aided by the light silhouetting the enemy against the sky, resulting in three VC killed.

Two VC suspects were detained on the coast, six miles southeast of Chu Lai, by Co. B, 3-1 Inf.

Co. B, 4-21 Inf., four miles southeast of Duc Pho, found five rocket canisters and 20 feet of electrical wire with firing devices attached.

Vol. 3 No. 142 Thursday May 22, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST May 23 Fair to partly cloudy, thunder showers over the mountains in late afternoon. Winds blowing east 5-12 knots gusts to 15 knots.
Temperature: H 99 L 79

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Eleven NVA and 11 VC were killed and eight weapons, two crew-served, were captured in the Americal Division's southern I Corps yesterday.

IRON MOUNTAIN--The 11th Inf. Bde. reported killing seven NVA and capturing six weapons in two separate contacts with enemy forces.

An NVA attack at a bridge, four and half miles north of Duc Pho was thwarted by **Co. A, 1-20 Inf.**, as they accounted for six NVA killed and four weapons captured.

The bridge located between **LZ Liz** and Mo Duc was guarded by a squad of Co. A, when suddenly the still night air was cut with an enemy barrage of mortars.

The squad radioed to LZ Liz, one and half miles away, for aid as an NVA ground attack began.

As company reinforcements arrived by chopper, they were met with a hail of enemy small arms fire, but were able to coordinate a drive and push the NVA from the bridge, ruining enemy plans to close the bridge.

A search of the area found the six NVA killed in the battle and two AK-47 and two AK-50 rifles.

In other action Co. B, 4-3 Inf. killed one NVA and captured an AK-47 rifle, 22 miles west of Duc Pho.

The company also found and destroyed five huts, one bunker, a mess hall, an aid station, and a command bunker.

Other 11th Bde. units were busy uncovering small caches.

Co. D, 4-3 Inf. found one AK-47 rifle, along with 15 Chicom grenades, one M-26 grenade, three bangalore torpedoes, three RPG rounds, 20 each of hammocks, gas masks, and canteens.

Five hundred pounds of rice was found by the recon element **1-20 Inf.**, two miles north of Duc Pho. They also found two M-14 mine, 10 time fuses, three M-16 magazines, and assorted clothing.

FREDERICK HILL--Nine VC were killed in the 196th Inf. Bde. OZ yesterday. Co. D, 4-31 Inf., while working in an area 14 1/2 miles west of Tam Ky engaged eight VC with small arms fire, killing five of the enemy.

F Trp., 8th Cav. engaged and killed two VC in separate contacts in an area 18 1/2 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky.

Other 196th Bde. units killed two more VC in yesterdays action.

GENEVA PARK--In the 198th Inf. Bde. area of operations four NVA and two VC were killed and two crew-served weapons captured.

After receiving enemy fire, H Trp., 17th Cav. returned the fire against an unknown size enemy force. A sweep of the area after the fight revealed four NVA dead, and one Russian made machinegun and a 60mm mortar complete and eight rounds for the mortar.

The action took place 10 miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

Air strikes in the same general area accounted for one VC killed as well as 10 bunkers and 22 structures destroyed, causing three secondary explosions and fires.

One other VC was killed in the Bde. OZ yesterday by Co. C, 1-6 Inf.

Vol. 3 No. 143 Friday May 23, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST May 24 Fair to partly cloudy, showers and thunder showers over the mountains. Winds east-southeast 5 to 10 knots gusts to 20 knots.
Temperature: H 96 L 79

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action decreased again yesterday in the Americal's southern I Corps area. Four NVA and four VC were killed and two weapons, one crew-served captured.

GENEVA PARK--Four NVA were killed and two weapons captured in the 198th Inf. Bde. area yesterday, as well as a supply cache found.

Co. C, **1-52nd Inf.** found two NVA killed, one by air strikes and the other by a cratering charge the company used the day before in blowing a tunnel.

In the same area, eight miles northwest of Quang Ngai, H Trp., 17th Cav. found one NVA killed by artillery fire.

While searching a hut in the same area, Co. A, **1-52nd Inf.** found one NVA killed by small arms fire. They also found a supply cache with one NVA killed by small arms fire. They also found a supply cache with one AK-47 rifle, one RPG launcher complete with sights, four rounds for the RPG, 10 loaded magazines and 900 loose rounds of AK-47 ammo, three Chicom grenades, 62 blasting caps and 15 feet of time fuse, 12 NVA rucksacks, a U.S. compass, clothing, 1000 pounds of rice and miscellaneous documents.

Co. C, **1-52nd Inf.** later in the day found an additional 1500 pounds of rice in container hidden in bushes.

IRON MOUNTAIN--Two VC were killed by "Jungle Warriors" of the 11th Bde. in action near Duc Pho.

Basecamp defenders at LZ Bronco killed two VC as they crossed the Song Tra Cau river, a mile from the basecamp early yesterday afternoon.

According to SGT David L. Collins (Odessa, Tex.), "We spotted four or five VC crossing the river in an area from which LZ Bronco has been receiving 75 recoilless rifle fire recently. We called our mortars of **Co. C, 1-20 Inf.** killing two. I believe another was wounded by carried away."

Co. B, 4-3 Inf. found 500 pounds of rice, 20 miles west of Duc Pho in the mountains.

Four VC suspects were detained by Co. B, 3-1 Inf. in rice paddies four miles south of Duc Pho.

FREDERICK HILL--The 196th Inf. Bde. reported two VC killed in their area of operations.

F Trp., 8th Cav. engaged and killed one VC, 29 miles west of Tam Ky, while the other kill was reported by Co. A, 4-31 Inf. 23 miles west of Tam Ky.

Vol. 3 No. 144 Saturday May 24, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST May 25 Partly cloudy and warm with a few scattered showers & thunder showers over the area. Winds will be southerly with gusts 5 to 10 knots.
Temperature: H 100 L 80

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Fighting was light throughout the Americal Division's southern I Corps area yesterday, except in southern Quang Ngai Province, where "Jungle Warriors" of the 11th Inf. Bde. accounted for 17 of the 34 enemy killed and three of the four weapons captured.

IRON MOUNTAIN--After several days of only finding small caches, the "Jungle Warriors" yesterday found the enemy in nine contacts.

Along the coast, two miles northeast of Duc Pho, the recon element of 4-21 Inf. engaged and killed six VC and two NVA and captured an M-2 rifle.

Co. B, 4-3 Inf. near the Song De river, 14 miles west of Duc Pho, killed one VC hiding in a tunnel and captured a K-44 rifle.

Later the company discovered eight huts, 35 sleeping positions, one bunker and 700 pounds of rice.

An enemy medical relay station was closed down by Co. G, 75th Rangers, seven miles west of Duc Pho. The NVA station lost its license to operate when the rangers came upon the hootch while searching a stream bed.

"We went to search the hootch and found a bunker beneath with two surprised NVA inside," said SP4 Ralph Cole (St. Louis).

After giving the NVA occupants a taste of M-16 medicine, a search of the area was made, uncovering a large amount of medical supplies and one K-44 rifle.

Other action in the brigade area found artillery pounding away at enemy positions, accounting for four more VC killed.

GENEVA PARK--The 198th Inf. Bde. reported one NVA, five VC killed and one weapon captured.

At 0410 hours yesterday morning, Co. C, 1-6 Inf. suddenly was hit by an unknown size enemy force. They took 15 RPG rounds and small arms fire then called in artillery to silence the enemy forces.

As daylight broke, a search team found three VC killed and captured an AK-50.

F Trp., 8th Cav. working in an area eight to ten miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai, engaged and killed two VC, captured an NVA soldier, and detained four VC suspects.

Eight miles northwest of Quang Ngai H Trp., 17th Cav. found the body of one NVA killed the day before.

A PSYOP team of 1-52nd Inf. was dropping Chieu Hoi leaflets, when suddenly a Vietnamese was seen waving one of the leaflets at the chopper. The Hoi Chanh wanted to rally and was picked up.

FREDERICK HILL--Three VC were killed in the 196th Inf. Bde. area of operations in one of the lightest days they have experienced for two weeks.

In rice paddies, 13 1/2 miles west of Tam Ky Co. D, 4-31 Inf. killed one VC trying to evade.

Near Hiep Duc, 24 miles west of Tam Ky Co. A, 4-31 Inf. accounted for the other two VC killed in the "Chargers" area yesterday.

Vol. 3 No. 145 Sunday May 25, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST May 26 Fair to partly cloudy winds east-southeast 5 to 10 knots gusts 25 to 30 in afternoon, with some thunder showers over the AO.
Temperature: H 101 L 80 Humidity: H 89% L 50%

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Ten NVA and 21 VC were killed and nine weapons ??? crew-served were captured by elements ? the Americal Division yesterday.

IRON MOUNTAIN--The 11th Inf. Bde. area again had the most enemy activity as "Jungle Warrior" accounted for 10 NVA and one VC killed, and all the weapons captured.

A combined sweep by E Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. and Co. B, 3-1 Inf. netted five NVA killed in an area six miles southeast of Duc Pho.

Contact was made at 1600 hours and continued past dark. It began when the units received RPG rounds from an unknown size enemy force. Captured in the fight were one 57 recoilless rifle, an RPG launcher, three AK-47 rifles, and an M-79.

Elsewhere, while on a an area recon mission in foothills, eight miles south of Duc Pho, a unit of Co. G, 75th Inf. spotted a well-used trail.

According to SP4 George Siffron (Niagara Falls, N.Y.), "Shortly after spotting the trail, 15 NVA walked ??? then five minutes later five more ??? used the trail. We decided to set ?? ambush, but just about that time ??? our men was spotted."

Throwing grenades and laying down a heavy volume of fire, the rangers killed one NVA before contact was broken.

Other 11th Bde. units accounted for the remaining five enemy killed, plus two AK-47 rifles and a .45 caliber pistol. Six VC suspects were also detained.

FREDERICK HILL - Units in the 196th area of operations accounted for 14 VC killed.

Co. D, 4-31 Inf. engaged and killed four VC, 17 miles west of Tam Ky, while her sister companies A and E accounted for two more VC, 20 miles west of Tam Ky.

Ten miles north of Tam Ky, D Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. killed eight VC for the remaining action.

GENEVA PARK - Six VC were killed in the 198th Inf. Bde. area yesterday.

"**Blue Ghosts" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav**. reported all the kills. They killed the six VC and detained four VC suspects in nine separate actions in an area five and half miles north to 11 miles north-northwest of Quang Ngai.

Co. A, **1-52nd Inf.** found and destroyed five bunkers and several spider holes, eight miles northwest of Quang Ngai. Later they found 250 pounds of rice and 75 pounds of tapioca.

In view of the previous week's action, which saw 562 enemy killed, a calm descended over southern I Corps this week. Sixty -seven NVA and 115 VC were killed in the Americal AO. Forty-three weapons, eight of them crew-served were captured.

The 196th Inf. Bde. saw the most action, killing 60 enemy and capturing 16 weapons, one crew-served.

In air strikes last Sunday the 198th Inf. Bde.'s forward air-control destroyed 22 military structures and seven bunkers, 11 miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

Wednesday, the 11th Inf. Bde. found and destroyed five huts, one bunker, a messhall, aid station, and a command bunker, 22 miles west of Duc Pho.

Eight miles northwest of Quang Ngai city, Thursday Co. A, **1-52nd Inf.**, 198th Inf. Bde. located a supply cache containing an AK-47 rifle, one RPG launcher complete with sights, four RPG rounds, 10 loaded magazines and 900 rounds of AK-47 ammo.

Also found were three Chicom grenades, 62 blasting caps, 15 feet of time fuse, 62 blasting caps, 15 feet of time fuse, 12 NVA ruck sacks, a U.S compass, clothing, 1000 pounds of rice, **(Page 2 is missing from this issue)**

Vol. 3 No. 148 Wednesday May 28, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST May 29 Mostly to partly cloudy--winds will be westerly and blowing 5 to 10 knots Temperature: H 93 L 77

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--The 27th anniversary of the Americal Division yesterday, found division troops making small singular contacts with the enemy.

A total of 52 NVA and 12 VC were killed and nine weapons, one crew-served captured.

FREDERICK HILL--The 196th Inf. Bde. reported 27 NVA and four VC killed in its area of operations.

Co. C, 3-21 Inf. uncovered the bodies of 21 NVA killed by small arms fire and air strikes, six miles southwest of Tam Ky.

In the same location the company killed one VC trying to evade.

Meanwhile, Co. A, 2-1 Inf. found the bodies of six more NVA killed by air strikes in the same area.

In separate actions, Co. B, 2-1 Inf., **F Trp., 8th Cav.,** and D Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. each accounted for one VC killed.

LAMAR PLAIN--The 1st Bde., 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile), originally part of the Americal Division Task Force Oregon, has returned to the Americal fold after an 18 month absence.

Under operational control of the Americal Division, the 1st Bde., 101st Airborne is working reconnaissance in force missions in the mountainous jungle terrain surrounding LZ Professional, five miles southeast of Tien Phuoc.

In operation Lamar Plain, the brigade is making sweeps of the area to dig out what is believed to be an NVA regiment holed up in the rough terrain.

Since units of the "Screaming Eagles" began working with the Americal's 1-46 Inf. they have accounted for 100 NVA and 34 VC killed and 43 weapons captured.

In action yesterday 18 NVA were killed and two weapons captured.

Americal troops of Co. A, 1-46 Inf. accounted for seven NVA killed in an area six to eight miles southeast of Tien Phuoc.

In four separate contacts, B Trp., 2nd Sqdn., 17th Cav. killed seven NVA nine miles southeast of Tien Phuoc.

The bodies of four NVA were found by Co. D, 1-501 In., four miles south-east of Tien Phuoc. The enemy had been killed by artillery.

IRON MOUNTAIN--The 11th Inf. Bde. reported seven NVA and six VC killed and six weapons, one crew-served captured, in wide spread small contacts.

The largest contact was made by Co. A, 4-21 Inf. eight miles south of Duc Pho. Receiving heavy small arms fire and company returned fire killing five NVA and capturing two AK-47 rifles.

Co. B, 3-1 Inf. accounted for five VC killed, in as many contacts, in an area nine miles southeast of Duc Pho.

Other action in the area accounted for two more NVA and one VC, as well as three AK-47 rifles and one Chicom machinegun.

GENEVA PARK--In very light action yesterday, two VC were killed in the 198th Inf. Bde. area.

A **"Blue Ghost" light observation helicopter of F Trp., 8th Cav.,** flown by WO1 William T. Martin (Lake Charles, La.) was shot down by two VC, 12 miles north-northeast of Quang Ngai.

Once the craft landed, WO1 Martin got revenge by killing the two VC with his pistol. The crew was unharmed and the ship was extracted.

Vol. 3 No. 149 Thursday May 29, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST May 30 Mostly to partly cloudy with winds blowing easterly this afternoon 5 to 10 knots. In the evening light and variable.
Temperature: H 93 L 77 Humidity: H 95% L 55%

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--From the sandy beaches touching the South China Sea across the coastal lowland of continuous rice paddies to foothills and mountain slopes, Americal Division soldiers made 21 contacts with enemy forces yesterday, resulting in nine NVA and 20 VC killed.

As has been the case for some time now, contact has been light and scattered throughout the large southern I Corps area.

GENEVA PARK--The 198th Inf. Bde. reported three NVA and 11 VC killed and three weapons captured in action yesterday.

In the lowlands surrounding Quang Ngai, **F Trp., 8th Cav.** accounted for five VC killed and broke up a possible party in doing so.

When the **"Blue Ghost"** gunships observed activity near a structure, 12 miles northwest of Quang Ngai, they went down for a closer look, which revealed a gathering of 20 to 30 VC.

If it was a party of just a gathering of the clan, the gunships quickly halted the festivities.

Riddling the structure with her miniguns, the building was quickly vacated by the scattering VC, leaving two dead VC behind.

The other three **"Blue Ghost"** kills came from individual engagements in the same general area.

Shortly after midnight, members of Co. D, **1-52nd Inf.** heard movement around their perimeter defense.

Illumination revealed four NVA to the front.

The "Ready Rifles" engaged the intruders, killing three and capturing three 9mm pistols.

Seven miles southwest of Quang Ngai, Co. A, **1-52nd Inf.** engaged five VC with small arms fire, killing three of the enemy.

Three other VC were killed in the 198th BDE, OZ as well as four VC suspects detained.

IRON MOUNTAIN--"Jungle Warriors" of the 11th Inf. Bde. accounted for three NVA and three VC killed and two weapons captured.

In operations seven miles southwest of Duc Pho, Co. B, 4-21 Inf. killed one VC and captured an AK-47 rifle.

In the same area, Co. D. 3-1 Inf. accounted for another VC killed.

Eight miles west of Duc Pho, in the foothills, Co. C, 4-3 Inf. engaged four NVA with small arms fire.

The fight continued until the NVA broke contact, leaving behind one NVA killed and an AK-47 rifle.

The command and control ship of the 4-21 Inf. while searching an area seven miles south of Duc Pho, observed one NVA killed by artillery.

In other action, two more VC were killed in the 11th Bde. area.

FREDERICK HILL--The 196th Inf. Bde. accounted for six VC killed and one weapon captured.

In the only contact of any size yesterday, the recon element of 4-31 Inf. engaged five VC, 29 miles west of Tam Ky.

Two VC were killed in the engagement, fought in the triple-canopy jungle.

The other contacts in the brigade OZ all were engagements of one VC.

LAMAR PLAIN -Action was reduced in the area near Tien Phuoc yesterday, as units of the 1st Bde., 101st Airborne Division accounted for three NVA killed.

BIRTHDAY TRUCE

SAIGON (AFVN) --Communists shelled at least a dozen allied bases and Vietnamese towns only hours before the start of their declared 48-hour truce for Buddha's birthday, military spokesmen said Thursday.

At 9 A.M. some two hours after the ceasefire period began there was no indication

Vol. 3 No. 150 Friday May 30, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST May 31 Cloudy to partly cloudy with thunder showers later today in the higher elevations. Winds 5-10 knots and variable.
Temperature: H 95 L 77 Humidity: H 95% L 55%

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Scattered light action continued yesterday in the southern I Corps area, as 16 NVA and seven VC were killed, two NVA detained, and six weapons captured.

IRON MOUNTAIN--The 11th Inf. Bde. accounted for five NVA and one VC killed and one NVA and two weapons captured.

Moving from a clearing into triple canopy jungle, seven miles southwest of Duc Pho, Co. B, 4-21 Inf. received heavy automatic weapons fire.

The "Jungle Warriors" answered the NVA greeting with their own brand of fire power, killing one NVA and capturing another.

According to SP4 Ronald M. Krieg (Plymouth, Mich.), "By quickly maneuvering through the dense jungle, the unit was able to cut off from the rest of his group one NVA soldier, also capturing his AK-47 rifle."

Two NVA were killed by **Co. D, 1-20 Inf.**, three miles northwest of Duc Pho, while Co. C, 4-3 Inf. accounted for two more NVA killed, eight miles west of Duc Pho.

Co. B, 3-1 Inf. reported the lone VC kill in the brigade yesterday, 10 miles southwest of Duc Pho.

GENEVA PARK--Five VC were killed, one NVA, three weapons and a rice cache all captured by units of the 198th Inf. Bde.

At 1800 hours yesterday, Co. A 1-52nd Inf. engaged one NVA soldier, six miles north-northwest of Quang Ngai.

The enemy soldier was wounded in the action and taken prisoner. An AK-47 rifle was also captured.

Earlier in the day, the company had found three tons of rice, hidden in a village and later a patrol form the company found an additional 1 1/2 tons of rice in a deserted hootch, six miles north of Quang Ngai.

Co. C, **1-52nd Inf**. reported three VC killed, two killed by air strikes and the third by the infantrymen, six miles southeast of Quang Ngai.

"Blue Ghost" gunships of **F Trp., 8th Cav.** easily spanning a large area killed one VC, nine miles southeast of Chu Lai, and later detained two VC suspects seven miles north and four miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

While on a road sweep, eight miles north of Quang Ngai, 3rd Plt., H Trp., 17th Cav. found two AK-47 rifles wrapped in cloth alongside the road.

FREDERICK HILL---In the 196th Inf. Bde. area of operations six NVA and one VC were killed.

In the rugged mountain terrain, 23 miles west of Tam Ky, Co. A, 4-31 Inf. killed a lone VC at 0850 hours.

Cav. units accounted for six NVA in an area four to five miles west of Tam Ky.

A Trp. and D Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. each found three NVA killed by small arms fire and air strikes.

LAMAR PLAIN--Five NVA were killed an one weapon captured in the joint operations of Americal units with the 1st Bde., 101st Airborne Division near Tien Phuoc.

The recon element of the 1-46 Inf. engaged two NVA at close range, 11 1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky, killing the two enemy and capturing one U.S. .45 caliber pistol.

Air strikes accounted for the other three NVA killed in the area.

Co. A, 1-501 Inf. found one, 12 miles southwest of Tam Ky, while Co. D, 1-501 Inf. found the other two NVA, 10 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Vol. 3 No. 152 Sunday June 1, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST June 1 Mostly cloudy throughout the day, increasing cloudiness in the evening. Showers and/or thunder showers. Fog with a low ceiling over valleys. Temperature: H 92 L 77 Humidity: H 95% L 55%

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action erupted in southern I Corps yesterday as Americal units killed 40 NVA and 45 VC and captured six weapons, two crew-served.

IRON MOUNTAIN- The 11th Inf. Bde. accounted for 28 NVA and one VC killed and six weapons, two crew-served captured.

A fierce day long battle erupted when units of the **1-20 Inf.** and E Trp., 1st Cav. battled an unknown size enemy force, two miles north of Duc Pho near highway 1.

Twenty-eight NVA were killed and one .30 caliber machinegun, one 82mm mortar, and four AK-47 rifles were captured.

The initial contact was made by **Co. C, 1-20 Inf.**, 1LT Frank Jacobs (Phoenix, Ariz.) the company's FO described what happened, "We were moving up the river bordering some rice paddies, then veered north, just as we had done for the past two days. We began to move towards thick vegetation near some grave mounds when all of a sudden all hell broke loose."

"They were throwing heavy automatic weapons fire at us, plus grenades, RPGs and 60mm mortar rounds," said 1LT Jacobs, "the hot action made it difficult for dustoffs to get into the area."

The company pinned down by the NVA force, radioed for aid while the men of Co. C held their ground.

SP4 Gary McCann (Mexico, Mo.), a medic with the company related one of the acts of bravery on the part of a GI. "One man ran 60 meters to the front, through a hail of fire to pick up a wounded soldier, he also carried ammo to various positions and held up a bottle of blood expander for a wounded buddy, when all you could hear was bullets and grenades exploding nearby."

The soldier was later identified as SP4 Walter Herndon (Livonia, Mich.), who modestly passed it off. "They are all buddies of mine. They'd do it for me and I'd do it for them again."

As action mounted, APCs of E Trp., 1st Cav. moved in to help, while **Co. D, 1-20 Inf.** was combat assaulted to the area.

SP4 John Rosebrook (Marysville, Ohio), a rifleman with **Co. D**, recalled what took place. "We were combat assaulted north of some church ruins and moved on line with the tracks in front. The tracks drew heavy fire and it was slow moving, but we managed to sweep through the area and force the enemy from their fortified positions."

The contact continued into darkness while heavy rains pounded the blood-stained area.

Co. D, 3-1 Inf. accounted for the one VC killed in the 11th Bde. OZ, seven miles southeast of Duc Pho.

GENEVA PARK--Six NVA and 37 VC were killed in the 198th Inf. Bde. area yesterday.

Gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. relentlessly hunted enemy soldiers in a wide area, six miles northwest to 10 miles west of Quang

(Continued -1)

Ngai. In 12 contacts, the ships accounted for three NVA and 26 VC killed.

Co. C, 1-52 Inf. engaged three VC, five miles northwest of Quang Ngai, killing one.

One mile north they found the bodies of five VC killed by artillery fire.

Later the company observed 20 VC moving through the same area. D Btry., 1-14 Arty. fired the mission, killing five of the enemy.

Ten miles west of Quang Ngai, the 3rd plt., Co. B, 1-52 Inf. engaged three NVA in a foxhole with hand grenades, killing them.

FREDERICK HILL--The 196th Inf. Bde. reported seven VC killed yesterday. The recon element of 2-1 Inf. killed four VC from a group of 23 that they engaged, 19 miles west of Tam Ky.

Two miles away, Co. B, 2-1 Inf. accounted for two VC killed, while Co. D 3-21 Inf. recorded one kill, 12 miles west of Tam Ky.

LAMAR PLAIN- Six NVA were killed by Co. D, 1-501 Inf., 11 miles southwest of Tam Ky. The unit had received small arms fire. Artillery was called in on the enemy positions, silencing them.

The Americal Division's 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. welcomed LTC John H. Dure III (Medford, Mass.) as its new commander in a brief ceremony at Hawk Hill yesterday.

LTC Dure, who replaces LTC Philip L. Bolte, served as commandant of the Americal Combat Center before assuming command of the "Dragoons".

The past week began with small and scattered action throughout the division area.

An increase in enemy killed was noted on Tuesday, due mainly to effective air strikes, then another three days of light action prevailed before heavy contact was made Saturday.

Totals for the week found 138 NVA and 101 VC killed, and 39 weapons, three crew-served captured.

Co. C, 3-21 Inf., 196th Inf. Bde. uncovered the bodies of 21 NVA, Tuesday, killed by small arms fire and air strikes, six miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Meanwhile, Co. A, 2-1 Inf. found the bodies of six more NVA killed by air strikes in the same area.

In operation Lamar Plain, 18 NVA were killed, Tuesday, by combined Americal and 1st Bde., 101st Airborne Division units.

On Thursday, Co. A, 1-52 Inf., 198th Inf. Bde. captured one NVA soldier and a total of six tons of rice in a village, six miles north of Quang Ngai.

Take extra salt.

Vol. 3 No. 153 Monday June 2, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST June 3 Partly cloudy with light variable winds in the morning. Winds easterly 5-15 knots in the afternoon. Temperature: H 95 L 78

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

THE AMERICAL DIVISION WELCOMED MAJOR GENERAL LLOYD B. RAMSEY AS ITS COMMANDER YESTERDAY REPLACING MG CHARLES M. GETTYS.

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Following the heavy contacts made Saturday by units of the Americal Division, yesterday was relatively calm as 18 NVA and eight VC were killed and three weapons captured throughout southern I Corps.

FREDERICK HILL--The 196th Inf. Bde. accounted for 10 NVA and two VC killed and one weapon captured.

At 1200 hours, the bodies of six NVA were found, seven miles north of Tam Ky. Later in the day the unit found three NVA killed by small arms fire and captured an AK-47 rifle.

Co. B, 2-1 Inf. killed two VC in triple canopy jungle, 12 miles west of Tam Ky.

F Trp., 8th Cav. accounted for one NVA killed in the only other contact, eight miles north of Tam Ky.

GENEVA PARK--The 198th Inf. Bde. accounted for five NVA and two VC killed in the brigade area yesterday.

A change in operational tactics used by gunships of **F Trp., 8th Cav.** and units of the 1-52 Inf. on Saturday were again employed yesterday.

Gunships were now transporting the 1-52 Inf. and a barrage of support fire came from the gunnies like a city of sky lights.

This was the first time the 1-52 had the mobility, the air-to-ground supporting fire, and the ability to over-leap obstacles such as boobytraps and rough terrain.

The Kangaroo Jumps" enabled the infantrymen to move quickly into an area and flush the enemy out, while gunships hovered over the area, ready to strike.

The tactics used had accounted for 44 enemy killed Saturday, 10 miles west of Quang Ngai. Yesterday's totals were five NVA and two VC killed in the same area.

LAMAR PLAIN--Two NVA and four VC were killed and one weapon captured in operations yesterday.

Co. B, 1-501 Inf. found the bodies of two NVA, 12 miles west-southwest of Tam Ky. Later in the same area they engaged and killed one VC and captured an M-72 LAW.

Co. B, 1-46 Inf., 12 miles southwest of Tam Ky, observed seven VC. Artillery was directed on the position killing three VC.

IRON MOUNTAIN--One more enemy killed and one weapon were added to Saturday's total in the battle, two miles north of Duc Pho.

Co. C, 1-20 Inf. in a follow up sweep of the battlefield found another NVA to be added to the confirmed total of 28 NVA killed in the previous day's action.

The unit also found an AK-50 rifle in the area where the "Ready Rifles" were challenged by what is believed to part of the 3rd NVA Div.

Vol. 3 No. 154 Tuesday June 3, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST June 4 Partly cloudy with showers in the afternoon. Winds will blow easterly 5-10 knots. Temperature: H 95 L 78 Humidity: H 90% L 50%

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Multiple actions throughout southern I Corps netted Americal soldiers 13 NVA and 24 VC killed, three VC and eight weapons were captured.

LAMAR PLAIN--Units of the 1st Bde., 101st Airborne Division and 1-46 Inf., 198th Inf. Bde. accounted for 11 NVA and four VC killed. They captured one VC and five weapons.

The rifle platoon of B Trp., 2nd Sqdn., 17th Cav. while on a sweep, eight miles southwest of Tam Ky, came upon a bunker complex and promptly was greeted by heavy automatic weapons fire.

The platoon dropped back and employed gunships and air strikes on the target.

When the smoke cleared, a check of the rubble revealed six NVA killed by the air strikes and small arms fire. One AK-47 rifle was captured.

B Trp. earlier in the day accounted for one VC killed, a half mile away.

Nine miles southeast of Tien Phuoc, Co. A, 1-501 Inf. engaged five VC killing one, while in the same area units of Co.'s C and D, 1-501 Inf. found the bodies of two VC killed by artillery.

Earlier in the day, Co. B, 1-501 Inf. had captured one VC and an AK-47 one mile away.

At 1700 hours, Co. B, 1-501 Inf. received small arms fire. The unit returned fire killing two NVA and capturing three AK-47 rifles. The fight occurred eight miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Eleven miles southwest of Tam Ky, Co. B, 1-46 Inf. found the bodies of three NVA killed recently by artillery.

IRON MOUNTAIN--Two NVA and 10 VC were killed by units of the 11th Inf. Bde. yesterday. Three weapons were captured.

Five VC were killed and two captured by a unit of the 11th Inf. Bde., six miles south of Duc Pho.

Helicopters of the 123rd Avn., Bn. were flying over the area when they spotted seven VC trying to evade the ships.

The VC had taken cover in a spider hole nearby.

The 1st plt. of Co. D, 3-1 Inf., along with ARVN interpreters and National Police were rushed to the area by tracks of E Trp., 1st Cav.

"Several attempts were made by the interpreters and National Police to persuade the VC hidden in their holes to come out and surrender," said SP4 Francis Ryan (Brockton, Mass.), a rifleman with the company.

"When attempts to talk the VC from their holes failed, we provided a little encouragement by throwing some grenades down the hole," said Ryan.

The effects from the grenades were enough for two VC, who crawled out and surrendered.

"The others still resisted," said Ryan. "More grenades were thrown down the hole until there could be no further chance of resistance. When it was safe to do so, one of our men went down into the hole and uncovered five VC killed."

Shortly after midnight, Co. D, 4-3 Inf. sprung an ambush, 14 miles northwest of Duc Pho near the village of On Huong.

The "Old Guard" killed on NVA and captured an AK-47 rifle and pack.

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Six VC were killed in two contacts by Co. D, 3-1 Inf., six miles south of Duc Pho.

Elsewhere, Co. D, 4-21 Inf. engaged six VC, seven miles southwest of Duc Pho with small arms fire. The Gimlets" killed two VC and captured three SKS rifles.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123rd Avn. Bn. killed two VC, four miles south of Duc Pho near the village of Xuan Thanh.

The unit also killed one NVA six miles south of Duc Pho late Sunday night.

FREDERICK HILL--Nine VC were killed in the 196th Inf. Bde. OZ yesterday.

Gunships of **F Trp., 8th Cav**. continued their harassment of enemy troops in the area as they downed three VC in separate encounters, eight to ten miles north of Tam Ky.

The recon element of 4-31 Inf. killed three VC, 19 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky. Later in the day, they killed another VC, two miles to the west.

Co. A, 4-31 Inf. accounted for the other two VC killed in the brigade area. They were killed in separate contacts, 22 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

C Trp., 1st Sqdn. 1st Cav. killed one VC, seven miles west of Tam Ky.

GENEVA PARK-No enemy kills were reported in the 198th Inf. Bde. area yesterday.

Co. A, 1-52 Inf. found a tunnel complex, seven miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

Air strikes in the brigade area destroyed 14 structures and eight bunkers.

The 1st Bn., 6th Inf. welcomed a new commander yesterday. He is LTC Thomas J. Ambrose (Morristown, N.J.), formerly the 198th Bde. S-3 Operations Officer.

Leaving the position is LTC Albert J. Dombrowski (Douglaston, N.Y.), who will go to Headquarters, Americal Division as G-5 Civil Affairs Officer.

Vol. 3 No. 155 Wednesday June 4, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST June 5 Partly cloudy with showers over the mountains and isolated along the coast. Light and variable winds east-northeast 8 to 18 knots.
Temperature: H 95 L 78 Humidity: H 95% L 50%

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Activity decreased slightly in southern I Corps yesterday as Americal Division units accounted for six NVA and 20 VC killed and captured six weapons, one crew-served.

FREDERICK HILL--In the 196th Inf. Bde. area yesterday, elements of the 4-31 Inf. tallied all the enemy kills as 16 VC fell at the hands of the "Polar Bears".

The 4-31 Inf., whose nickname represents a cold weather animal was anything but that yesterday as the "Polar Bears" put the heat on "Charlie".

A night patrol of Co. A, accounted for seven VC killed when they encountered 30 VC attending a barbecue in the heavily wooded mountain region 26 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

The VC were roasting a freshly slaughtered water buffalo when they were surprised by the 196 infantrymen.

"We heard voices and saw a flickering light, when we were still 300 meters away," said SGT Bruce Challis (Walla Walla, Wash.) the patrol's leader.

"We low-crawled to within 10 meters of them, but they were having such a good time they never knew we were there. We yelled at them to stop," he related, "and that is when they took off in every direction."

The Americal infantrymen opened fire on the fleeing VC killing seven.

A thorough search revealed numerous blood trails leading from the area, as well as packs containing rice and medical supplies.

The recon plt. and Co. D, 4-31 Inf. each accounted for four VC killed in contacts beginning late Monday night and continuing through yesterday.

Shortly after midnight, Co. C, 4-31 Inf. killed one VC, 25 miles west of Tam Ky.

IRON MOUNTAIN--"Jungle Warriors" of the 11th Inf. Bde. killed six NVA and one VC, and captured six weapons in brigade operations yesterday.

Co. D, 1-20 Inf., while on a search and clear mission, six miles northwest of Duc Pho, received sniper fire near the village of Phoc Loc.

The "Sykes Regulars" returned fire which resulted in six NVA killed, and the capture of 1 AK-47 and one SKS rifle.

Operating in conjunction with Co. D. was her sister company C, who uncovered a .30 caliber machinegun and three AK-47 rifles, near the village of Bich Chieu.

In the other contact, Co. B, 4-3 Inf. killed one VC, 14 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

GENEVA PARK--The 198th Inf. Bde. reported three VC killed yesterday.

Five VC were observed by Co. C, 1-52 Inf., seven miles west of Quang Ngai. Artillery was directed on the location resulting in one VC killed.

Another VC was killed, 11 miles northwest of Quang Ngai, by Co. A, 1-52 Inf.

Co. D., 1-6 Inf. found the body of one VC killed by recent air strikes, nine miles south of Tam Ky.

Co. B, 26th Engr. Bn. after having completed work on up-grading the road from Binh Son to Tra Bong, was returning in a convoy when they were ambushed by an unknown size enemy force.

According to PSG Edward Robinson (Bambridge, Ga.), "We were moving along the road slowly when we suddenly received eight or nine RPG rounds and sniper fire. We returned fire with a 165mm gun on our combat engineer vehicle and called for gunships."

"When the gunships arrived, they suppressed the sniper fire enough for us to get back on our vehicles and move out of the area," said SSG Hoyt Ayles (Lima, Ohio). The gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. and tracks from H Trp., 17th Cav. continued the engagement with the enemy force, however the results of the battle were not determined.

Vol. 3 No. 156 Thursday June 5, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST June 6 Partly cloudy with afternoon showers.
Winds along the coast will be easterly 8 to 10 knots, and gusting to 18 in afternoon.
Temperature: H 97 L 79 Humidity: H 90% L 50%

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Increased action resulted in 33 NVA and 37 VC killed and eight weapons, two crew-served captured.

IRON MOUNTAIN--The 11th Inf. Bde. accounted for 30 NVA and five VC killed and seven of the weapons captured.

In two delayed reports, Co. D, 4-3 Inf. and **Co. C, 1-20 Inf.** working in an area four miles northwest of Duc Pho, accounted for 13 NVA killed and captured a 57mm recoilless rifle and one M-16.

Shortly after 0900 hours, Co. C, 4-3 Inf. engaged and killed three NVA in the mountains 10 miles west of Duc Pho. Captured in the fight was one AK-47 and one AK-50 rifle.

The 2nd plt. of Co. D, 3-1 Inf. working with a platoon from E Trp., 17th Cav. engaged an unknown size enemy force shortly before noon.

Contact continued throughout the day as the Americal soldiers fought the NVA, entrenched in spider holes and bunkers along a hedgerow, seven miles southeast of Duc Pho.

Six NVA had thus far been reported killed in the battle as well as one RPG launcher and two AK-47 rifles captured.

Later in the day, other elements of Co. D, 3-1 Inf. accounted for four VC killed along the coast, eight miles southeast of Duc Pho near the village of Chi Trung.

"Warlords" of the 123rd Avn. Bn. accounted for six NVA killed in two contacts, six to seven miles southeast of Duc Pho.

Co. B, 4-3 Inf. accounted for two NVA and one VC, 11 miles west of Duc Pho.

FREDERICK HILL--Twenty-one VC were killed in the 196th Inf. Bde. area yesterday.

F Trp., 8th Cav. accounted for 16 of the VC killed in the day's action.

The "**Blue Ghosts**" dueled with and won engagements with the VC continually through the day, in an area eight to ten miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Another four VC were killed by Co. C, 3-21 Inf. in the same area.

Artillery accounted for the other VC killed, when a bunker was fired upon and destroyed, 10 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Two NVA were found, killed by small arms fire, by C Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav., six miles southeast of Tam Ky.

GENEVA PARK--The 198th Inf. Bde. tallied 11 VC killed in three encounters yesterday.

The 176th Aslt. Hel. Co. engaged 15 VC, killing six, 11 miles northwest of Quang Ngai, while one mile away they struck again and killed four VC.

The other kill was reported by Co. C, 1-6 Inf. at 0520 hours, when one VC was killed, six miles west of Chu Lai.

LAMAR PLAIN--One NVA was killed and an AK-47 rifle captured by Co. D, 1-501 Inf., 1st Bde., 101st Airborne Division yesterday, eight miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Vol. 3 No. 158 Saturday June 7, 1969
(Copy provided by Seketa 1/20th Inf. Bn. Veteran)

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST - June 8 Mostly cloudy with late afternoon showers. Variable winds 5-10 knots Temperature: H 97 L 75 Humidity: H 93% L 50%

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--UNITS OF THE AMERICAL DIVISION KILLED 20 NVA AND 19 VC, AND CAPTURED SIX WEAPONS, ONE CREW SERVED, IN LIGHT ACTION IN SOUTHERN I CORPS YESTERDAY.

GENEVA PARK -- Ten NVA and one VC were killed and one weapon captured in the 198th Inf. Bde. area.

An element of Co. A, 1-52 Inf. killed five NVA in a pre-dawn patrol, 10 miles northwest of Quang Ngai. One M-20 pistol and an RPG round were captured in the action.

Btry, A, 3-18 Arty, drew a bead on a group of NVA, 13 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai.

When the smoke cleared, five NVA had met their fate at the hands of the artillery.

A forward Air Control directed air strikes against enemy forces, 15 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai.

Elements of the 1-52 Inf. upon checking the cratered area found one VC killed.

Another air strike in the same general area destroyed a bridge built by NVA for supply purposes.

IRON MOUNTAIN - In action involving the 11th Inf. Bde. yesterday, seven NVA and one VC were killed, one weapon was captured. Near the Ve River, 14 miles northwest of Duc Pho, Co. B, 4-3 Inf. killed one NVA soldier at 0950 hours.

At noon the "Old Guard" unit accounted for a VC killed in the same area.

From the skies over southern Quang Ngai Province came "Aero Scouts" of the 123rd Avn Bn. and the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. striking for five NVA killed.

At 0800 hours, the "Aero Scouts" killed three of the NVA, 16 miles north-west of Duc Pho.

Later in the morning "Shark" gunships of the 174th were credited with two NVA killed.

Co. D, 1-20 Inf. added another NVA to the tally, as they killed one, five miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Co. B, 3-1 Inf. found one NVA cadre hiding near caves along the coast.

First LT Terry Foulks (Great Falls, Mont.), brigade S-2 Officer said, "The company was sent to investigate a natural complex of caves along the beach, 11 miles southeast of Duc Pho."

"About 50 meters from the caves we found an NVA cadre hiding among the rocks in the shallows along the beach. Apparently the NVA, armored with an AK-47 rifle, had been hiding in the cave since last night."

The enemy soldier gave no resistance to the Americal soldiers.

FREDERICK HILL-- Units of the 196th Inf. Bde. killed 17 VC and captured two weapons in encounters yesterday.

F Trp., 8th Cav. continued to terrorize the enemy as they struck six times with deadly accuracy yesterday, to account for nine VC killed.

Since Sunday the 'dynamic duo' of LOH's and Cobra gunships of F Trp. have zeroed in on 63 enemy soldiers.

Co. C, 3-21 Inf. accounted for four VC killed, 22 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Elsewhere, Co. A, 4-31 Inf. rubbed out three VC, 22 miles west of Tam Ky.

Another VC was killed by Co. D, 4-31 Inf., while two weapons, an AK-50 and a M-2 carbine were found by Co. C, 2-1 Inf.

LAMAR PLAIN -- THREE NVA were killed and one weapon captured and another destroyed by

(Continued -1)

combined Americal and 101st Airborne Division soldiers.

Co. A, 1-502 Inf., 1st Bde., 101st Airborne Division killed one NVA and captured an SKS rifle, 12 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Later in the day, Co. D, 1-502 Inf. 11 miles south of Tam Ky, added another NVA killed.

Co. B, 1-46 Inf. found the body of an NVA soldier, to add to the day's total.

In other action a unit of the 101st destroyed an automatic weapons position nine miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Vol. 3 No. 160 Monday June 9, 1969 (Copy provided by Chuck Seketa 1/20th Inf. Bn. Veteran)

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST - June 10 Increasing cloudiness late tomorrow, with scattered afternoon showers. Winds will be westerly 5-10 knots. Temperature: H 95 L 78

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Two NVA sapper attacks aimed at two forward firebases were repelled by Americal troops early Sunday morning.

The results of the attacks found 21 of the 25 NVA killed in the division area.

Other scattered encounters added seven VC to the total, and in addition, the bodies of another 43 enemy soldiers were found.

IRON MOUNTAIN--Twenty-five NVA and 22 VC were accounted for with seven weapons, two crew-served captured, by units of the 11th Inf. Bde.

At LZ Liz, five miles northwest of Duc Pho, one of the early pre-dawn attacks was checked.

The would be sappers instead were trapped by **Co. B, 1-20 Inf.** soldiers pulling security at the firebase.

Fighting began on the south side of the perimeter when 12 NVA were observed by soldiers in a guard bunker.

"We had two men up and pulling guard on top the bunker. I was scanning the area with a starlight scope when I detected a reflection," commented PFC Walter Swain, (Philadelphia).

"Looking closer I counted 12 of them coming through the wire," said Swain. "The other s checked and confirmed what I saw. We called it in and opened up on them right away with machinegun, M-79 and automatic weapons fire."

SGT Larry Sopczwnski (Harbor Beach, Mich.) said, "We called for illumination and continued to fire on the NVA. They tried to get back out of the wire, but we kept picking them off.

At daybreak an NVA soldier was found hiding in the chapel at the firebase. Under interrogation he revealed himself to be a member of an 18 man sapper unit.

A morning search of the are revealed 12 NVA dead scattered along the wire, two RPG launchers, two AK-47s, one M-72 LAW, six RPG rounds, Bangalore torpedoes and over 100 Chicom grenades.

Co. C, 4-21 Inf. killed one NVA and captured an AK-47 rifle, nine miles southwest of Duc Pho.

Nine miles southeast of Duc Pho on the coast, Co. B, 3-1 Inf. found two VC and later 12 NVA killed by naval gunfire.

Twenty victims of a Btry. C, 3-18 Arty. fire mission were found six miles northwest of Duc Pho.

The Hawk Hill firebase of the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. was the scene of the other NVA assault early Sunday morning.

SP4 Edwin P. Corrales (Hanamaululu, Hawaii), on guard at the time said, "The men were just walking casually into the wire and then I opened up on them."

Corrales was aided by other A Trp. soldiers who blasted the NVA, killing nine of the enemy insurgents.

A morning patrol found one RPG launcher, an AK-47 rifle, one 7.62mm pistol and about 100 Chicom grenades.

LAMAR PLAIN --1st Bde., 101st Airborne Division soldiers accounted for three NVA and four VC killed and three weapons captured.

Co. A, 1-501 Inf. found one NVA killed by small arms fire. They also found an AK-47 rifle in the same area.

Later in the day, the unit killed one NVA and captured his AK-47, eight

miles southwest of Tam Ky.

In the same area, Co. D, 1-501 Inf. tallied one kill of an NVA soldier.

Artillery was called in by B Trp., 2nd Sqdn., 17th Cav. on a hootch complex from where the Cav. unit had received fire.

Checking the area, they found four VC killed.

Co. D, 1-46 Inf. found one K-44 rifle, 11 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

FREDERICK HILL -- One NVA and 10 VC were killed in the 196th Inf. Bde. area of operations yesterday.

F Trp., 8th Cav. accounted for one NVA and two VC killed in three contacts over a wide-spread area.

To the west of Tam Ky, four units of the 196th Inf. Bde. zeroed in on targets to account for five of the VC killed.

Later, Co. B, 3-21 Inf. engaged eight VC, killing two, seven miles southwest of Tam Ky.

GENEVA PARK--One VC was accounted for in the 198th Inf. Bde. area.

While patrolling an area nine miles northwest of Quang Ngai, H Trp., 17th Cav. found the body of one VC.

Ten minutes later they found one 60mm mortar round and 50 pounds of explosives.

At 0800 hours, Co. C, 1-6 Inf. found seven 122mm rockets, five miles southwest of Chu Lai. They were hidden in bushes in the same location that an early morning rocket attack had been launched against the Chu Lai area.

Vol. 3 No. 165 Saturday June 14, 1969

CHU LAI AREA WEATHER FORECAST June 14 Partly cloudy to mostly cloudy
Winds from the northeast at 5 to 10 knots Temp H 96 L 80 Hum H 90 L 50

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action in southern I Corps yesterday netted 40 NVA and 27 VC killed and 10 weapons captured.

IRON MOUNTAIN--The 11th Inf. Bde. killed 16 NVA and one VC and captured five weapons.

While conducting a search and clear mission nine miles southeast of Duc Pho, in an area of rolling hills covered with hedgerows, Co. A, 4-3 Inf. turned an NVA ambush into a rout.

The company was moving along slowly when suddenly hit by a hail of automatic weapons and RPG fire.

The quick reactions by the infantry men stunned the enemy ambushers, who broke contact with the "Jungle Warriors" and fled leaving the bodies of five NVA slain in the action and four AK-47 rifles behind.

The Americal soldiers quickly reorganized and pursued the fleeing NVA.

In a second duel with the NVA, once again Co. A prevailed, this time killing 11 more enemy soldiers and capturing one M-79.

The lone VC was killed by "Aero Scouts" of the 123rd Avn. Bn., two miles north of Duc Pho.

LAMAR PLAIN--For the second straight day, a unit of the 1-46 Inf. saw heavy action as 14 NVA and three VC were killed and three weapons captured.

Co B, 1-46 Inf., working in the dense mountain jungles, 10 mile southwest of Tam Ky, killed five NVA at 0800 hours.

Two hours later, seven more NVA were downed by Co. B.

B Trp., 2nd Sqdn., 17th Cav. eliminated three VC and one NVA in three encounters, 12 and 15 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Co. A 1-502, Inf. of the 1st Bde., 101st Airborne Division killed on NVA and captured an M-1 rifle and one pistol in action 18 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

While Co. B, 1-502 Inf. found one SKS rifle two miles away.

FREDERICK HILL--196th Inf. Bde. troopers killed seven NVA and 22 VC and captured one weapon in widespread encounters with enemy forces.

Co. B, 2-1 Inf. in four encounters zeroed in an killed eight VC in an area 15 to 17 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Units of the 3-21 Inf. accounted for six NVA and one VC killed and one AK-47 rifle captured.

Also **F Trp., 8th Cav.** permanently stopped the soldiering of four VC.

Ten more enemy soldiers fought their last battle yesterday, as other 196th brigade units made small contacts west and northwest of Tam Ky. ***[Historian Note: There were at least 3 VC KIAs for D 4/31 reported]***

C Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav blasted one VC, while the Cavalry unit was operating five miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

GENEVA PARK--Three NVA and five VC were killed and one weapon captured in the 198th Inf. Bde. area.

While checking an area 10 miles northeast of Quang Ngai, in the coastal lowlands, for results of an artillery fire mission, Air Force CPT Vernon D. Nutter (Syracuse, N.Y.) a 198th Bde forward air control (FAC) pilot spotted enemy activity on the ground.

"I saw 14-16 VC digging tunnels. About this time I was called by a group of F-100's asking if I had a mission for them."

"I directed them to the position. As they made their pass, the VC tried to evade but five of them were killed."

Co. A, 1-52 Inf. and the 3rd Plt. of H Trp., 17th Cav. found three NVA and one AK-47 rifle, eight miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

In two airstrikes late yesterday, seven miles northwest of Quang Ngai, directed by 198th brigade FAC's, 27 structures and five bunkers were destroyed.

Vol. 3 No. 171 Friday June 20, 1969

CHU LAI AREA WEATHER FORECAST June 21 Mostly cloudy with a few afternoon showers and thunder showers Temperature H 96 L 79 Humidity H 92% L 50%

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Units of the Americal Division accounted for 14 NVA and 16 VC killed and five weapons captured and one destroyed in yesterday's action.

IRON MOUNTAIN--The 11th Inf. Bde. killed one NVA and one VC and found the bodies of seven NVA, while capturing one weapon.

At 0905 hours, the recon element of 4-3 Inf. found three NVA killed by artillery, 14 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Co. D, 4-21 Inf. made the only contacts in southern Quang Ngai Province, killing one NVA and one VC in separate encounters, five miles southwest of Duc Pho. The "Gimlets" also captured one AK-47 rifle.

Co's A and D 1-20 Inf., working two miles north of Duc Pho found the bodies of four NVA killed by airstrikes.

FREDERICK HILL--"Chargers" of the 196th Inf. Bde tallied five NVA and one VC killed and captured four weapons and another destroyed.

Fifteen miles west of Tam Ky Co. D, 4-31 Inf. engaged and killed three NVA and captured one each of an M-16, M-1 carbine, and an AK-47 rifle.

Two miles to the east, Co. A, 3-21 Inf. ended the fighting days of two NVA while gathering one AK-47.

A sister company C found one RPD machinegun destroyed in an airstrike, while Co. B, 2-1 Inf. found the body of one VC, 15 miles north of Tam Ky.

GENEVA PARK--In the 198th Inf. Bde. area of operations 11 VC were killed.

Gunships of **F Trp., 8th Cav.** roamed far and wide through the brigade OZ, hunting enemy soldiers.

The "Blue Ghosts" made ghosts of 10 VC encountered during the day.

Also Co. B, 5-46 Inf. added one more VC to the total in a single encounter, seven miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

* * * * *

LAMAR PLAIN--B Trp., 2nd Sqdn., 17th Cav. accounted for one NVA and three VC killed in three encounters nine to eleven miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Vol. 3 No. 175 Tuesday June 24, 1969

CHU LAI AREA WEATHER FORECAST June 25 Partly to mostly cloudy with rain showers in the vicinity during the afternoon. Winds will be light and variable and blowing from the east from 5 to 15 knots. Temperature: H 95 L 80 Humidity: H 90% L 55%

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Americal units accounted for 17 NVA and 25 VC killed in a day of light action in southern I Corps.

IRON MOUNTAIN--The 11th Inf. Bde. accounted for 13 NVA killed.

The "Jungle Warriors" did not have to wait long to record the only kill of the day. At 0140 hours, LZ Bronco, hqs. of the 11th brigade came under attack.

The basecamp received 50 RPG, 20 75mm recoilless and 30 82mm mortar rounds.

During the barrage, a ground probe was launched by an estimated three NVA sappers.

One of the intruders, however was zapped instead by riflemen of **1-20 Inf.**

Co. A, 4-21 Inf. found the bodies of ten NVA, four miles west of Duc Pho.

At 1920 hours, "Warlords" of Co. B, 123rd Avn. Bn. spotted two NVA killed by artillery, seven miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Urban renewal was the name of the game for Co. A, 4-3 Inf. when they discovered an enemy basecamp, 12 miles west of Duc Pho.

"We found eight hootches, a messhall with running water, and several fighting positions. The enemy must have been there recently, clothes were still hanging from a line and work was being done on fortifying the hootches," said SGT Douglas Petrillo (Meadville, Pa.).

A search of the camp by the "Old Guard" uncovered 12,000 rounds of AK-47 ammo and 1 1/2 tons of rice, which were extracted before Co. A destroyed the camp.

FREDERICK HILL--The 196th Inf. Bde. tallied three NVA and 12 VC killed for the day.

Search missions in the OZ uncovered eight VC killed by artillery and two NVA done in by airstrikes.

Co. B, 2-1 Inf. added four VC to the total in three engagements, 20 to 21 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Elements of 4-31 Inf., after receiving automatic weapons fire answered back with their own calling card, a heavy dose of M-16 fire, killing one NVA soldier in action 15 miles west of Tam Ky.

C Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. turned their might on enemy forces, 11 miles northwest of Tam Ky and accounted for 10 VC killed.

GENEVA PARK--**F Trp., 8th Cav.** accounted for three VC killed in separate incidents, nine to ten miles northwest and nine miles west of Quang Ngai.

LAMAR PLAIN--Co. C, 1-502 Inf., 1st Bde., 101st Airborne Division reported finding the body of one NVA, 17 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

SN BECOMES SSAN

On July 1, the old Army serial number vanishes and your Social Security number takes its place. Now is the time to start telling everyone who writes to you to put the new eight-digit number in place of the old.

Then, if the name or unit on the envelope becomes unreadable, your location can be traced via your Social Security Number and you will receive your mail.

Vol. 3 No. 176 Wednesday June 25, 1969

WEATHER: Prepared by Staff Weather Office Partly to mostly cloudy with afternoon showers. Winds east-northeast at 5 to 10 knots. Temperature H 97 L 78 Humidity H 90% L 50%

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Throughout southern I Corps yesterday, Americal Division units experienced light contact with enemy forces. A total of two NVA and 12 VC were killed and one weapon captured.

LAMAR PLAIN--Americal's 1-46 Inf. teamed with 101st Airborne troopers to kill two NVA and two VC.

The 1st Bde., 101st Airborne Aviation "White Team" whitewashed two VC in a single engagement, 20 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Meanwhile, Co. A, 1-501 Inf. and Co. A, 1-46 Inf. each killed one NVA in the same area, 10 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

FREDERICK HILL--The 196th Inf. Bde. reported four VC killed in their area of operations.

F Trp., 8th Cav. tallied two VC killed in two engagements with evading enemy soldiers, 20 to 22 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

The recon element of 2-1 Inf. solved the problem of what to do with 12 VC they had spotted. The element called for artillery, which pounded the area.

A check of the area found one VC killed in the attack.

Co. B, 2-1 Inf. zeroed in on one VC in action 17 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

B Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. added one VC to the days total.

GENEVA PARK--The 198th Inf. Bde. tallied three VC killed yesterday.

Two of the kills were recorded by **"Blue Ghost" helicopters of F Trp., 8th Cav.** in separate incidents eight and nine miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

After another "**Blue Ghost**" received ground fire, a nearby 198th Bde. FAC adjusted artillery fire, resulting in one VC killed.

IRON MOUNTAIN--"Jungle Warriors" of the 11th Inf. Bde. accounted for two VC killed and one weapon captured in a day of light contacts in southern Quang Ngai Province.

The "Always First" soldiers of 3-1 Inf. recorded both kills.

At 1020 hours, Co. D engaged an evading VC resulting in a kill, eight miles south of Duc Pho.

Co. B added the other VC to the total in an encounter 16 miles southeast of Duc Pho in the same area where the company detained four VC suspects earlier in the day.

Vol. 3 No. 190 Wednesday July 9, 1969

CHU LAI AREA WEATHER FORECAST--July 10 **Partly to mostly cloudy with isolated rain showers and thunder showers and thunder storms. Winds from northeast from 3 to 10 knots. Temperature H 99 L 80 Humidity H 90 L 50**

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Soldiers of the Americal Division experienced their tenth straight day of light and scattered action as 11 VC and two NVA were killed and two individual weapons captured.

IRON MOUNTAIN--Action began at 0625 in the 11th Bde. area of operations when **"Sykes Regulars"** from **C Co., 1-20 Inf**, engaged four VC, killing one, while sweeping the coastal plains six miles north of Duc Pho.

C Co., 4-21 Inf, engaged and killed one NVA and captured his AK-47, while working in a marsh-covered area four miles south of Duc Pho.

A recon platoon from 3-1 Inf, while operating in the jungles five miles west of Duc Pho, received automatic weapons fire.

The platoon returned the fire and killed one NVA soldier.

The last encounter of the day occurred at 1920 hours when D Co., 1-20 Inf engaged three VC, three miles north of Duc Pho.

D Co. managed to bring down one of the VC.

At 0545 hours yesterday morning, LZ Bronco, headquarters for the 11th Inf. Bde., received three 140mm rockets.

No casualties or damages were reported.

FREDERICK HILL--Five VC were killed and the body of another found in the area of the 196th Inf. Bde.

"Blue Ghost" helicopters from **F Trp. 8th Cav**. reported the heaviest action of the day when they killed three VC while operating in a mountainous region 12 miles west of Tam Ky.

A sister element, D Co., called in artillery on an unknown size enemy force 17 miles northwest of Tam Ky, which resulted in the death of one VC.

A Ranger element from G Co., 75th Inf. (Rangers), while working in the Operation Frederick Hill area, reported killing one VC in the mountains 11 miles west of Tam Ky.

GENEVA PARK--One VC was reported killed by airstrikes in the area of the 198th Inf. Bde.

Air Force CPT Barry G. Flanary (Wilson, Okla.) directed the airstrike five miles west of Quang Ngai City.

H Trp., 17th Cav., while searching an area eight miles northwest of Quang Ngai, found 60 old bunkers measuring eight feet by 10 feet.

In that same area, they also found and destroyed two 500 pound bombs, two 50-pound dud bombs, and an 81mm mortar dud round.

ARVN's working with D Co., **1-52nd Inf**, found a tunnel five miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai.

The tunnel contained documents and was destroyed by B. Co., 26th Engr. Bn.

D Co. also reported finding an M-1 Carbine in that same area.

In their latest VIP effort, the first platoon of C Co., 5-46 Inf, reported receiving 10 M-14 mines, nine 82mm mortar rounds, one 81mm mortar round, 30 M-79 rounds, and several Chicom hand grenades.

LAMAR PLAIN--C Co., 1-46 Inf, engaged six NVA in the mountains 12 miles south of Tam Ky.

The "Professionals" of the 198th Bde. reported bringing down one of the NVA.

Volume 3 No. 196 Americal Daily New Sheet Tuesday July 15, 1969

CHU LAI AREA WEATHER FORECAST – July 16 Clear to partly cloudy with a chance of afternoon or evening showers over the mountains. Winds are expected to be northeast along the coast. 10-15 knots, inland, winds will be southwest, 10-20 knots.

	Temp.	Humidity
HIGH:	97	78%
LOW:	85	45%

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) – After nearly two weeks of extremely light and scattered action in southern I Corps, Americal Division soldiers got back into the sing of things yesterday when they killed 25 NVA and 13 VC and captured four individual weapons.

American units also uncovered the bodies of 11 NVA and one VC who had been killed by artillery and airstrikes.

IRON MOUNTAIN—"Always First" soldiers from the 11th Inf. Bde.'s 3rd Bn., 1st Inf., dominated most of the action in the Operation Iron Mountain area.

D Co. made the first contact while on a recon operation six miles southwest of Duc Pho.

SP4 William H. Pyatt (Santa Anna, Calif.), described the action. "I was with the third platoon and we had just separated from the second platoon."

Soon the second platoon came under heavy enemy fire.

"We rushed over to help, but when we got there, the enemy had circled around behind us and pinned us down too," Pyatt added.

Meanwhile, the first platoon, who had set up a day ambush nearby, came to aid the two platoons, but also came under heavy enemy fire.

Airstrikes and gunships were then called in by D Co.

When the smoke had cleared, five NVA were dead and an AK-47 and an M-1 rifle were captured.

C Co. from the "Always First" unit killed one NVA when they were CA's into the area to help D Co.

A Co., 3-1 Inf, killed four VC and captured an AK-50 and a 9mm pistol while sweeping the perimeter of Fire Support Base 411, 19 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

At 1400 hours, a recon platoon from 3-1 Inf spotted 11 NVA in an open are three miles south of Duc Pho. All were wearing white hats and black pajamas.

"Warlords" from B Co., 123rd Avn. Bn., were called in and killed two of the NVA.

LAMAR PLAIN—While on a search and clear operation in the rugged mountains 21 miles southwest of Tam Ky, B Co., 2-17 (Air Cav) of the 1st Bde. of the 101st Abn., Div., engaged and killed five NVA soldiers.

Later, in that same area, B Co. found the body of a VC who had been killed by airstrikes.

B Co., 1-501 Inf, found the bodies of 10 NVA while working in the mountains 18 miles south of Tam Ky. These bodies were also a result of an airstrike.

An aviation platoon from the 101st engaged and killed one NVA soldier 15 miles south of Tam Ky.

The last encounter of the day came at 1555 hours when a recon platoon from 1-502 killed two VC 24 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

FREDERICK HILL – Air Force FACS directed airstrikes on the coastal area 24 miles north of Tam Ky which killed 11 NVA.

Aerial observers called in artillery strikes on an area 16 miles northwest of Tam Ky which resulted in the deaths of four VC.

At 0715 hours yesterday morning, a recon platoon from the 196th Inf. Bde.'s

(Continued -1)

3-21 Inf., engaged and killed a lone VC 12 miles west of Tam Ky.

"**Blue Ghost" gunships from F Trp., 8th Cav.** reported the last contact of the day when they killed one VC 26 miles west of Tam Ky.

GENEVA PARK—"Ready Rifles" from the 198th Inf. Bde's D Co., **1-52nd Inf,** engaged 10 to 12 VC while sweeping a marshy area 12 miles west of Quang Ngai City.

D Co. called in artillery strikes on the area which killed three of the enemy.

A Co., 5-46 Inf, while working on the Batangan Peninsula, 12 miles northeast of Quang Ngai, found the body of one NVA soldier who had been killed by airstrikes.

Elements of the 1st Bn., 52nd Inf. found 6,075 pounds of rice 10 miles west northwest of Quang Ngai.

The more than three tons of rice had been buried between two hootches.

D Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav., called in artillery strikes on an area 12 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky which resulted in one VC being killed.

[Historian Comment: Note D Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. is in action relieving F Trp, 8th Cavalry from their role supporting the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cavalry Regiment at Hawk Hill.]

MG Lloyd B. Ramsey, Commanding
MAJ Paul B. Parham, IO
SGT Herb Hartley
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This New Sheet is published daily under the supervision of the IO, Americal Division, APO 96374, as an authorized Army publication. Views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army.

Volume 3 No. 197 Americal Daily New Sheet Wednesday July 16, 1969

CHU LAI AREA WEATHER FORECAST – July 17 **Fair to partly cloudy and warm, with scattered thundershowers over the mountains. Winds will be northeast along the coast, 5-10 knots, and southwest in inland areas, 15-25.**

Temperature H 98 L 78
Humidity H 85 L 50

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) – Soldiers of the Americal Division killed five NVA and nine VC and found the graves of 20 enemy soldiers in light action in southern I Corps yesterday.

Americal elements also captured a 7.5 French machinegun, one Browning Automatic Rifle (BAR), two M-1 rifles an M-1 and a sewing machine.

LAMAR PLAIN – Cavalry troopers of the 101st Abn. Div.'s B Trp 2-17, engaged four NVA soldiers at noon yesterday while sweeping the mountains 11 miles south of Tam Ky.

B Trp. killed one NVA upon contact and called in airstrikes which accounted for three VC deaths.

In that same area, **"Blue Ghost" choppers from F Trp., 8th Cav.** killed another VC.

While searching a mountainous area 14 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky, elements of D co., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav., killed a VC who was evading.

IRON MOUNTAIN – Action began at 0800 hours in the 11th Inf. Bde. area when **C Co., 1-20 Inf,** while on a search and clear operation, one mile southeast of Duc Pho, found the body of a VC that had been killed by artillery strikes.

Also found in the area was an M-16, fresh punji pits, and two pressure type booby traps.

At 1100 hours, six miles southwest of Duc Pho, "Always First" soldiers from D Co., 3-1 Inf, found 12 NVA graves. The graves were estimated to be one to five weeks old.

In that same area, a sister company, C Co., found a French made 7.5 light machinegun, 2 82mm mortar rounds, and a box of M-16 ammunition.

A Co., 1-20 Inf, answered a call for assistance from Vietnamese farmers five miles northwest of Duc Pho. The farmers had harvested between 80,000-100,000-lbs of rice, and they wanted protection from the VC.

A Co. set up a defense around the 20 huts along with RF's and PF's.

While conducting a sweep six miles southwest of Duc Ph, C Co., 3-1, found a hootch with a tunnel leading towards a hill. Inside the tunnel, the Americal troopers found a sewing machine.

GENEVA PARK – D Co., 5-46 Inf, found a 50-gallon drum of gun powder while searching an area five miles northeast of Quang Ngai City. The powder was blown in place.

Three miles further north, C Co., **1-52nd Inf,** found and destroyed an old trench line with numerous spider holes.

198th Bd. Air Force FACs directed airstrikes 10 miles southeast of Chu Lai which destroyed 17 structures, four bunkers; and damaged three other bunkers.

While on a search and clear operation, four miles west of Tam Ky, elements from D Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav., found two M-1 rifles.

Volume 3 No. 201 Americal Daily New Sheet Sunday July 20, 1969

CHU LAI AREA WEATHER FORECAST – July 21 Partly to mostly cloudy with rain over the mountains and isolated along the coast. Winds light and variable NE at 3 to 10 knots.
Temperature H 94 L 79 Humidity H 90 L 50

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) – Heavy fighting flared in the Americal Division's Operation Iron Mountain yesterday, as 11th Inf. Bde. soldiers killed 15 NVA and one VC and captured four weapons, two of which were crew-served.

Elsewhere, activity remained light in southern I corps as six VC and four NVA were killed in scattered action.

IRON MOUNTAIN – At 0900 hours yesterday, D Co., 3-1 Inf, while sweeping an area six miles west of Duc Pho, came under a heavy barrage of mortar fire.

D Co. returned fire on the enemy position and killed two NVA soldiers.

The "Always First" soldiers soon learned that this encounter was to be the first of several contacts made in this jungle covered area in the next eleven hours.

A sister company, B Co., was soon deployed to the area, as were "Shark" gunships from the 174th AHC, "Warlords" from B Co., 123rd Avn. Bn., and airstrikes guided by Air Force FACS.

At 1240, a door gunner on the command and control helicopter for 3-1 Inf, killed a lone NVA soldier. About the same time, B Co. found the body of another NVA who had been killed by airstrikes.

While moving westward towards D Co., B C. engaged and killed two NVA and captured one AK-50 rifle.

A scout dog and handler from the 59th Scout Dog Plt., were working the area when the dog uncovered an NVA.

The NVA managed to shoot the dog, but the handler, wounded from the fire, dropped the insurgent.

CPT John S. Walder (Wakefield, R.I.) battalion S-3, described the enemy situation. "The NVA were in a trench line between two open fields with bamboo vegetation around the trenches."

The hard fought battle continued, as the two companies of "Always First" soldiers faced a well entrenched enemy.

Finally, at 1915 hours, the men were able to sweep through the enemy infested area. D co. killed five NVA and B Co. killed two more during the sweep.

All tolled, the "Always First" soldiers, with the help of timely air support, killed 14 NVA soldiers and captured three AK-47's, an AK-50, a rocket propelled grenade (RPG) launcher, and a 7.62 light machinegun.

While searching the coastal regions 14 miles southeast of Duc Pho, "Gimlets" from B Co., 4-21 Inf, engaged three VC with small arms fire, killing one during the encounter.

The last action of the day occurred at 1920 hours when C Co., 4-21 Inf killed an NVA soldier who was trying to evade, five miles south of Duc Pho.

LAMAR PLAIN – B Co., 2-17, of the 1st Bde., 101st Abn. Div., killed two NVA soldiers after engaging six in the mountains 10 miles south-southwest of Tam Ky.

Thirty minutes later, B Co. engaged and killed another NVA in that same area.

In the only other contact in the Lamar Plain area, a 101st Avn. platoon

(Continued -1)

killed a lone VC 12 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

FREDERICK HILL—C Co., 2-1 Inf, engaged and killed two VC while operating in the jungles 22 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Another VC was killed when he was spotted by D Co., 4-31 Inf. The action took place 25 miles west of Tam Ky.

GENEVA PARK – "**Blue Ghost" gunships from F Trp., 8th Cav.,** observed and killed two VC and one NVA in three separate contacts yesterday.

The first contact was made at 0600 (*** Continued on page 2) hours when an NVA was killed in the jungles 14 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

D Co., **1-52nd Inf**, found and destroyed 10 bunkers, five tunnels, a 250-pound bomb, and several assorted rounds of small arms ammunition, five miles west of Quang Ngai City yesterday.

198th Bde. Air Force FACS directed airstrikes yesterday which destroyed a total of 49 structures, five bunkers, and caused one secondary fire.

CHU LAI WEATHER CLIMATIC SUMMARY: AUGUST

Prepared by the Staff Weather Office

Temperature

July and August are the warmest months in this region, though temperatures in the remainder of the country continue to decrease. Average daily highs along the coast are near 95 and the extreme high temperature in the country is 106 at Qui Nhon. Average minimum temperatures during the night range from 77-80. Temperatures for higher elevations can be approximated by decreasing the temperature 3'F for each 1,000 feet increase in elevation.

Variations resulting from forest cover should be recognized and taken into account when planning operations in which local temperature variations may have a strong effect. The varied topography and cover of this area cause large micro-climatic variations of temperature over short distances. Thus a leafy canopy may alter the surface temperature considerably from that observed over open ground.

Maximum temperatures below vegetation canopies are lower and minimum temperatures higher than those observed in open areas and immediately above the canopies.

Vol. 3. No. 204 Wednesday July 23, 1969 (From Steve Hempel)

CHU LAI AREA WEATHER FORECAST--July 24 Cloudy with morning and afternoon showers. Winds will be from NW 3 to 10 knots in the AM and Variable 5 to 10 with gusts to 18 knots in afternoon and evening.

Temp H 87 L 77 Hum H 98 L 65

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)— Another day of light and scattered action was experienced in southern I Corps as Americal Division soldiers killed nine NVA and an equal number of VC.

LAMAR PLAIN—"Professionals" from A Co., 1-46 Inf, spotted and estimated force of 62 NVA while searching the mountains 13 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Aerial rocket artillery was called in on the position, and six of the enemy soldiers were killed.

Elsewhere in the Lamar Plain area, D Co., 1-501 Inf, killed one NVA in a brief encounter which took place 11 miles south of Tam Ky.

Ten minutes later in that same area, ? Co. of the same unit found the body of an NVA that had been killed by small arms fire.

The only other contact occurred at 1700 hours ten miles southwest of Tam Ky when B Trp. 2-17, engaged and killed a lone NVA.

FREDERICK HILL—"Polar Bears" from D Co., 4-31 Inf, engaged five VC in the thick triple canopy jungles 30 miles west of Tam Ky.

Only one of the Communists managed to escape, as D Co. killed four of the enemy.

D Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav., working in an area 10 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky, found the bodies of two VC who had been killed by artillery fire. The VC had been dead for four days.

Alpha Company, 4-31 Inf, found 1,700 pounds of rice while sweeping an area 24 miles west of Tam Ky.

The rice was in bags and crocks and found buried in and around hootches.

The final action in the 196th Bde. area took place 15 miles west of Tam Ky, when "Gimlets" from C Co., 3-21 Inf, engaged and killed a VC who was trying to evade.

IRON MOUNTAIN—The only major action of the day in the 11th Bde. AO occurred at 0545 hours when a recon element of 4-21 Inf, spotted three VC evading from an area seven miles south of Duc Pho.

The "Gimlets" fired on the trio, killing one.

B Co., 1-20 Inf, while on a sweep five miles north of Duc Pho, discovered a small basecamp.

In the camp was found enough rice to feed a squad size element for a couple of days, medical supplies, and an assortment of batteries.

Four hours later, A Co., 4-3 Inf, found another basecamp nine miles northwest of Duc Pho. Found were three mosquito nets, an entrenching tool, two NVA shirts, four Navy ponchos, five pairs of socks, and a bottle of ink.

GENEVA PARK—"**Blue Ghost" choppers from F Trp., 8th Cav.,** killed an evading VC 10 miles north-northwest of Quang Ngai City for the only enemy casualty in the 198th Bde. area.

Elements from **1-52nd Inf**, searching in the same area, found an additional 15 bunkers and three spider holes.

While on a search and clear mission 11 miles northwest of Quang Ngai, B Co., **1-52nd Inf**, found a booby-trapped 105mm round with a vine attached to it being used as a trip wire.

Vol. 3 No. 234 Friday August 22, 1969

CHU LAI AREA WEATHER FORECAST August 23 **Partly cloudy, becoming mostly cloudy late Sat. Isolated thundershowers and rainshowers are expected in the mountain areas. Winds are expected to be light and variable southeast along the coast at 10-15 knots**
Temp. High-96 Low-77 Humidity Hight-90 Low- 50

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

FREDERICK HILL--Americal Division soldiers accounted for 138 NVA in sporadic contact in the Operation Frederick Hill area, 16-23 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky Thursday.

An element of the 4th Bn, 31st Inf. made a systematic search in the area of Wednesday's contact, three kilometers northeast of the Hiep Duc area. The Americal soldiers found 103 NVA, who were killed by small arms fire, artillery and helicopter gunships of **F Troop, 8th Cav**.

Another element of the 4th Bn, 31st Inf. was attacked by an unknown size enemy force employing small arms and rocket propelled grenades, approximately three kilometers southeast of LZ West, Thursday morning. The enemy broke contact about 0700 and three NVA were found killed by small arms fire.

Elements of the 3rd Bn, 21st Inf, continued their probe toward the site of a helicopter that crashed Tuesday afternoon. For the second day in a row, the American forces were engaged by the enemy, and sporadic contact continued throughout the day, hindering any substantial forward movement. Gunships and artillery supported the Americal soldiers and the two units accounted for 17 additional NVA kills.

In other scattered incidents in the general area, 15 NVA were killed by helicopter gunships and artillery.

By midnight, elements of the 4-31 and 3-21 Inf. had killed more than 450 NVA in four days of contact in the LZ West-LZ Center-Hiep Duc area.

IRON MOUNTAIN--In the first action of the day, the **"Sykes Regulars"** of the **1-20 Inf.** accounted for the deaths of three NVA. A Recon element of the unit was working in an area six miles northwest of Duc Pho when the action occurred. The unit had just crossed Highway 15 and started moving through the brush at the base of a mountain.

SP4 Clifton Godfre (Rome, Georgia) described the incident. "We got to the base of the mountain and started hearing voices all around us. More than likely they thought we were another group of NVA because they hollered "lai dai" (come here) to us.

"The flanking element of our unit opened up on the NVA, killing three of them. We captured one pack, a first aid pack, and a couple of Chicom hand grenades."

PFC Billy Huesgen (Dubuque, Iowa), said, "The platoon of NVA was so close, the voices sounded like my buddy next to me was talking to me."

In an early morning incident, the "Warlords" of B Co. 123d Aviation Battalion detained one military age male 16 miles west of Duc Pho. The VC suspect was taken to LZ Bronco for further questioning.

In the only other significant incident of the day, A Co., 3-1 Inf. found the black pajama-clad body of a VC 19 miles north of Duc Pho. He had been killed by artillery fire two hours earlier.

GENEVA PARK--The hottest area of the day in the 198th Brigade's operational zone seemed to be located 12 miles west of Quang Ngai.

Saber gunships yesterday morning detained two VC suspects in the area.

Later in the day, a brigade forward air controller, Air Force Captain Chuck Tarr (Niceville, Florida) directed three airstrikes in the area which destroyed eight structures, three bunkers, and damaged five additional structures.

In the late afternoon, Saber gunships of D Trp, 1-1 Cav received gunfire which was immediately returned. On a subsequent sweep of the area, D Co.

(Continued -1)

1-52nd Inf. found three dead NVA and captured one. One AK-47, one AK-44 and two other rifles were also captured.

A Vietnamese female, wounded by a VC thrown Chicom grenade, was medevaced to the 91st EVAC Hospital in Chu Lai. She was trying to flee from a group of VC who were trying to organize a PSYOPS meeting 5 miles west of Chu Lai.

A Co., 5-46 Inf. discovered 1,000 pounds of rice and 1,000 pounds of corn hidden in 15 hooches in an operation 13 miles north-northeast of Quang Ngai. This is only 6 miles northwest of the area where B Co., 5-46 Inf. made their big salt find a few days ago. The total of that cache continues to rise. The men of B Co. have bagged 35 tons of salt thus far.

THAT ORANGE PILL MAY SAVE YOUR LIFE.....
TAKE IT!

CHU LAI TV SCHEDULE
MONDAY AUGUST 25, 1969

1400 NEWS
1405 Movie: Three Faces West
1530 TBA
1600 Dean Martin
1700 Wild Wild West
1800 Operation Entertainment
1900 Richard Diamond
1930 News and Sports
1940 Don Rickles
2005 Laugh-In
2100 Gunsmoke
2200 NEWS
2205 Carol Burnnett
2300 Tonight Show

Drawing of a television with Rabbit ear antenna

Caption on screen is: CH. 13

TUESDAY AUGUST 26, 1969

1400 NEWS
1405 Lost in Space
1500 SPECIAL: Elvis Presley
1600 Wrestling
1700 Mission Impossible
1800 Hollywood Palace
1900 Beverly Hillbillies
1930 News and Sports
1940 TBA
2005 Star Trek
2100 Jerry Lewis
2200 NEWS
2205 SPECIAL: Saga of Western Man
2300 MOVIE: Royal Scandal

For the latest in the world of sports, news, and weather around CHU LAI: AFVN 13

Vol. 3 No. 247 Americal Daily New Sheet Thursday Sept. 4, 1969

CHU LAI AREA WEATHER FORECAST – September 5 Cloudy becoming mostly cloudy with rain-showers in the Chu Lai area. Winds will be variable at 5 knots becoming northeasterly at 10 knots. Temp. High-95 Low-78 Humidity High-90 Low-50

CHU LAI (AMERICAL) – Action in southern I Corps continued to be generally light Wednesday as Americal units were credited with killing 31 NVA and six VC. One crew-served and four individual weapons were captured in the day's fighting.

IRON MOUNTAIN – The heaviest fighting in the Americal area continued to center around the "Rice Bowl," six miles south of Duc Pho, where 13 more NVA soldiers and 17 additional bodies were found in the wake of fierce fighting that raged in the rice rich region Tuesday.

Elements of the 1-1 Cav. and C Co. 4-3 Inf. tangled off and on during the day with soldiers of the 3rd NVA Division's 2nd Regiment while on search and clear operations.

The day's heaviest contact was made at 1400 when D Trp. clashed with a group of seven NVA five miles southwest of Duc Pho. The cavalrymen, with the aid of airstrikes, killed al seven in the fighting.

Americal soldiers have killed 52 of the enemy and captured 16 weapons, three crew-served, in the two days of fighting.

In other action in the 11th Bde.'s operational zone, the "Always First" of Bravo Co. 3-1 Inf. found the body of an NVA 16 miles northwest of Duc Pho. The enemy, dressed in a brown uniform, had been killed within the past 24 hours by artillery.

At 1400, three VC suspects were detained by the **recon element of the 1-20 Inf**. while working in an area four miles north of Duc Pho.

Frederick Hill-Cav. units accounted for four kills in as many contacts in the operational zone of the 196th Bde. Wednesday.

Gunships of **F Trp., 8th Cav.** engaged and killed three VC in separate incidents in an area six miles west of Tam Ky.

At 1655, troopers of F Trp., 17th Cav. engaged a lone VC six miles northwest of Tam Ky. The enemy was killed as he tried to evade the Americal soldiers.

In the only other action of the day, Americal forces engaged three VC while working in an area four miles northwest of Tam Ky. One was killed in the mid-afternoon incident.

Major General Lloyd B. Ramsey, Division Commander, presented two Silver Stars for valor to officers of the 196th Bde. yesterday. The men receiving the awards were CPT. Alva R. King (Lexington, Ky.) of B Co. 1-46 Inf and CPT. Jesse C. Sellers (Baltimore) of D Co. 1-46 Inf.

GENEVA PARK --- B Trp., 1-1 Cav. discovered a tunnel complex in an area 12 miles northwest of Quang Ngai. A preliminary search revealed freshly butchered beef. The troopers blew the complex, killing a VC who had been hiding in one of the tunnels.

Later in the morning, in the same area, B Trp. found and destroyed eight bunkers.

Elsewhere, the "Regulars" of Delta Co. 1-6 Inf. continued to find enemy base areas 12 miles southwest of Chu Lai. The 198th infantrymen found one Tuesday, as reported in the news sheet, and discovered another one yesterday. Nearly a ton of corn, 500 pounds of rice, medical supplies, ammunition, documents, and miscellaneous items were seized in the find. In the final action of the day, A Co. 5-46 Inf. detained six VC suspects 14 miles north-northeast of Quang Ngai. Three VC suspects were detained a mile from this location Tuesday.

Vol. 3 No. 250 Americal Daily New Sheet Sunday Sept. 7, 1969

CHU LAI AREA WEATHER FORECAST – September 8 Cloudy with frequent showers. Winds northwest from 8 to 12 knots with gusts to 20 knots. Temp. H-83 L-76 Hum. H 92% L 60%

CHU LAI (AMERICAL) – Action in southern I Corps continued to be moderate Saturday as Americal Division soldiers reported killing 33 NVA and seven VC.

FREDERICK HILL – Elements of the 196th Inf. Bde. accounted for the deaths of 33 NVA and two VC in an area 10-12 miles west of Tam Ky yesterday.

The "Gimlets" of Bravo Co. 3-21 Inf. discovered the mass grave of nine NVA soldiers while working in an area 12 miles west of Tam Ky. All had been killed by small arms fire.

In the same area, earlier in the day, the bodies of nine other NVA were found at two different grave sites by A Co. 2-1 Inf. and B. Co. 3-21 Inf. four of the dead had been killed by artillery and the other s by small arms fire.

A mile east of the grave sites, the men of D Co. 3-21 Inf. were engaged by a group of 8-10 NVA. Guns of the 3-82 artillery, firing in support of the Americal infantrymen, killed four. Two other enemy soldiers were killed by Delta Co.

At 1340, the "Legionnaires" of A Co, 2-1 Inf. recovered the bodies of two NVA who had been killed by a "Blue Ghost" gunship from **F Troop, 8th Cav**.

Another "**Blue Ghost**" gunship accounted for the deaths of two more enemy soldiers when it engaged and killed two VC 1?
miles west of Tam Ky.

Elsewhere, Alpha Co. 3-21 Inf. discovered the bodies of two NVA. The Communists were killed by artillery in an area 12 miles west of Tam Ky.

In the final action of the day, C Co. 1-46 Inf. spotted approximately 15 NVA 10 miles southwest of Tam Ky. The guns of the 3-82 artillery responded to the call for artillery by bombarding the area with 105mm rounds, killing five of the fleeing enemy.

GENEVA PARK-- In the only kill in the 198th Bde.'s operational zone, the Aero Scouts of the 123d Aviation battalion engaged and killed a VC 12 miles southwest of Quang Ngai.

A mine was found and destroyed by the "Professionals" of D Co. 5-46th Inf. nine miles northeast of Quang Ngai. 1,600 pounds of salt was also discovered in the area.

Troopers of E Trp., 1-1 Cav. found a 250 pound bomb only 50 meters from a hamlet 11 miles north of Quang Ngai. The booby trapped bomb was blown in place.

IRON MOUNTAIN – In a day of light and scattered action, the "Jungle Warriors" of the 11th Inf. Bde. killed three VC and detained 14 VC suspects.

In the first action of the day, the recon element and Bravo Company of the **1-20 Inf.** engaged an enemy force of unknown size four miles northwest of Duc Pho. Results of the action show three VC killed and one VC suspect detained. Documents and over 300 pounds of food were recovered in the action.

The recon element, working the same area three hours later, detained four VC suspects. All were members of VC organizations.

A short time later, C Co. 3-1 spotted an evading VC. After he failed to heed calls to halt he was brought under fire and killed.

While on an operation, D Co. 4-21 Inf. detained seven VC suspects. The incident took place seven miles south of Duc Pho.

Relatively light and scattered action in southern I Corps during the past week resulted in 191 kills for Americal units, 137 of whom were NVA. Eighteen individual and three Crew-served weapons were captured during the fighting during the week.

The "Rice Bowl," six miles south of Duc Pho, was the scene of the weeks heaviest fighting. Elements of the 1-1 Cav. and 4-3 Inf. tangled off and on with troops of the 3rd NVA Division's 2nd Regiment during the middle of the week.

The level of action decreased almost as quickly as it had started as the fighting became light and scattered once again.

Vol. 3 No. 251 Americal Daily New Sheet Monday Sept. 8, 1969

CHU LAI AREA WEATHER FORECAST - September 9 Cloudy with rain. Winds from northwest and northeast at 5 to 10 knots with gusts 15 to 20 knots

Temp H-81 L-76 Hum H-98% L-65%

CHU LAI (AMERICAL) – The level of fighting in southern I Corps continued to be light yesterday as Americal division elements killed 22 enemy soldiers, 13 of whom were VC and captured one weapon.

GENEVA PARK—Shortly after midnight, Co. E (Recon), **1-52nd Inf.** engaged five NVA soldiers in an area nine miles northwest of Quang Ngai. Two of the enemy were killed before the others broke contact and fled. Two packs containing several Chicom hand grenades, food and NVA uniforms were captured in the action.

Two miles to the south, the Aero Scouts of the 123d Aviation Bn. engaged and killed two VC. Several bunkers, tunnels and spider holes were observed in the area.

C Co. 5-46 Inf. received a hand grenade while working in area five miles east of Quang Ngai. A VC fleeing the scene was immediately engaged and killed.

A short time later, 100 yards away, a mine dog uncovered a booby-trapped eight inch round.

C Co., **1-52nd Inf.** recovered a badly damaged carbine after it had been uncovered by bulldozers of the 26th engineers in a land clearing operation eight miles west of Quang Ngai.

Elsewhere, two Hoi Chanhs turned themselves in to friendly forces in the Bde. operational zone yesterday. One, a VC for only six months, said he was tired of fighting.

IRON MOUNTAIN—A Long Range Recon team from Co. G, 75th Inf., on a recon and relay mission west of Duc Pho, engaged an NVA force of unknown size.

At 1030, the recon element of the 1-20 Inf. captured four VC in an enemy basecamp six miles southeast of Duc Pho. Information obtained from the enemy helped the Americal infantrymen to find a cave nearby. A search turned up a wounded VC in the hideaway.

Continuing their search of the area, the recon element engaged and killed four VC 500 meters away.

In the last action of the day, the men of Charlie Co., 3-1 Inf. discovered an enemy basecamp while working in an area 10 miles north of Duc Pho. The condition of the camp indicated that it had been used recently. The body of an NVA, killed by airstrikes, was found a short distance away.

FREDERICK HILL - Elements of the 196th Inf. Bde. killed five VC and recovered the bodies of six other enemy soldiers in a day of light and scattered action in the Bde. operational zone.

At 1000, the body of a VC was found by a Long Range Recon team from Co. G, 75th Inf. three miles west of Tam Ky. The enemy had been killed by small arms fire.

Four miles west, infantrymen of Alpha Co., 3-21 Inf. Discovered four more enemy bodies. The cause of the deaths was unreported.

Gunships from F Trp., 8th Cav. accounted for the deaths of three VC in separate incidents in an area six miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Working in the same area where they had found an enemy body earlier, the Ranger team from Co. G, 75th Inf. engaged a group of VC shortly after noon. Two of the enemy soldiers were killed as a result of the action.

Vol. 3 No. 255 Americal Daily New Sheet Friday Sept. 12, 1969

CHU LAI AREA WEATHER FORECAST – Sept. 13 Continued fair to partly cloudy and warm. Winds will be light and variable becoming easterly in the afternoon at 5-10 knots.

TEMP High-95 Low-75 HUMIDITY High-95 Low-50

CHU LAI (AMERICAL) – Stepped up fighting Thursday in southern I Corps resulted in the Americal Division units killing 42 NVA and 18 VC. Seventeen individual weapons and six crew-served weapons were seized during the day.

FREDERICK HILL—LZ Siberia, a forward fire base of the 4-31 Inf. weathered an early morning attack by an NVA sapper battalion in which 31 enemy soldiers were killed and one captured.

The LZ was attacked under the cover of intensive RPG, recoilless and B-40 rocket fire. The sappers were also equipped with flamethrowers.

The attack was repelled by company B of the battalion with fire support from C Battery, 3rd Battalion of the 82nd Artillery, also located on Siberia.

Before the fighting was over, the enemy was also pounded by Army and Air Force gunships and tactical air strikes.

Among the captured weapons were 11 AK-47's and AK-50, two rocket launchers, and a flamethrower.

In other action in the 196th Bde. operational zone, gunships of **F Troop, 8th Cav**. killed eight Viet Cong in three separate encounters 8-10 miles northwest of Tam Ky. The actions occurred within an hours' time yesterday afternoon.

Shortly before noon, while patrolling an area 15 miles west of Tam Ky, the men of Alpha Co. 3-21 Inf. received small arms fire from an NVA element. Three of the enemy were killed in the ensuing fire fight.

Elsewhere, the bodies of seven NVA soldiers were found by C Co. 3-21 in an area 16 miles west of Tam Ky. Artillery fire was listed as the cause of death.

The long range recon teams from Co. G. 75th Inf. (Rangers) engaged five VC while on a mission west of Tam Ky. Fire was exchanged briefly before the Communists broke contact and fled, leaving behind two dead.

IRON MOUNTAIN—The day's biggest action in the 11th Bde.'s operation zone occurred when the recon element of the 4-21 Inf. and Vietnamese forces were combat assaulted into an area southeast of Duc Pho.

Landing in two groups, one group was utilized as a blocking force and positioned at the base of a hill near a village they intended to search. The other group was inserted on the other side of the village and began pushing forward.

1LT Percy Lambe (Chicago), a platoon leader with the Americal unit, explained the strategy. "Our information indicted that every time a friendly unit came into the area, the VC would run into the hill. This was the reason for putting the blocking force at the bottom of the hill."

Shortly after the operation began, a chopper flying in the area spotted movement. Moving into the area, several holes and a tunnel complex were uncovered.

A claymore mine was placed at the entrance of the tunnel and fired to clear it of enemy and booby traps. Five dead and one wounded VC were found in the search that followed. three individual weapons were also seized in the incident.

In other action, the body of a dead VC was found shortly after daybreak at **LZ Liz**, headquarters for the **1-20 Inf.** The enemy had been killed earlier in the morning. A satchel charge was also discovered in the area.

At 1405, Aero Scouts of the 123d Aviation Battalion observed a group of VC four miles southwest of Duc Pho. Artillery was called in, killing one of the enemy soldiers.

Two hours later, the Aero Scouts spotted two NVA in an area 16 miles west of Duc Pho. They were immediately engaged. Results of the action showed one NVA killed.

GENEVA PARK—While working in an area 11 miles northwest of Quang Ngai, Alpha Co., **1-52nd Inf.** came into contact with an enemy force of unknown size. The Americal soldiers received RPG and small arms fire at 1730. They returned fire and killed one VC. An RPG launcher and 4 B-40 rockets were captured in the action.

Six air strikes were conducted in the Bde. operational zone Thursday. The heaviest damage reported was in an area 11 miles north-northeast of Quang Ngai. Forward Air Controller Captain Chuck Karr (Niceville, Fla.) directed a strike there that destroyed 12 military structures.

Vol. 3 No. 261 Americal Daily New Sheet Thursday Sept. 18, 1969

CHU LAI AREA WEATHER FORECAST – Sept. 19 Cloudy with showers with winds from northeast and west at 5 to 10 knots. [?northeast and west?]
Temperature H 85 L 75 Humidity H 98 L 60

CHU LAI (AMERICAL) – Southern I Corps continued to be the scene of light and scattered action Wednesday as Americal units killed 18 North Vietnamese Regulars and three Viet Cong. The bodies of 25 Communist soldiers, 17 NVA, were also reported discovered in the day's fighting.

Frederick Hill—In the first action of the day infantrymen of Delta Co., 3-21 Inf., while working in an area 14 miles northwest of Tam Ky, spotted a lone NVA. The enemy soldier was immediately engaged with small arms fire and killed.

A few minutes later, C. Co., 3-21 Inf. discovered the graves of four VC eight miles west of Tam Ky. All had been killed by artillery no more than 24 hours earlier.

In the first of two actions involving troopers of **F Troop, 8th Cav.,** an was engaged and killed 21 miles west of Tam Ky at 1050.

Three hours later another lone NVA was spotted and killed by the Cav. unit 1? miles west of Tam Ky.

Elsewhere, the bodies of 17 NVA Regulars were discovered by the men of Charlie Co., 4-31 Inf. as they swept an area 20 miles wets of Tam Ky.

The graves of eight VC were found by elements of the 2-1 Inf. yesterday morning.

The first find was made by C Co., in an area eight miles west of Tam Ky. The four enemy soldiers had been killed by artillery.

Three hours later, Delta Co. uncovered the graves of the other four communists, killed by small arms fire, eight miles northwest of Tam Ky.

In action Monday, a group of approximately 100 VC was observed seven miles north of Tam Ky. Battery A, 3-82 Artillery responded to the call for artillery with a barrage of 105mm rounds. A subsequent sweep of the area revealed 15 of the enemy had been killed.

GENEVA PARK—While working in an area six miles northwest of Quang Ngai, Alpha Co., **1-52nd Inf**. received small arms fire from a position 300 meters north of their location. The 198th B Co. soldiers returned the fire, killing one VC and capturing his SKS rifle. Three VC suspects were also detained in the early morning skirmish.

In the only other action of the day in the 198th Bde. operational zone, troopers of H Troop, 17th Cav. called in air strikes when they spotted 10 NVA Regulars 12 miles northwest of Quang Ngai. A forward air controller, Air Force Captain Chuck Kerr (Niceville, Fla.), directed the air strikes which killed eight of the communists.

IRON MOUNTAIN—In the first action of the day in the 11th's operational zone, the men of Alpha Co., 3-1 Inf. engaged a single VC as he attempted to evade them. The enemy was killed five miles west of Quang Ngai.

A North Vietnamese Army ambush on a Bde. convoy was successfully beaten off late Wednesday afternoon three miles south of Duc Pho.

Shortly before the ambush, Landing Zone Bronco, Bde. headquarters, received three enemy 122mm rockets.

"This is the second time this sequence of events has happened, "said Captain Barry D. Gasdek (Latrobe, Pa.), base defense commander. The enemy has tried to turn our attention to the direction from which the rockets are fired, thus enabling them to hit one of our convoys."

Shark gunships from the 174th Assault Helicopter Company and Cobras from the 123rd Aviation Battalion helped to route the ambushers.

A reaction force, Delta, Co., 4-21 Inf., was flown to the scene. Sweeping the area they made contact with the enemy force three times, killing five enemy, and capturing three AK-47s.

The convoy control helicopter was also credited with killing two communists.

In the final action of the day, a VC was killed by the infantrymen of A Co., 4-3 Inf. 16 miles west of Duc Pho shortly before dark.

Vol. 3 No. 343 Americal Daily New Sheet Fri. December 12, 1969
(These issues were obtained by James B. Simms and Mike Crutcher from Carlisle Barracks, PA.)

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Action picked up slightly in southern I Corps yesterday as Americal Division soldiers accounted for seven enemy killed.

GENEVA PARK—Recon platoon 1-52nd, Inf. engaged two evading NVA on a late afternoon operation 13 miles west of Quang Ngai City. Both NVA wore green uniforms and were carrying packs when they were killed.

Infantrymen then spotted a tunnel in which there were two more NVA. The NVA were engaged and killed.

For the recon element observation was a small part of yesterday's action.

C Co., 1-52nd Inf sighted 12 VC suspects early yesterday, 6 miles west of Quang Ngai City.

One of the suspects tried to evade when C Co. moved toward them, resulting in one VC killed. The remaining were evaced to LZ Stinson for questioning.

While on a patrol 10 miles south of Chu Lai, A Company 5-46 Inf observed and engaged 3 VC.

FREDERICK HILL-At 1700 hours yesterday, **F Trp., 8th Cav** while operating 12 miles west of Tam Ky killed two NVA.

IRON MOUNTAIN—No action was reported in the 11th Brigade area of operation yesterday.

TV PROGRAM SCHEDULE 13

AFVN CHANNEL 13, CHU LAI

FRIDAY 12 DECEMBER	SATURDAY, 13 DECEMBER	SUNDAY 14 DECEMBER
1200 HOLLYWOOD PALACE	1200 HAWAII FIVE-O	1200 RELIGIOUS HOUR
1300 BIG VALLEY	1300 JOHNNY CASH	1300 THESAVAGE HEART
1400 DEAN MARTIN	1400 SPORTS	1400 SPORTS
1500 MID-AFT-NOON-NEWS	1630 W-FUL WORLD GOLF	1630 JULIA
1515 MOVIE	1730 LAWRENCE WELK	1700 RICHARD DIAMOND
1630 PERRY MASON	1830 THE KING FAMILY	1730 COLLEGE BOWL
1730 NASHVILLE VIETNAM	1900 GET SMART	1800 THE DETECTIVES
1800 UNTAMED WORLD	1930 EVENING NEWS	1830 PRIORITY INFO.
1830 GENERATION GAP	2000 HEE HAW	1900 21ST CENTURY
1900 THE KILLY STYLE	2100 HIGH CHAPARRAL	1930 EVENING NEWS
1930 EVENING NEWS	2200 THAT'S LIFE	2000 ED SULLIVAN
2000 WILD WILD WEST	2300 11TH HOUR REPORT	2100 BONANZA
2100 STAR TREK	2320 MOVIE	2200 MISS.IMPOSSIBLE
2200 COLISEUM		2300 11TH HOUR RPT
2300 11TH HOUR REPORT		2320 RAWHIDE
2320 BOXING		

Copy courtesy of former Civil Affairs officer of 3/1st Inf. Bn. David J. Eckberg August 2015.
Southern Cross emblem - AMERICAL DAILY NEWS SHEET
Vol. IV No. 243 Monday August 31, 1970

Chu Lai (AMERICAL IO) – The southern part of the First Military Region witnessed heavy action yesterday with the soldiers serving under the Southern Cross killing 64 enemy soldiers.

GENEVA PARK

In an area northwest of Quang Ngai yesterday, Delta Co. **1-52nd Inf.**, found three timing devices for large mines in a hooch. The devices were evacuated to a nearby LZ.

Later yesterday, H Troop 17 Cav., found an enemy laager site, which still had campfires burning in an area south of Chu Lai. The cavalrymen discovered at the site, 20 dug-in sleeping positions, 200 pounds of unpolished rice and some eating and cooking utensils. The site was destroyed.

IRON MOUNTAIN: **Bravo Co. 1-20 Inf.** and a unit of PF had an estimated VC company attack their position in the lowlands northwest of Duc Pho yesterday. The enemy hit with CHICOM grenades and RPG rounds in the early morning hours. The attack, which saw the enemy assault the "Jungle Warriors" position twice, both times being beaten back, included five Viet Cong killed. Confiscated in the action were four AK-47 rifles, 40 CHICOM grenades and one 40 pound shape charge. The Viet Cong element broke contact when "**Blue Ghost" gunships** arrived on station.

While helping put down a ground attack on the village of Chou Me in the lowlands north of Chou Me in the lowlands north of Duc Pho yesterday. "Shark" gunships of the 174th Aviation were credited with five NVA soldiers killed. The enemy soldiers were dressed in brown uniforms with NVA belts.

In other action yesterday, Alpha Co. 4-21 Inf., found three VC buried in the lowlands southeast of Duc Pho. The enemy troopers were apparently killed by shrapnel from artillery.

Charlie Co. 4-3 Inf. and Charlie Co. 3-1 Inf. picked up one VC killed each while patrolling in the mountains northeast of Duc Pho. Confiscated from the enemy following the actions were 20 RPG rounds, one pistol and 15 rucksacks.

FREDERICK HILL: In action yesterday, the Recon platoon of 3-21 Inf., killed two NVA in a daylight raid on a small enemy basecamp located in rugged hillside terrain northwest of Tam Ky.

"We discovered the enemy location shortly after detaining a female Viet Cong suspect in a nearby lowland area", said First Lieutenant Joseph D. Barrett, Burlington Mills, N.C., the platoon leader. "A small enemy force opened fire on us from among the five structures in the camp. In the return fire we killed two of them attempting to flee", continued the lieutenant.

A mess hall was also found in the enemy base camp. Captured in the raid were four CHICOM grenades, one AK-47 rifle, one 9mmm pistol and four NVA packs, which contained food and personal items.

Also discovered in the action by the infantrymen was a seven day old grave. The NVA kill was credited to Bravo 3-21 Inf.

These references to Troop F, 8th Cavalry (Air) came from the "Americal Magazine" This was the Americal Division Public Information quarterly publication that began in May 1968 and 12 issues later stopped after the division stood down in November 1971. Except for the first issue, all publications were printed with bright colorful presentations on glossy paper. The Public Information Office of the Americal also produced a book about the Americal Division that had history through the middle of July 1970. It was often referred to as the "Standdown Book" as any copies that remained in the division were handed out when the Americal Division stood down in November 1971.

The excerpts put in this document are not the full article, even though some of these are multi-page excerpts. The original source materials can be obtained from the ADVA Historian.

Americal Division Magazine - May, 1968

This is the inaugural issue of the Americal Division Magazine.

For Freedom - Under The Southern Cross

The Americal Division, born in the steaming jungles of New Caledonia and reborn some 25 years later in the equally steaming jungles of Vietnam, boasts of a proud tradition of quick reaction to tyrants who would seek to robe the people of the world of the gift of freedom.

The original Americal grew out of Task Force 6814, which was deployed to the South Pacific to meet an enemy threat there at the beginning of the United States involvement in World War II. The present Americal grew out of Task Force Oregon, which was sent to Vietnam's troubled I Corps April 20, 1967.

Though the enemy and the location have differed, the reaction from the soldiers of the Army's only named division has always been one of valiant fighting efforts under some of the most trying circumstances.

Task Force 6814, commanded by Brigadier General Alexander M. Patch, left to defend the island of New Caledonia on January 23, 1942, sailing by way of Panama and Australia.

The original task force was composed of the 132nd, 164th and 182nd infantry regiments; the 245th, 246th, and 247th light field artillery battalions; and the 221st Medium Field Artillery Battalion. Massachusetts members of the 26th Infantry Division's 51st Infantry Regiment and the remainder were from Illinois and North Dakota.

In memory of the strong Massachusetts flavor of the original organization, the Americal Association - composed of veterans of the division - now has its headquarters in Boston.

The first Americal troops trained on board ship while enroute to New Caledonia, and continued their training for jungle warfare after arriving at Noumea, New Caledonia, on March 12, 1942.

On May 27, 1942-slightly more than two months after its arrival - the task force was reorganized as the Americal Division. The name was chosen after a soldier in the new division suggested a combination of America and Caledonia, to show that the two countries were working together for freedom.

The newly-designated division then adopted a shoulder patch of four white stars on a blue field. The stars are in the form of the Southern Cross, indicating organization of the division south of the Equator.

The soldiers continued their training until October 13, when the 164th Infantry Regiment became the first U.S. Army unit to conduct an offensive operation against the enemy in any theater during World War II. From then until November 29, 1945, when division elements began to leave for the states, it was all work and no play for the soldiers as they fought throughout the South Pacific area, finally ending up in Japan to participate in the occupation of that defeated power.

The soldiers were credited with participation in the Guadalcanal, Northern Solomons, Southern Philippines and Leyte campaigns, and won two Presidential Unit Citations and one Distinguished Unit Citation (presented to Company E, 182nd Infantry Regiment) during WWII.

The Americal Division was deactivated at Ft. Lawton, Washington, on December 12, 1945, and its soldiers went home for a well-earned rest.

The division was reactivated for the first time in 1956 at Ft. Benning, Georgia, Panama and Alaska, but was deactivated after a two-year period.

Then, with U.S. forces fully committed to stopping the communist surge in Vietnam, the Americal Division was once more pressed into the service of the country. In February of 1967, General William C. Westmoreland, commander of

(Continued -1)

U.S. forces in Vietnam, formed a planning group to organize an Army task force to send to the I Corps area.

This planning group, commanded by Major General William B. Rosson (who now, as a lieutenant general, commands the vital MACV forward command post at Phu Bai), organized a multi-brigade force composed of the 196th Light Infantry Brigade; the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division; and the 3rd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division (later re-designated the 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division).

Task Force Oregon became operational on April 20, 1967, when troops from the 196th Brigade landed at the Chu Lai airstrip and immediately began search and destroy operations around the base camp. Soldiers from the 3rd Brigade, 4th Division started conducting search and destroy operations in Southern Quang Ngai Province, and in May the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne paratroopers arrived at Duc Pho and began operations in the jungles west of there.

Early operations conducted by TFO included Malheur I and Malheur II, Hood River, Benton and Cook. On September 11, 1967, Operation Wheeler was launched against elements of the 2nd North Vietnamese Army Division working in the area northwest of Chu Lai.

On September 22, 1967, Brigadier General Samuel W. Koster assumed command of the task force, replacing Major General Richard T. Knowles, and three days later Task Force Oregon became the Americal Division, composed of the 196th, 198th and 11th light infantry brigades, even though the latter two organizations were still training in the U.S.

Operation Wheeler continued and on October 3, 1967, the 3rd Brigade, 1st Air Cavalry Division joined Americal and immediately launched Operation Wallowa in the northern sector of the division's area of operations. Operations Wheeler and Wallowa were combined on November 11, and Operation Wheeler/Wallowa was conducted by the 196th Brigade (which replaced the 101st Airborne's 1st Brigade in Operation Wheeler after that organization departed for the II Corps tactical zone) and the 3rd Brigade, 1st Air Cavalry.

An official change of colors ceremony was held October 26, and the Americal Division became the seventh Army division fighting in Vietnam. General Koster received his second star during the same ceremony.

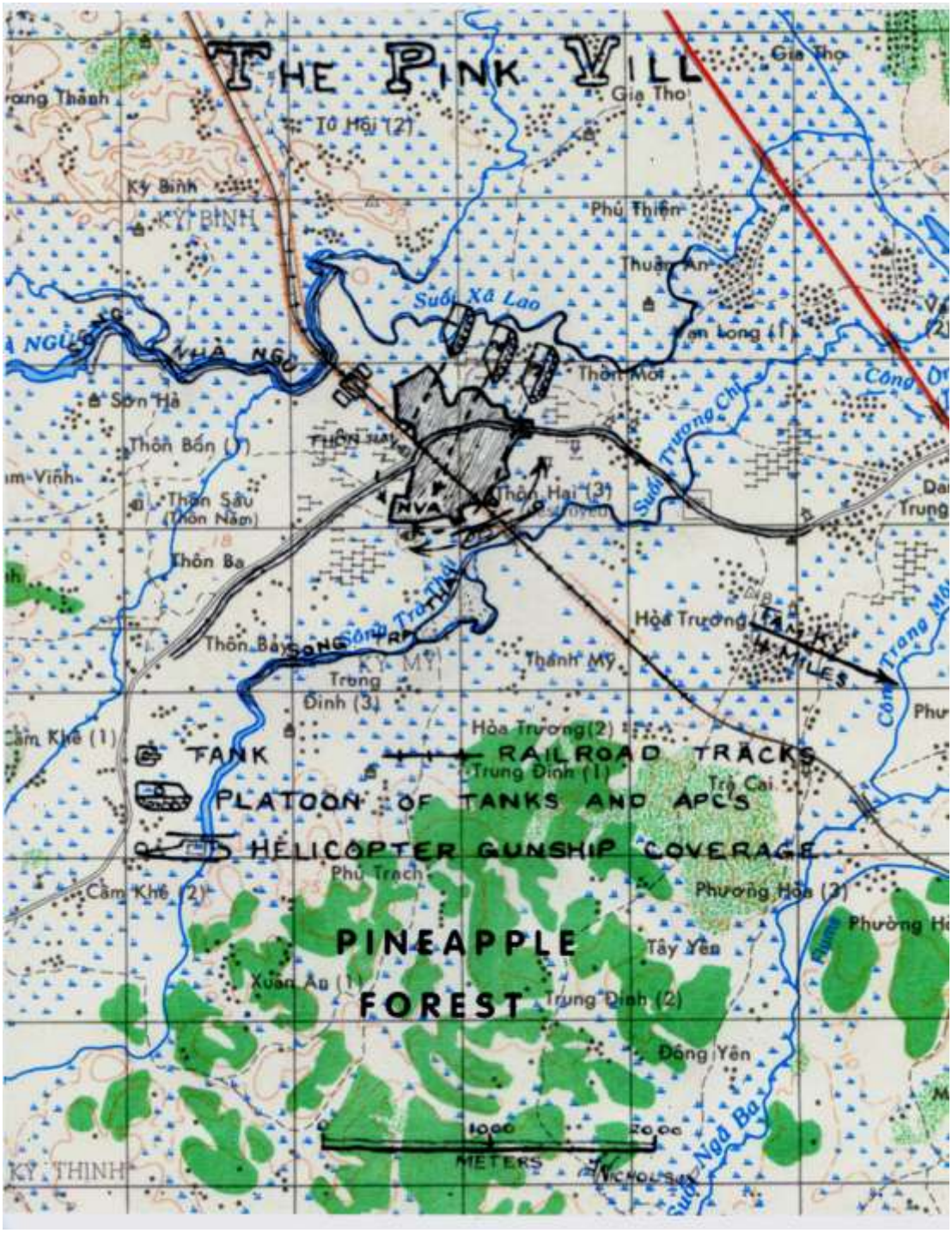
On October 22, the 198th Light Infantry Brigade arrived in Vietnam from Ft. Hood, Texas and deployed to Duc Pho, where it received combat training from the battle-hardened soldiers of the 3rd Brigade 4th Infantry. The 198th currently is in charge of the defense of the Chu Lai base camp and airstrip.

The 11th Light Infantry Brigade joined Americal on December 20, and it too moved to Duc Pho for training. The "Jungle Warriors" are currently conducting combat operations in the Duc Pho area and have control of Operation Muscatine, a multi-battalion search and destroy operation around Quang Ngai which originally was conducted by the 198th Brigade and units from the 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry.

Operation Wheeler/Wallowa is now under the control of the 196th Infantry Brigade, with elements of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry and **Troop C, 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry (Note- unit later reorganized to F/8 Cav, Blue Ghosts)** participating actively in the fighting west of Tam Ky. The 3rd Brigade, 1st Air Cavalry, and the 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry, have left the Americal area.

In addition to its outstanding battlefield record, the division takes pride in the services it offers to its members. A beach provides relaxation for weary soldiers, a USO and extensive Special Services program provide entertainment and the only Division Army Education Center in Vietnam provides the chance for a soldier to earn a high school equivalency or to take courses for college credit.

Americal Division Magazine - May, 1968
THE PINK VILL



Drawing of a map - area shown is four miles northwest of Tam Ky. Shows armor attacking from the north and helicopters covering the southern area near THON HAI. Map credit - J NICHOLSON

(Continued) -1)

Americal's air and ground cavalry units combined last February to push a force of North Vietnamese regulars to meet death in their own trenches in a deserted village.

The cavalrymen knew the area as the "Pink Vill"-pink because that color was used to indicate a built-up area on their tactical maps.

The basic strategy of the offensive called for the armored personnel carriers of **Troop A of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry** to line up and sweep across the village. A tank, protected by two APC's fired on the enemy retreating across the railroad tracks.

Covering the southern and eastern portions of the village were the **"Blue Ghosts" helicopter gunships of the 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry's Troops C.**

Within an hour, the enemy soldiers were cornered in their own trench system in the southwest portion of the"Pink Vill," where they were routed by the Americal forces.

The battle was one of several fought by Operation Wheeler/Wallowa forces which have featured a combination of the air and ground cavalry forces. Such actions have been among the division's most effective.

1/1 Cav Dragoons-
Quick and Strong

B&W photo of an ACAV crossing a river. Cav crew is riding high and dry. photo credit - us army

The **1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry "Dragoons"** provide the muscle and speed needed to overpower the enemy in their role as the division's mobile armored strike force. Working in armored vehicles affording them firepower and flexibility, the squadron's soldiers have amassed one of the best battlefield records for a unit their size in Vietnam.

Being at the top of the list is not a new experience for the cavalrymen. Their successes with the Americal Division mark just another milestone in an already long trail of battlefield glory. Organized in 1832 as the "**First Regiment of Dragoons**," the unit is the most battle-honored in the Army, with 68 decorations to its credit .

among its famous members it numbers Jefferson Davis, Kit Carson and John J. Pershing.

Also the first unit in the Army to become complete mechanized, the men and vehicles of the "Dragoons" arrived in Chu Lai in August, 1967, from Ft. Hood Tex., where they had been in serious training with the 1st Armored Division. The troops still proudly sport the "Old Ironsides" patch they wore when they arrived.

In continuous heavy contact from nearly the moment they arrived the cavalrymen are currently working closely with air cavalry elements of the **7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry's Troop C** in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa.

[Note: 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry Troop C was reorganized to split into two troops giving a new unit, F/8th Cavalry.]

Americal Division Magazine - Fall, 1968

Timeline of events to date for the Americal Division.

Oct. 25-General Order 175, Headquarters, United States Army Pacific, activates HHC, 23rd (Americal) Inf. Div.; BG S. W. Koster assumes command.
Oct. 26 The Americal Division receives its colors in a ceremony at Chu Lai as GEN William C. Westmoreland promotes the division commander to Major General.
Nov. 1-Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey visits the division.
Nov. 11-Operation Wheeler and Operation Wallowa are combined to form Operation Wheeler/Wallowa.
Nov. 23-Men from the 196th Inf. Bde., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav., and **"C" Troop, 7th Sqdn., 17th Cav.** kill 128 enemy soldiers in a Thanksgiving Day battle in the Que Son Valley as part of Operation Wheeler/Wallowa.
Nov. 26-1st Bde., 101st Abn. Div. leaves the Americal as the 196th Inf. Bde. assumes responsibility for Operation Wheeler/Wallowa.
Dec. 9-In an air and ground battle five miles southwest of Hoi An, units of the 3rd Bde., 1st Air Cav. kill 102 soldiers of the 2nd North Vietnamese Army Division.
Dec. 11-Americal Combat Center begins operations at Chu Lai and assumes the mission of conducting in-country orientation and replacement training for the division.
Dec. 19-198th Inf. Bde. units and the 2nd ARVN Div. begin Operation Muscatine to extend GVN control to the area north of Quang Ngai City.
Dec. 20-11th Inf. Bde. arrives at Duc Pho from Qui Nhon to join the division. Co. E, 51st Inf. (Long Range Patrol) is organized and activated.
Jan. 2-3rd Bde., 4th Inf. Div. takes over control of Operation Muscatine from elements of the 198th Bde,. which continues to defend the Chu Lai area.
Jan. 10-1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. officially becomes part of the Americal.
Jan. 15-The combat leadership course for the lower enlisted grades is inaugurated at the Combat Center.
Jan. 22-Task Force Barker, composed of units from the 11th Bde., begins operating north of Quang Ngai City in the Operation Muscatine area.
Jan. 25-3rd Bde., 1st Air Cav. leaves the division and is replaced at at LZ Baldy by the 3rd Bde., 4th Inf. DiV., which is replaced in turn by the 11th Bde. in Operation Muscatine.
Jan. 26-1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. enters Operation Wheeler/ Wallowa.
Jan. 31-Enemy forces - launch the "Tet offensive" in the Americal area. The 198th Bde. kills 198 enemy near Chu Lai.
Feb. 7-12-Task Force Miracle, composed of battalions from the 196th and 198th Bdes., is sent to relieve enemy pressure on Marine Units in the Da Nang area. It is placed under the operational control of the 1st Marine Div.
Feb. 27-3rd Bde., 4th Inf. Div.'s area of operations in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa is passed to the 196th Inf. Bde.
Feb. 27-28-Units of the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav., supported by helicopter gunships of **Troop C, 7th Sqdn., 17th Cav.,** defeat NVA Regulars, killing 180, at the battle of the "Pinkville" near Tam Ky as part of Operation Wheeler/Wallowa.
Feb. 29-3rd Bde., 4th Inf. Div. leaves the Americal.

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(Continued -1) **Fall, 1968 Timeline to date for the Americal Division.**

Mar. 3-9-1 Sqdn., 1st Cav. and elements of the 196th Bde. kill nearly 400 enemy soldiers during Operation Wheeler/Wallowa seven miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Mar. 16-Elements of the ~~196th~~ ***[11th]*** Bde. operating in Task Force Barker kill 128 enemy as they raid a Viet Cong stronghold in the village of My Lai, six miles northeast of Quang Ngai City. ***(Note the 196th Bde is a typo that was mentioned in another Americal Division publication. The unit is actually part of the 11th Bde. and this action turns out to be the My Lai massacre.)***

Apr. 8-Operation Burlington Trail, to open the road between Tam Ky and Tien Phuoc, is begun by the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. and elements of the 198th Bde. Operation Norfolk Victory to extend GVN influence to the Song Ve Valley is begun by the 11th Bde.

Apr. 19-Operation Norfolk Victory is terminated, as a major enemy base of operations is destroyed and a huge weapons cache is uncovered by elements of the 11th Bde.

Apr. 20-First anniversary of the formation of Task Force Oregon; GEN William C. Westmoreland speaks at a ceremony in Chu Lai. 198th Bde. assumes control of Operation Wheeler/Wallowa from the 196th Bde., which is temporarily placed under the operational control of the 1st Air Cav. Div.

May 3-12-Elements of the 196th Bde. operating under the 1st Air Cav. ***[Marines not 1st Air Cav?]*** , kill 579 NVA soldiers in the battle of Nhi Ha, five miles south of the demilitarized zone, as part of Operation Saline.

May 25-196th Bde. forces in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa kill 110 North Vietnamese and 12 VC northwest of Tam Ky.

June 3-BG George H. Young Jr., assumes command of the division from MG Koster.

June 12-27th Surgical Hospital, with more than 140 beds for military and civilian war casualties, is dedicated at Chu Lai.

June 23-MG Charles M. Gettys assumes command of the Americal Division from BG Young in ceremonies at Chu Lai.

July 23-Elements of the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. and **"F" Troop, 8th Cav**., account for 61 NVA soldiers killed, 13 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Aug 14- "C" Btry., 6th Bn., 11th Arty. fires the 2 millionth round since the organization of Task Force Oregon.

Aug. 17-Elements of the 196th Bde. kill 44 VC and one NVA soldier five miles north of Baldy in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa.

Aug. 19-Units of the 196th Bde. and gunships from the 71st Avn. Co. kill 140 VC in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa south of Hoi An.

Aug. 24-26-The 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav., **"F" Troop, 8th Cav.,** a battalion of the 196th Bde. and ARVN units combined forces to kill more than 470 NVA regulars 4 miles west of Tam Ky as part of Operation Burlington Trail.

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Americal Division Magazine - January, 1969

DRAGOONS

THE 1ST CAV BRINGS BACK SMOKE By CPT CARY S. SKLAREN

Thick red mud engraved with track marks lies naked to the Vietnam sky, as awesome machines with chunks of steel torn from their outer skin stand idle, waiting to take the offensive.

It seems as if they are almost pawing at the ground in anticipation like coal-black stallions or burly Brahma bulls. They appear to call out to their Dragoons to mount up and drive away from the stark desolation of Hawk Hill and meet the enemy. The proud, tough men and the mighty machines of the **1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry** are ready to do battle.

But the color, the drama, the tradition of the 1st/1st began on a different battlefield on the dusty plains west of the Mississippi River. There, in 1833, Congress authorized the formation of the First Regiment of Dragoons and for the next 65 years, except for one interlude of fighting with the Army of the Potomac during the Civil War, the unit never left the west.

In 1898, they were called to serve upon foreign soil in the Spanish American War and later to help put down the Philippine Insurrection. During World War 1, they served on the Mexican border.

In 1940, they were the first cavalry regiment to become completely mechanized and fought in the North African and Italian campaigns of the Second world war.

The most battle-honored unit in the U.S. Army with 68 battle streamers hanging from the squadron colors, the **1st/1st** was ordered to Vietnam in the summer of 1967. After leaving Ft. Hood, Tex., they landed at Chu Lai in early August, and two days later were committed to battle. They have been fighting the enemy ever since.

The most impressive feature of the cavalry's particular method of combat is its overwhelming firepower. In a single platoon there are 10 .50 caliber machineguns, 13 M-60 machineguns. three coaxial machineguns (7.62), three 90mm guns, one 81mm mortar, and seven grenade launchers, in addition to personal weapons. There are three of these platoons in every troop, and three troops in the squadron. They are supported by the unit's tactical air arm, **F Troop, 8th Air Cavalry**, which includes a Huey-Cobra weapons platoon and the Headquarters section.

When all of this firepower is put together there is little chance that an enemy can escape the sting of the Cav. unscathed. The enemy may bite and scratch and throw a regiment at the **Dragoons**, but to no avail. The 1st/1st will stand there, accept whatever the enemy has to offer and then return the compliment tenfold, with few, if any, friendly casualties.

A fine example of the whole squadron working together in a battle and completely putting the North Vietnamese Army to rout occurred during late August of last year in the old Operation Burlington Trail area.

It began in the heat of the morning of Aug. 24. The 2nd **Plt. of A Trp.** was on a sweep with the **ARVN 3/4 Cav.** seven kilometers west of Tam Ky when the NVA struck.

The ARVNs had been reconnoitering a woodline in the midst of rolling rice paddies when they received heavy fire from recoilless rifles, RPGs, and automatic weapons. One ACAV was hit and started to burn. They called for the **"Dragoons."**

The platoon answered and drove into a valley below the ARVNs when they also began to receive fire. 1LT Thomas M. Ginz (Cheshire, Conn.), the platoon leader, called for the gunships of **F Trp., 8th Air Cav**.

As the **"Blue Ghosts"** hit the enemy with suppressive fire, 1 LT Ginz

(Continued -1)

maneuvered his tracks around the rice paddy and hill to get on line with the **3/4 Cav**. The enemy was situated on an "island" in the midst of the paddies and the ARVNs decided to attempt a frontal assault.

"They tried to move in on the 'wool' (a forest bordering on paddies," said 1LT Ginz, "but the recoilless rifle and RPG fire was so intense they had to withdraw."

The second platoon continued to fire at the positions until ordered to withdraw and await help. Their fire had destroyed one 75mm recoilless rifle, and they had captured another.

"**C Trp**. arrived about 12:30" said MAJ James A. Logan (Park: Forest, Ill.), Sqdn. S-3. "They took operational control of the second platoon and tried to extend the flanks to cover more of the 'island.'

"The remainder of **A Trp**. then pulled in," he continued, "took over its positions and began to maneuver south of the fortified position. **C Trp**. maneuvered to the north." (See Map A)

Both troops "parried and thrusted" with the enemy for a few hours trying to maneuver into position to maneuver them out. The enemy was paying a heavy price for keeping the **Dragoons** outside their perimeter.

At one point during the afternoon, while **A Trp**. was in particularly heavy contact, the cavalrymen were forced to "circle the wagons" and fire from 360 degrees. Christopher Noble (New Canaan, Conn.), medical platoon leader who filled in for a crewman on **A Trp**.,s "bandaid" (medical) track that afternoon, explained what happened.

"We were on the circle with the troop when we saw a tank get hit with an RPG round. Four medics were immediately on the spot and found one man with part of his back blown off. The CO tried calling in a dustoff, but before they had a chance to arrive, another chopper descended into the middle of the troop." "It was LTC Lawrence in the Sqdn. C & C ship (***Historian Note: A/123rd 1st Flt Plt helicopter crewchief was Leslie Richey & Gunner David Raikes, Pilot Dennis DeWine)***, and we immediately took the seriously wounded man over there, and the chopper took off. We later learned that the man survived," said the Medical Service Corps officer.

Realizing that the enemy was in a major position of great depth (later established to be large elements of two regiments of the 2nd NVA Div.), a decision was made to send in an infantry company to flush the NVA out of their spider holes. A landing zone southwest of the "island" battle area was chosen, and **C Trp**. was dispatched to secure it.

As the unit neared the proposed location, it became evident that no combat assault would be made there that afternoon. "We had to cross a small forest to get to the LZ," stated PFC Mark Bellis (Dundee, N.Y.), a gunner with the **2nd Plt., C Trp**.

"As soon as we were in the middle, we were right up ambush alley. 'Charlie' hit us." Once again, a "Dragoon" unit had to "circle the wagons" and fire from 360 degrees.

"The men never stopped fighting," remarked SP4 Wallace Colligan (Terryville, Conn.), a track commander with the 2nd Plt. "In one tank, everybody was wounded except one man, Huom, a Kit Carson scout. He just jumped up to the top of the tank and began firing that .50 cal. until he too got wounded."

The NVA threw everything they had at the Cav., but the Americal unit wouldn't budge. They returned whatever they received with dividends. As darkness approached, the troop was forced to break contact and take up night-laager (360 degree security) positions.

The infantry unit that was to land there, **B Co., 4th Bn., 21st Inf**. of the

(Continued -2)

11th Inf. Bde., and another unit, the 196th Inf. Bde.'s **B Co., 2nd Bn., 1st Inf.**, were sent to Hawk Hill to get ready for action the next day.

A Trp., which was still fighting in the vicinity of the "island," also broke contact at the approach of darkness.

At the end of the first day, 227 NVA soldiers were killed, while the "**Dragoons**" lost only two men.

The plan for the second day called for all three cavalry troops to join the battle with support from the two infantry companies. (See Map B)

C Trp., working with **B Co., 4/21**, was to move north of the island and attack a suspected enemy battalion headquarters area. **A Trp.** and **B Co., 4/21** were to move westward from a southerly position and attack the "island" from a different direction than the first day. **B Trp.**, which had not taken part in the action of the 24th, was to move south along the west side of the suspected positions and act as a blocking force. "**Blue Ghost**" scouts had reported that NVA were fleeing from the area the previous night.

A Trp. drew enemy fire as soon as it neared the woodline. "My platoon never did manage to get into it all day," said 1LT Ginz. "Everytime we got too near to it the fire became so intense we had to go back."

Other platoons had better luck. After air strikes by the "**Blue Ghosts**" pounded one area, **A Trp.**'s third platoon thrust into the woodline. "we pulled up on a hilltop waiting for the choppers to finish, "remarked 1LT Thomas Jackson (Houston, Tex.), then third platoon leader. "Then we went forward, but we advanced so far that we swept past the enemy's frontline." "We were getting hit from both sides and the rear. We had to fight our way out. But we really gave it to them."

To the north, **B Trp.** was working its way down to act as a blocking force, and received fire from many enemy positions. "They very nearly had to run through a gauntlet of NVA guns to get to their position," noted MAJ Logan.

It shortly became apparent, however, that there wasn't any need for a blocking force as the NVA were well dug in and weren't going anywhere. **B Trp.** kept driving to its objective when it suddenly discovered it was in the middle of a regimental headquarters. The cavalrymen started firing in every direction and formed a perimeter. "**Blue Ghosts** " continually came in with fire support and **B Trp.** stayed there till fading light forced them to break contact.

The assault on the regimental headquarters was a decisive blow to the enemy. So much commo wire was torn up and so much disorganization was caused by **B Trp.'s** attack, that the NVA communications and operations were completely disrupted. They were forced to withdraw during the night.

C Trp., meanwhile, had run into tough and well-planned defenses over the crests of the gentle hills of the area. They slowed the troop up but were unable to completely stop its advance.

About mid-afternoon of the 25th, a group of infantrymen had become detached from the ACAVs and were in a precarious position. They had moved to within 20 meters of a woodline when the NVA opened up. The patrol was pinned down and several men wounded.

A track from the **2nd Plt.** answered the call but was forced to stop 30 meters from the wounded " **Gimlets.**" There was heavy fire coming from the woodline.

SGT William A. Swoveland, scout section leader of the platoon, and SP4 Steven Nussbaumer, the platoon medic, dismounted. While the rest of the men in the area laid down a base of fire, the two "Dragoons" dashed to the

(Continued -3)

wounded men and brought two of them back to safety.

Without regard for their own lives, Swoveland and Nussbaumer went back again to help the infantrymen. Both were mortally wounded.

During the second day, 259 NVA soldiers were dead, while seven Americans and one Kit Carson scout had been killed by hostile fire.

On the morning of the third day, the battle began with all three troops moving along the southern flank and hooking north. Artillery from **A Btry., 3rd Bn., 16th Arty.**, prepared the area with 20 minutes of fire prior to the cavalry-infantry assault.

After the former frontline of the previous two days had been penetrated, it was determined that the NVA had moved out during the night. The only action the "Dragoons" were to see that day was from rearguard elements.

In one minor encounter, **B Trp.** got hit with automatic weapons fire and the ACAVs, tanks, and "**Blue Ghost**" gunships hit back hard. while this was going on, SP4 Ronald Keener (Tulare, Calif.), a gunner and tank driver from the 1st Plt., noticed an unusual occurrence.

"The infantry was out in front of us when the enemy hit. Then I saw an infantryman in front of my tank get shot...at least I thought he got hit," Keener explained.

"Have you ever used a P-38 to open up some C-rations? Well this guy got hit in the head with an AK-47 round and it sort of ricocheted around his steel pot, opening it up like a can of ham and lima beans. The pot was edged with jagged steel, but the 'grunt' didn't even have a scratch," the "Dragoon" noted.

No American died on the third day, while 35 NVA soldiers were killed.

On the fourth day, Aug. 27, all three troops went out in pursuit of the NVA. They moved on an axis north of the battle area and then fanned out in three different directions (See Map C): **Trp. A** with the 1st Plt. of **B Co., 4/21** to the northwest; **Trp. C with B Co., 2/1** due west; and B Trp. with the rest of B to the southwest.

A Trp. was proceeding up an incline when they made contact. "The captain got a call from **'Blue Ghost'** about antiaircraft guns being in a fortified position on the hill ahead of us," remarked 1LT Ginz. "We came up the hill on line but there was not much resistance.

"We just drove right in," he continued. "We captured two .51 cal. antiaircraft guns and found a lot of enemy packs. The troop killed or captured all but three men in the unit."

B Trp., meanwhile, had been receiving recoilless rifle, RPG, and automatic weapons fire from a ridgeline north of their position. **C Trp.** came to help and as they provided fire support, **B Trp.** assaulted. They remained in contact until dark.

The "**Blue Ghosts,**" were, as usual, there throughout the battle. SP4 Keener recalled one particular instance when the helicopters were right on target.

"We had been moving up a hill and couldn't really see down the other side, when **'Blue Ghost'** said that there were NVA in the brushline just over the crest. Before we had a chance to react, the Cobra dived and hit the enemy with rockets and his minigun. There were explosions as close as 25 meters from my tank," stated Keener.

The results of the day's action were 27 NVA killed and three captured, while only one American was killed.

During the four-day engagement, 548 NVA soldiers were killed while 29 individual and 18 crew-served weapons were captured. Three NVA soldiers were

(Continued -4)

captured. There were 10 U.S. soldiers and one Kit Carson Scout killed, while 81 men were wounded and evacuated. The kill ratio was more than 50-1.

The enemy was stopped cold. "It would appear from captured enemy documents and prisoners," said LTC Richard D. Lawrence, Sqdn. Commander, "that the enemy's original objective was an attack on Tam Ky."

Some time later, the Chief of Quang Tin province presented the **1st/1st** with plaques and the grateful thanks of the populace.

In the words of LTC Lawrence, "There is nothing mysterious about our success in operating in Vietnam. The principles in the armored cavalry field manual still are valid in every respect. If the troop commanders use them properly and judiciously, and the men are properly motivated and filled with esprit, they can't go wrong. I'd go anywhere with the Cav."

Americal Division Magazine - May, 1969

The Battle for Nui Chom Mountain

The long, hard-fought battle sounds like it was taken from the pages of a World War II Americal history book, but a 196th Inf. Bde. battalion lived it just a few months ago---

The rain had stopped about 10 a.m. on Nov. 17, 1968, but the grass and vines on the ridge were wet. The point element of **Delta Co.**, **4th Bn.**, **31st** Inf. slashed a trail with machetes up the steep ridge. The men got soaked from brushing against the foliage.

One way or another, an infantryman gets wet and stays wet during the monsoons. If it's not the rain, it's the rain-soaked jungle he cuts his way through; if it's not river-crossing, it's an assault across a rice paddy; or it simply his own sweat soaking into his jungle fatigues as he climbs a rugged mountain trail.

The "squawk-box" on the radio barked out its message to the **Delta** CP group resting on their packs nearby CPT Sidney Ordway (Anaheim, Calif.), CO of **D Co.**, listened patiently with the handset pressed to his ear The **Delta** point element had walked into what looked like one of their own night defensive perimeters, but with a few variations-they had found two camouflaged anti-aircraft positions and numerous Ho Chi Minh sandal prints in and around the perimeter of fighting holes.

CPT Ordway and his Vietnamese interpreter went to check it out. They agreed that the area had been used recently by a company-size North Vietnamese Army force.

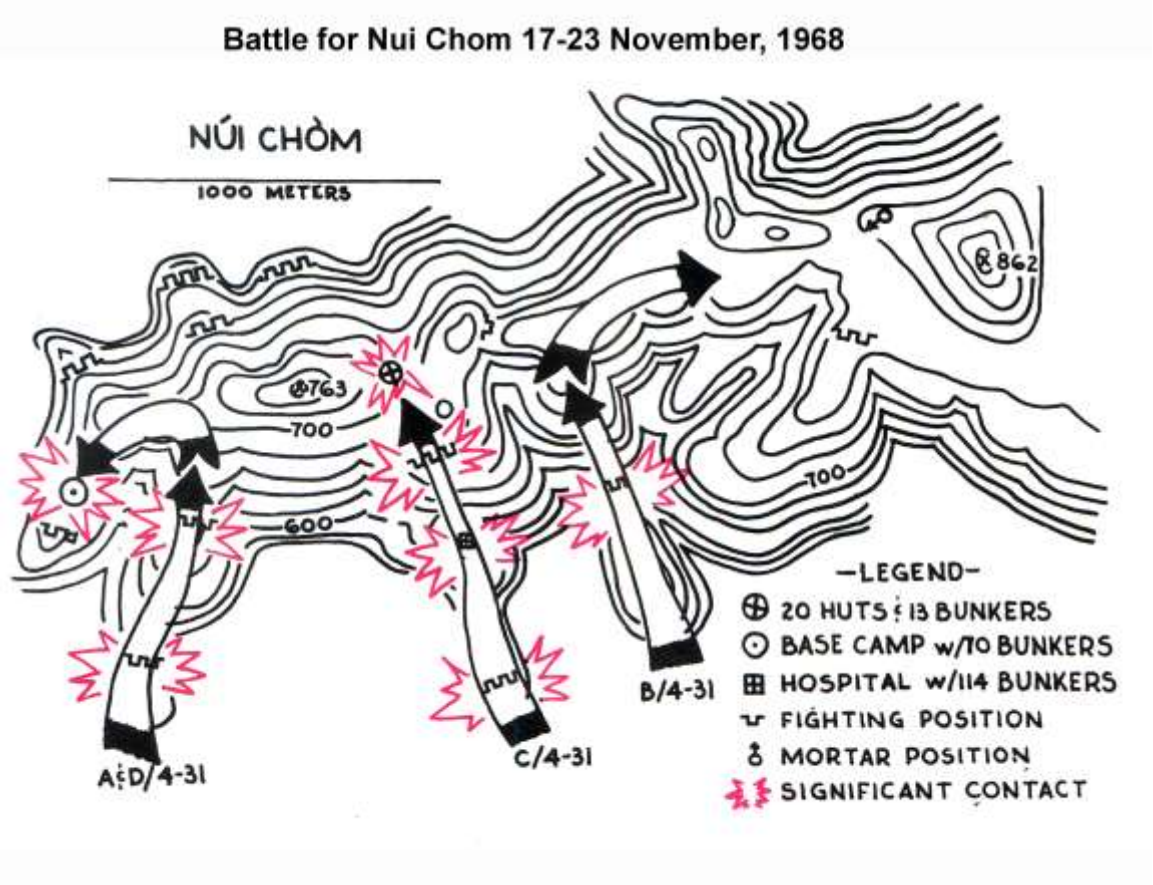
After searching the area, the captain elected to follow what appeared to be a wide, well-used trail leading north from the abandoned enemy laager position. He looked at his "funnypaper" (map) to see if the trail was mapped. It wasn't, but the direction of the trail and his location indicated that it went north-northwest to a group of high jungle peaks-collectively known as...

(Continued -1)

(Continued -1) **The Battle for Nui Chom Mountain**

N U I C H O M M O U N T A I N
- By SGT GEORGE HAWKINS
- 196th Inf. Bde.

Map 1 showing location reference to Tam Ky, Chu Lai, Hoi An, and Da Nang
Map 2 detail battle map of forces on Nui Chom.



(Continued -2)

(Continued -2) **The Battle for Nui Chom Mountain**

A Co., commanded by CPT Billy Braswell (Henderson, N.C.), was operating approximately 1,000 meters west of **D Co.** CPT Ordway called CPT Braswell on his PRC-25 radio and told him what he had found. They decided to search out the canyon where the trail led.

As **Delta** maneuvered up the trail, the terrain got steeper, and the landscape turned from thick elephant grass and vines into triple canopy jungle. The **D Co.** pointman spotted what appeared to be a squad of NVA coming down the trail. Seconds later, the NVA saw the advancing Americal soldiers...both sides opened up.

The NVA pointman fell and the rest of the enemy squad ran back up the trail. Continuing 200 meters further up the trail, Delta walked into an NVA base camp.

CPT Ordway described what they found. I had my men spread out and set up security. The base camp was built on both sides of a draw with a stream flowing through the middle of the camp. What we could see from the south side were mostly hootches and spider-hole fighting positions.

"The hootches were made of bamboo with thatched roofs. There weren't any fighting bunkers like the kind we were to run into later, higher on the mountain. I had my machinegunners recon by fire, but we didn't receive any return fire, so I moved two platoons in to search the camp."

The apparently deserted camp came alive as the 196th soldiers reached the north end. The CP group was hit by machinegun fire and both searching platoons received automatic weapons fire.

CPT Ordway was wounded when a bullet creased his forehead above the right eye. Minutes after he got hit, he lost consciousness. Then FSG John Neely was severely wounded in his right hand. The "Chargers" were in the middle of a fierce firefight.

while medics Worked on the captain and first sergeant, CPT Ordway's RTO, SP4 Jessie Harris (Indianapolis), got on the horn and called LTC Robert Wetzel-(Harrisburg, Va.), **4/31 battalion commander**, who was flying close by in his C&C helicopter. Harris requested a medevac for the two wounded leaders, then briefed the lieutenant colonel on the enemy situation.

LTC Wetzel instructed the specialist to move CPT Ordway and Top Neely back to the rear security platoons and have an LZ prepared for the medevac. Harris also was told to move the platoons out of the base camp and to set up a defensive perimeter.

Assuming command with cool efficiency, Harris radioed the platoons and relayed LTC Wetzel's orders. Instructing the forward platoon to mark their positions with smoke grenades, he then coordinated with "Blue **Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav.** for air support.

The helicopters came in with mini-guns and machineguns blazing, and after they hosed down the area expending their ammo, artillery fire was called in.

Meanwhile, a retreating NVA element ran into **Alpha Co.** on the west flank of the camp. Two of the enemy soldiers were killed and the rest of the element were forced back into the base camp.

"We couldn't prepare a good LZ for the medevac because of the steepness of the mountainside and the triple canopy jungle," recalled SP4 Harris.

"It seemed like everything happened just after CPT Ordway was wounded," Harris said. "He got hit in the open. I ran to him and started dragging him to cover when a friend of mine from the 1st Plt. (SP4 Jim 'Homeboy' Williams, Detroit) started running through the exposed area to our front.

(Continued -3)

 The Battle for Nui Chom Mountain

"I kept yelling,'Get back, Homeboy, get back, I got him, but Homeboy kept firing at the fighting position where machinegun fire was coming. He kept their heads down long enough for me to drag the captain to safety. Homeboy was one of the last to pull back.

"He only had eight days to go in the field, and I kept thinking, 'Don't get hit now, Homeboy, not now.' When he finally pulled back to the rear security platoons he had two AK-47 bullets lodged in an M-16 magazine in the bandolier slung over his shoulder. I remember we both smoked about three packs of cigarettes that afternoon."

After several earlier attempts, a medevac helicopter made a landing on the LZ secured by **Delta**, and extracted CPT Ordway and FSG Neely late in the afternoon. That night **Delta** and **Alpha Cos.** set up in night defensive perimeters while batteries of 105mm and 155mm howitzers of the **3rd Bn., 82nd Arty.** hammered at the NVA base camp.

Early the following morning, Nov. 18, **D and A Cos.** moved in again. They met no resistance as they stalked through the camp, finding three AK-47s, two Chicom machine-guns, 20 NVA packs, and five dead enemy soldiers. Much of the captured equipment had been rendered useless by the earlier artillery barrages.

The infantrymen completed the job by destroying 20 hootches, 2 mess halls, and 10 tunnels. The NVA mainforce had withdrawn further into the dense coverage of the mountains during the night.

"Intelligence reports of the past few days confirmed our suspicions that the 21st Regt. of the 2nd NVA Div. was operating in the mountains in and around Nui Chom," said 1LT Barry Kubler (Long Island, N.Y.), the battalion S-2.

On the 19th, Charlie Co., commanded by 1LT Dickie Dixon (N. Liberty, Ind.), moved into the Nui Chom area and linked up with the other three companies. They began a three-pronged advance up Nui Chom Mountain, with **A and D Cos.** on the western flank, **C Co.** in the center, and **B Co.** on the eastern flank.

Delta Co., now commanded by 1LT John Dolan (Syracuse, N.Y.), once again made contact as they sprang an NVA ambush. The enemy was well entrenched in camouflaged fighting positions and sunken bunkers 10 to 15 meters off the main trail. The bullet-spitting fortifications had bamboo covers camouflaged with dirt and foliage.

The **Delta** pointman was wounded during the initial contact, which was to last four hours before the enemy was routed from their bunkers. A **"Polar Bear"** machinegun team moved up to the front when the action started and put heavy suppressive fire on an enemy .30 caliber machinegun position. While the **4/31** gunner popped off 100-round belts of ammo, **Delta** riflemen maneuvered in close to the .30 cal. and silenced it with grenades and M-16 fire.

"We more or less leap-frogged up the trail knocking out the enemy bunkers as we went, "states SSG Phillip Madlin (Joseph, Ore.), **1st Plt.** sergeant.

"One of our biggest problems," he continued, "and one that really slowed us up, was that the enemy bunkers were always above us. They were about three-fourths below ground, and when you first looked at them they looked like an ordinary rise in the ground. Our pointmen usually couldn't spot them until they were fired upon."

Monsoon clouds moved in, and the peaks of the mountains were shrouded in gray mist. A light rain began to fall, which together with the ground fog, severely limited visibility. Supporting "**Blue Ghost**" Gunships, which had flown into Hiep Duc Valley to support the **4/31st infantrymen** on the

(Continued -4)

 The Battle for Nui Chom Mountain

mountain, were forced to abort their mission and return to their base.

That afternoon, **Alpha Co.** spotted a small complex of bunkers used by the NVA as an observation post. As the company slowly moved up the trail to the OP position, the bunkered NVA opened up with automatic weapons and machinegun fire killing two pointmen and pinning down the lead squad.

Alpha's advance was stopped. Enemy fire hit all around the lead squad, a nineteen year old rifleman, PFC Mike Crescenz (Philadelphia), who was in the middle of the **2nd Plt.**, seized the nearest. machinegun and charged uphill toward the enemy bunkers.

Enemy fire sprayed around him as he assaulted their positions. He ran toward the first bunker firing continuously, in the front gun port, killing two NVA and silencing their .30 cal. machinegun. He assaulted the second bunker, entered it from the rear, and killed two more NVA.

At this point, Crescenz was under fire from the remaining NVA positions, but, he continued up the hill firing his M-60 machinegun. His advance was slowed when an enemy bullet ripped through his right thigh, but he continued on and knocked out the third enemy bunker, killing two more enemy.

The way was thought clear for **A Co.**, but automatic weapons fire opened up from an unseen enemy fortification. Crescenz quickly realized the danger to his buddies and, with his machinegun under his arm, attacked a fourth enemy position. Before he could silence the NVA, the courageous GI was hit again by machinegun fire five meters from the bunker and mortally wounded. A little later, the 3rd Plt. of Alpha moved into the bunker complex and knocked out the few remaining enemy positions.

PFC Crescenz had killed six NVA and saved the lives of many of the men in his company at the cost of his life.

On the following morning, Nov. 20, the downpour stopped and the visibility was relatively good, although the ground was wet and slippery from the heavy rains. A Helix aerial observer spotted company-sized NVA elements on the summit of the mountain, which near the top became much steeper.

"Parts of the mountain were so steep and rocky that we hid to crawl hand over hand, sometimes taking more than an hour to move 100 meters, "SGT Bob Jackson (Los Angeles) recalled.

The three advancing companies continued to meet strong enemy resistance. Each strategically-placed NVA machinegun position took several hours to clean out before the companies could continue their climb.

At one point, the **2nd Plt. of A Co.** had just started up a ridgeline when automatic weapons and machinegun fire stopped them, wounding two men in the lead squad. The platoon leader, 1LT Stephan Rice (Ames, Iowa), moved up to the front and directed fire on the enemy, then administered first aid to the two wounded men until a medic arrived.

The bullets were coming from a bunker and trenchline 50 meters up the trail. 1LT Rice maneuvered his platoon to the right flank and closed on the trenchline firing M-16s and M-79s. Three NVA were killed in the charge and two more were added when two platoon members were able to get close enough to throw grenades into the bunker.

SGT John "Mac" McFarland (Los Angeles), who along with his weapons squad provided machinegun cover fire for the maneuvering platoon, remembers, "We ran into a lot of .30 calibers during that week, and they were really bringing smoke on us. The NVA always had an advantage over us because we had to climb

(Continued -5)

 The Battle for Nui Chom Mountain

up those trails where he was waiting in good fighting positions firing down at us."

On Nov. 21, the lead platoon of **Charlie Co.** came into contact with an enemy force in a complex of bunkers that seemed to be part of a perimeter. As Alpha and Bravo advanced they too came in contact with enemy forces securing perimeter bunkers and fighting positions. It signaled the beginning of the final two days of the heavy fighting on Nui Chom Mountain.

C Co. called in **"Blue Ghost"** gunships to rake fire over the area, followed by tactical jet air strikes. The fighter-bombers dropped 500- and 750-pound bombs on the top and north side of the mountain to thwart any attempt by the NVA to move in reinforcements and to cripple an enemy retreat.

A platoon from **Alpha Co.** on the 22nd had penetrated the bunker complex in their area, and were advancing when machinegun and automatic weapons fire caught them by surprise. Squad Leader SGT James Larrick (Alexandria, Va.) and the pointman were wounded. Larrick, hit five times, crawled into one of the enemy bunkers his squad had knocked out a short time before, while one of his men dragged the wounded pointman to safety.

SP4 John Shields (San Francisco) went back for his wounded squad leader, and had him half way out of the bunker when a burst of automatic weapons fire caught him in the back. Shields managed to crawl back to his squad.

Two more men tried to reach Larrick, but were stopped by heavy fire. The sergeant yelled at them to pull back and leave him where he was before someone else got wounded or killed. Reluctantly, his squad withdrew, leaving the bleeding sergeant in the bunker.

Alpha tried again to take the bunkers, but again they were checked. It started to rain and was getting dark, so **A Co.** pulled back down the ridge to set up a night defensive position. **Bravo Co.** also met strong resistance that day on their way up a ridgeline, and as darkness fell, the NVA still held Nui Chom.

All during the night, batteries of 105mm and 155mm howitzers pounded the peak of the mountain strong-hold. As dawn broke on Nov. 23, the seventh day of contact began.

The NVA forces had been seriously weakened the day before, and the artillery barrages during the night had found their mark. Many destroyed enemy fortifications were to be found throughout the day.

Alpha, Bravo, and **Charlie Cos.** began their siege again, but this time they met light resistance as they penetrated the perimeter bunker complexes and moved into the main NVA base camp. Then what some men described as a miracle happened. As **Alpha Co.** moved into the bunker complex where the soldiers had fought so hard the previous day, they found SGT Larrick still alive. He was in the same bunker into which he had crawled the day before.

Everyone excitedly passed the word along- "He's alive! Larrick's alive!".

Though seriously wounded, the sergeant was conscious and could talk. He had lain in the bunker with two dead NVA through the night without food, water, or a weapon. Leeches and maggots had infested his wounds, but they were credited with stopping the spread of infection. During the night two enemy soldiers entered the bunker and searched his pockets, but believing the GI was dead, left shortly thereafter.

A medic made a litter and two men helped carry SGT Larrick to the LZ. As he lay there waiting for the medevac to arrive, one of his buddies, SGT

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 The Battle for Nui Chom Mountain

Allen Shermers (Duluth, Minn.), went over to him.

"I got one of my canteens, offered him some water, and asked him how he was doing. I held the canteen and gave him just a sip, because I wasn't sure if he should have any water. When I took the canteen from his mouth, he looked up with a grin and said, 'Hell, don't be bashful. I haven't had anything to drink for a day and a half!' Everyone standing around knew he was going to be all right then," Shermers said.

The three companies advanced into the base camp, while pushing back two companies of NVA in the open as they moved. **Charlie Co**. captured a large, well-supplied NVA hospital, plus an NVA doctor and two female nurses trying to escape. The doctor, who had received orders from his high command to leave everything behind and move north, mentioned he had treated more than 60 wounded NVA during the past week.

Charlie Co. Senior Aidman SP5 Tony LaPalio (Huntington Beach, Calif.) described what the NVA hospital looked like:

"It was about 50 by 50 feet, with a storage tunnel connected to it. It was made mostly of bamboo, but had a green canvas over the roof. Inside there was an operating room and table, a well-stocked pharmacy, and an area for sterilizing surgical equipment.

"We found more than 30 different kinds of medicines ranging from morphine to penicillin, four complete sets of surgical equipment, and dozens of medical texts and journals, some written in Chinese and others in Vietnamese.

"The NVA doctor told us he was resupplied every five days. There were many bloody bandages and pieces of torn clothing laying about, so they must. have treated a lot of wounded. They had more than 50 bamboo hootches nearby, each with two beds, and there were about 120 fighting bunkers encircling the hospital."

Alpha Co. had found a command post and headquarters a few hundred meters west of the hospital. "The command post hunker was about 50 by 50 feet, and was completely under-ground," explained CPT Braswell.

"We found numerous papers and documents in their high command post, plus a telephone switchboard and a small motor, which was probably used as a generator," the **A Co. CO** continued. "There was commo wire running all over the mountain, and each of the more than 200 bunkers were connected."

By 10 a.m. on Nov. 23, the 4th Bn., 31st Inf. had control of Nui Chom.

The 196th unit had killed 66 NVA and captured 3 prisoners, 3 .30 cal. machineguns, 4 Chicom RPD light machineguns, 25 AK-47s, 2 82mm mortars, 10 B-40 rockets, and 550 rounds of .50 caliber ammo. Four small ammunition caches were un-covered, and more than 40 fresh graves were found. The hard fighting had cost the "**Polar Bears**" four dead and 33 casualties.

Like an earlier generation of Americal soldiers cannot forget places like Guadalcanal, this group of proud division infantrymen will long re-member Nui Chom Mountain.

May 1969: Americal Magazine

A M E R I C A L L O G

A QUARTERLY RECAP OF MAJOR ACTION

After almost three months of sporadic contact with enemy forces in southern I Corps, Americal Troops met head-on the enemy's newest offensive and routed NVA and VC battalion-sized units in major action in late February.

As the quarter ended, the enemy offensive was in its sixth day, but reports of contact with enemy troops had subsided after the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. scored impressive victories in defense of Tam Ky and, patrolling throughout southern I Corps, turned up enemy launch sites.

Three major division operations - Vernon Lake II, Fayette Canyon, and Hardin Falls-were concluded Feb. 28. From Jan. 13 to Feb. 9, Operation Russell Beach threw two Americal battalions, plus Marine, Navy, and ARVN forces against the VC stronghold on the Batangan Peninsula.

DECEMBER

Action on Dec. 3 accounted for 44 VC and six NVA killed, one VC body found, and more than five tons of rice captured. **F Trp., 8th Cav**. killed 15 VC in two contacts.

Americal units combined to kill 41 VC and two NVA on Dec. 6, and captured five individual weapons. That day the 198th Inf. Bde.'s **1/52 Inf.** accounted for 16 VC and two NVA, plus two weapons captured near Tien Phuoc.

In mid-December, BG Wallace L. Clement assumed the position of Assistant Division Commander.

Americal soldiers combined to kill 55 VC and capture two individual weapons on Dec. 13. **Co. A, 3/21,** 196th Bde. killed 20 VC in a three-hour period 16 miles northwest of Tam Ky. In the same area, **"Blue Ghosts"** of **F Trp., 8th Cav**. killed another nine VC.

During the last half of the month, another 391 VC and 200 NVA were killed, with an added 29 VC and 70 NVA bodies found, at least 118 weapons captured, and more than 12 tons of rice captured or destroyed.

On Dec. 18, Americal forces accounted for 72 NVA and 29 VC killed, six individual and two crew-served weapons captured. Most of the action took place in the Hoi An and Tam Ky areas.

The 196th's **Cos. A, B, and C, 2/1,** aided by air strikes, artillery, and helicopter gunships, accounted for 66 of the NVA killed that day.

Within 24 hours, the same 196th units killed another 42 NVA during contact with a large force near Hoi An.

The 198th Bde. killed 21 VC in scattered action throughout their area of operations on Dec. 21. The same day, 11th Inf. Bde. troops reported one NVA and 15 VC killed, the bodies of 17 VC and one NVA discovered, and 56 VC suspects detained during heavy fighting in southern Quang Ngai Province.

On Dec. 24, Bob Hope and his troupe arrived at Chu Lai and entertained an estimated 18,000 Americal soldiers, Marines, Seabees, and sailors at the Chu Lai Amphitheater.

FEBRUARY

Prior to the post-TET Offensive at the end of the month, action rarely fluctuated from day-to-day with few large contacts reported.

The 198th Bde.'s **1/52** uncovered 52 individual weapons on Feb. 9 in a VC classroom area 12 1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky. Task Force Cooksey and Marine elements began to leave the Batangan Peninsula concluding the combat phase of Operation Russell Beach.

On Feb. 11, **3/18 and 6/11 Arty.** units killed 18 enemy when an 11th Bde. OP

(Continued -1)

spotted 60 armed VC in the open, 11 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai City.

Early in the month, two soldiers from the 11th Bde. and one from the 198th Bde. received the nation's second highest award, the Distinguished Service Cross, from the commander of the U.S. Army Vietnam, GEN Creighton W. Abrams.

After a lull during TET, more than 40 Allied positions in southern I Corps on Feb. 23 were attacked by enemy elements using rockets, mortars, recoilless rifles, small arms, and occasional ground probes.

Led by the **1st Sqdn., 1st Cav.** and **"Shark"** gunships of the **174th Aslt. Hel. Co.,** Americal forces rebounded sharply to kill 159 VC and 10 NVA and captured 32 weapons.

The **"Dragoons,"** aided by gunships of **F Trp., 8th Cav.**, killed seven NVA and 77 VC in fierce fighting in the Pineapple Forest west of Tam Ky. "Shark" gunships killed 23 VC moving on the Duc Pho airstrip and netted 27 more at a rocket launch site six miles northeast of Duc Pho.

After a one-day gap of mild action, the third platoon of B Trp. and all of **C Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav.** caught an estimated NVA battalion entrenched on a hill five miles south of Tam Ky and killed 167 in a six-hour battle. On the same day, gunships of the **123rd Avn. Bn.** netted 12 VC in support of an ARVN element 1 1/2 miles southwest of Quang Ngai City.

On February 28, Operations Vernon Lake II, Fayette Canyon, and Hardin Falls ended. The three campaigns combined for a total of 860 enemy kills, as compared to 26 American casualties.

Operation Vernon Lake II began Nov. 2 last year and involved the **3/1 and 4/21,** 11th Bde. Aimed at pushing the 3rd NVA Div. out of a long held bastion southwest of Quang Ngai City, the operation accounted for 455 enemy kills during its 119 days.

Launched Dec. 2 last year, the goal of Operation Hardin Falls was to clear out and pacify six hamlets in the Thang Binh District that had been under VC control for more than four years.

Hardin Falls involved the **1st Sqdn., 1st Cav.; A Co., 1/46th,** 196th Bde.; and **D Co., 26th Engr. Bn.** Besides accounting for 78 enemy killed and 17 enemy suspects detained, the operation also attracted two Hoi Chanhs.

Operation Fayette Canyon was underway Dec. 15 last year after intelligence reports indicated an estimated 1,000 NVA were securing a hospital complex and supply depot atop Hill 953, 25 miles northwest of Tam Ky. The campaign was composed of the **2/1 and 4/31,** 196th Bde. and **1/46,** 198th Bde., and netted 327 enemy dead and 70 weapons, 14 crew-served.

The "Legionnaires" of the **2/1** saw the heaviest action, netting 101 enemy kills against only one friendly casualty.

Americal Division Magazine - July, 1969
AMERICAL LOG A QUARTERLY RECAP OF MAJOR ACTION

Combat action followed a cyclic pattern in March, April, and May, a period which debuted on the seventh day of the enemy's post-TET offensive and was characterized by standoff rocket and mortar attacks of brief duration and several abortive attempts at ground probes of Americal installations.

The offensive dragged into mid-March and, despite increased casualties, Americal forces beat back every enemy attack and lost no ground while scoring an over-whelming kill ratio against NVA and VC units.

April brought two weeks of relative quiet before another barrage of standoff attacks. May followed the same pattern with increased activity throughout the last half of the month.

Three division operational zones were enlarged in March and brigades began operating with ARVN units.

By SP5 BILL ELSEN

MARCH

The first and last weeks of March were characterized by moderate action while mid-month brought renewed standoff and ground attacks on Americal positions and Vietnamese population centers.

By March 6, **A Co., 1/46**, 196th Bde. had killed 36 VC in seven days and **F Trp., 17th Cav.**, working with Popular Force platoons near the **1/46** northwest of Tam Ky, had begun a remarkable four-day series of rice discoveries.

On March 6, F Trp. killed five VC in three incidents and found 7-1/4 tons of rice 16 miles northwest of Tam Ky. Almost four tons were found in false graves, false hut floors, and buried crocks and baskets.

A day later, F Trp. turned up 12- 1/2 tons of rice five miles nearer Tam Ky, and a Regional Force element discovered 18-1/2 tons nearby.

In the same spot on March 8, **F Trp**. located 20 tons buried in crocks and, on March 9, the troopers collected 6-1/2 tons hidden in hedgerows and huts 10 miles from Tam Ky.

On the battlefield, a sapper attack was smashed at LZ Ross, and NVA regulars were stymied in several places. Four miles west of Duc Pho, **C Co., 4/21**, 11th Bde. killed 15 NVA and captured two RPG launchers and a Chicom machinegun in a one-day firefight.

Two days later, northwest of Tam Ky near the original rice find, A Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav., killed 14 VC and blasted 43 bunkers. Southwest of Tam Ky, **B Co., 3/21**, 196th Bde. found 12 NVA killed by air strikes near 20 bunkers connected by small tunnels.

In mid-March, television come to Chu Lai on the Armed Forces Vietnam Network's Channel 13; **"Aero Scout"** gunships of the 123d Avn. Bn. teamed with radar units and a **1/6 Inf**. ground observer to pin-point and destroy rocket launch sites near Chu Lai shortly after an attack; a Ranger team of G Co., 75th Inf. killed five NVA on a whirlwind mission lasting 17 minutes from insertion to extraction; and the 3/16 Arty., firing day and night helped repel a furious NVA assault on the Tien Phuoc Special Forces camp.

March 15-22 brought the month's heaviest action as 224 NVA and 119 VC were killed in a six day period. Three miles north of Duc Pho, **C Co., 3/1, 11th Bde.** took on an unknown-size enemy force and was soon joined by sister companies **A and B; D co., 1/20**, 11th Bde.; E Trp., 1st Cav.; and the 6/11 Arty.

A day-long battle near Highway 1 left 33 NVA dead and led to capture of 14 weapons, including an RPG launcher and two machineguns.

The next day, the full story of the Tien Phuoc attacks was revealed when A Co., 3/21, 196th Bde found bodies of 152 NVA in graves 10-1/2 - 11 miles

(Continued -1)

southwest of Tam Ky and Americal's Vietnam kill total passed the 26,000 mark.

On the same day, **C Co., 4/3,** 11th Bde. found graves of 15 VC nine miles northwest of Quang Ngai, and **B Trp., 1/1,** killed three NVA and four VC before destroying five tons of rice 5-1/2 miles west of Tam Ky.

The third week and fourth weekend in March brought renewed standoff and ground attacks. LZ Bronco, 11th Bde. headquarters, was shelled seven times in 72 hours, and the rocket count rose at Americal headquarters.

In the field, 32 NVA were killed March 19, a day on which more than 50 incidents of enemy activity were reported overnight. Eight NVA sappers died, and one was captured at LZ West as the 4/31 Inf. ruined 10 hours of NVA planning for the attack.

The 5/46 Inf. and two Regular Force units stayed to secure the area as the 26th Engr. Bn. rebuilt damaged structures and added new ones.

APRIL

A relatively quiet month, April saw the daily body count fluctuate very rarely as enemy units retreated to mountainous cover and only occasionally ventured out to start trouble. Fewer NVA were killed during April than had died in one week of action March 16-22.

D Co., 4/31, 196th Bde. keynoted April action with a large ammo find. Included were 22,500 AK-47 rounds; 100 82mm rounds; nine 60mm rounds; and three B-40 rounds. All was concealed in an open pit full of heavy underbrush.

One April 2, **D Co., 1/52,** 198th Bde. extracted 20 tons of rice from roofs of 63 of 87 bunkers destroyed 16 miles northwest of Tam Ky in **F Trp.'s** rice-hunting grounds.

On the same day, **C Trp., 1/1,** opened the second in a series of skirmishes with VC on Barrier Island 12 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky. Working with a PF platoon, C Trp. engaged a large VC force dug into dikes and sand dunes and fought eight hours to kill 16. Ten VC died there a day earlier.

In five days beginning April 11, 1/1 units and **"Blue Ghost"** gunships of **F Trp., 8th Cav**. killed 10 NVA and 47 VC on Barrier Island. **F Trp**. killed 28 VC that week.

On April 12, **C Co., 4/21,** 11th Bde., working 14 miles north-northwest of Duc Pho, located a well-camouflaged hut containing 26 poorly-concealed weapons, including 23 rifles of French, Chinese, and American make, two U.S. carbines, and an M-60 machinegun.

Five days later and 6-1/2 miles west of Duc Pho, C Co., 3/1, 11th Bde. killed six NVA and took two .50-cal machineguns mounted on tripods in secured positions.

As Americal began its third year of operations in southern I Corps April 20, action remained sporadic. **"Blue Ghost" gunships** accounted for 30 of 37 VC killed in the 1/1 area between April 19-23, and the recon unit of **4/21,** 11th Bde. found 18 NVA killed by air strikes 10-1/2 miles north-northwest of Duc Pho April 19.

Two days later, **D Co., 2/1,** 196th Bde. found almost 14 tons of rice buried near a river 19 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

F Trp. struck again a week later and accounted for 50 of 77 VC killed in the 1/1 area between April 26 and May 2. On April 28, **F Trp**. killed 17 VC 15-1/2 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky, and "Shark" gunships of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. killed nine VC two miles southeast of Duc Pho.

Americal Division Magazine - January, 1970

A M E R I C A L L O G

A QUARTERLY RECAP OF MAJOR ACTION

Combat action during the three month period of September, October, and November was characterized by small unit contacts scattered throughout southern I Corps.

Americal troops killed more than 1,049 enemy soldiers, 565 of whom were NVA; captured 104 weapons; and destroyed or evacuated more than 74 tons of rice.

September saw the fighting switch from Hiep Duc Valley to the "Rice Bowl," six miles south of Duc Pho. Also in September was the heaviest fighting as NVA sappers tried to overrun LZ Siberia in a vicious fight that resulted in the defenders throwing back the assault and inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy.

October and November were "quiet" months in southern I Corps as the "lull" and extreme monsoon rains hampered allied activity. The heaviest fighting of the two months centered around Tam Ky and Duc Pho where Americal troopers struck devastating blows not only to the enemy himself but to his food staple-rice. Americal troops captured more than 60 tons of rice in those two months.

By SP4 HARRY BAUMANN

SEPTEMBER – Omitted ....

OCTOBER

The "lull" in fighting continued to hover over southern I Corps in October as monsoon rains, totaling 50 inches, put a damper on maneuverability and curtailed the war activity.

Action was extremely light during the first week of October with the only fighting being waged around Tam Ky and Duc Pho.

D Co., 1-46 Inf., working just to the west of Tam Ky, made contact with enemy forces nearly everyday of the first week killing four VC and four NVA soldiers.

While supporting infantrymen of the **4-3 Inf.**, artillerymen picked up the action by killing 13 enemy soldiers in action 13 miles west of Duc Pho.

Although monsoon rains hampered the allied aground effort, aviation units of the Americal in action on October 11 accounted for 14 enemy killed.

In two separate actions that day, "Aero Scouts" of the 123rd Avn. Bn., spotted an estimated platoon of NVA in an area 10 miles west of Duc Pho. The rocket and minigun barrage the followed left four enemy soldiers dead. Later in the day gunships of **F Trp., 8th Cav.** encountered a group of six VC, 11 miles northwest of Tam Ky. The **"Blue Ghosts"** filled the sky with fire as six enemy soldiers were no longer.

The following day, Americal units recorded the heaviest fighting of the month with 30 enemy soldiers killed in scattered action throughout the division's area of operations.

The remaining days of the month went out as October had started with small contacts concentrated around Duc Pho and Tam Ky as inclement weather once again handcuffed the allied forces.

Americal Division Magazine - January, 1970

For the first two days field troops of the Americal's 196th Inf. Bde. stood alone against two powerful North Vietnamese regiments. The troops were committed to defend the Vietnamese refugees at all costs. This is the story of the twelve-day battle fought by elements of the 196th Inf. Bde.....

I N D E F E N S E O F H I E P D U C

August can be a searing hell for the infantrymen operating in the Que Son Valley. Located in Vietnam's Central Highlands some thirty miles south of Da Nang, the valley floor is encircled by numerous peaks which all but cut off any circulation of the muggy, semi-tropical air. Triple canopy jungle gives way to wide expanses of lush rice paddies which allude to the region's agricultural potential. Narrow woodlines border many of the paddies, and small, green knolls dot the region. Summer temperatures often soar above 105 degrees atop surrounding mountain peaks. In the broad valley below, the temperatures average 20 degrees more, and any hint of a breeze all but disappears.

Nui Liet Kien looms high above the Que Son Valley. Its steep slopes seem preclude any notion of climbing to the top. Known to troops of the 196th Inf. Bde. as Hill 445, or **LZ West**, the summit is called the "Mountain of the Black Leeches" by the local Vietnamese populace. The steep slopes are far from being insurmountable, however. Daily patrols from 4-31 venture down to the valley. The infantry dread the eventual "hump" back up, but there is little choice.

For the North Vietnamese Army (NVA) soldiers operating in the area, there is an alternative; but they too make periodic jaunts to the summit. Their mission is one of death and destruction as they come with wicker baskets full of explosive charges and Chicom grenades tied to their charcoal-blackened bodies. AK-47 assault rifles and rocket launchers round out their lethal arsenal.

For the men of D Co., 4-31, the afternoon of August 17 was enough to give the average infantryman a good "case.?" It was hot and there wasn't enough water. There is never enough water for an infantry trooper in August! Jungle fatigues were drenched with perspiration, and arms and hands cut by the razor-sharp elephant grass smarted under the salty paste of grime and sweat.

D Co. moved spiritlessly from LZ West through the triple layer of jungle growth. The company had recently lost their popular CO, CPT Norman Mekkelson (Miami Shores, Fla.), in an encounter with the NVA in a nearby "Happy" Valley. The soft-spoken West Point graduate had suffered a knee wound and was now recovering in a hospital in Japan. If you asked a rifleman or grenadier in D Co. how he felt about CPT Mekkelson, he would probably answer, "He was a squared-away guy," or "he was definitely an uptight CO."

A company commander wasn't all the company had given up in "Happy" Valley. **D Co.** had lost its first man in combat in over nine months. It was with justified apprehension that **D Co.** moved through the thick foliage south of LZ West. That fire-support base had been hit by a pre-dawn NVA sapper attack only a few days before. Fifty-nine enemy were killed, and a sizable NVA force was thought to be lingering in the area.

As the unmerciful sun dropped behind the mountains to the west, **D Co.** looked forward to "setting up" for the night. Maybe there would even be a small "blueline" where an exhausted infantry soldier could relieve his parched throat. Suddenly, the stillness of the jungle was shattered by the

(Continued -1)

(Continued -1) In Defense of Hiep Duc

cacophony of small arms fire. The firing died away as quickly as it had begun.

The point element spotted NVA soldiers. Shots rang out. The small group of enemy scattered quickly leaving one dead. A couple of men moved up cautiously to search the area. As they did, the woodline ahead erupted with .30 caliber, AK-47 and .51 caliber fire. Automatic weapons fire rained in on D Co. Troops clawed the ground trying to become invisible in the face of the barrage.

The company did not yet realize it, but they had aroused a battalion of the **3rd Regt., 2nd NVA Div.** The remainder of the regiment was stretched throughout the valley to the south. For the next few days, **D Co.,** as well as other 196th Inf. Bde. units, would be fighting for their lives in a battle which would make headlines around the world.

Several miles north of **C Co.'s** besieged position , **B Co., 4-31** moved through the dawn mist toward the base of Hill 381, the reported location of a large enemy rice cache. As the company neared the suspected location, they dropped their "heavies (rucksacks) and left a reinforce platoon to secure the equipment as well as the LZ which would be needed for the resupply chopper later in the day. The remainder of the company moved out toward the objective.

Seven men were securing the LZ, which was off to one side-away from the equipment. SP4 Henry Tafoya (Del Norte, Colo.) was one of these seven men. Tafoya described what took place in the few minutes after the company had moved out.

"We made hooches out of bamboo poles and ponchos. We had to something to get out of the sun. It was unbearable! Suddenly, I noticed that what I had thought were five small trees growing outside the perimeter were moving towards us!"

Tafoya was hit with the shocking realization that enemy soldiers, expertly camouflaged, were moving into position just outside of their defensive perimeter. It was at that instant that Chicom grenades and RPGs "rained in" on the seven infantrymen. "One RPG roared at me," reported Tafoya. "It hit my poncho, and set it on fire--then it kept going and exploded nearby!"

"We heard the explosions from the LZ," said SP4 Rickie Jay (Athens, Tex.), who was with the men guarding the equipment. "Just about the same time, we started taking incoming mortar rounds."

The call crackled over the "squawkbox" on CPT William Gayler's PRC-25 radio: "They're getting hit back at the LZ!" CPT Gayler, a native of Mineral Wells, Texas, turned his men around and hastened to aid the stricken platoon.

It took some time for the significance of the contacts with the enemy experienced by **B and D Companies** to become apparent. **D Co.** was battling the 3rd NVA Regt. to the south of LZ West. The enemy regiment was actually spread out a great deal to the south from the point of initial contact. NVA bunker complexes were found as far south as Nui Lon and Hill 102 in an area which was being patrolled by the **3rd Bn., 21st Inf.**

B Co. had encountered the 1st Main Force Regt. northeast of Hill 118 which is located northwest of LZ West. Situated near Hill 118 is the refugee settlement of Hiep Duc. Here, over 4,000 Vietnamese civilians make their homes under the watchful eyes of **4-31** soldiers.

The NVA had been boasting openly that they would "wipe out" Hiep Duc by early September. Communist propaganda agents armed with portable loudspeakers made numerous appearances in Hiep Duc during the summer months.

(Continued -2)

(Continued -2) In Defense of Hiep Duc

They informed the people that the Government of Vietnam and the United States troops would not be able to provide adequate protection in the event of an attack. As September approached, over 4,000 NVA troops massed in the area to make good their threats.

The 3rd NVA Regt. was positioned to strike two 196th Bde. bases: LZs Center and West. Both of these installations would provide artillery support in the event of an attack on Hiep Duc. Secondary missions of the 1st Main Force Regt. would attack LZ Siberia which could render direct fire support to nearby Hiep Duc refugee center. Another mission was to block any reinforcements that might attempt to reach Hiep Duc by way of Hwy. 534 which links the refugee center with LZ Ross.

"We definitely disrupted the NVA plan to attack Hiep Duc and the surrounding firebases," said LTC Cecil M. Henry (Rome, Ga.), the CO of 4-31. "The first two days were the worst because we were one battalion against two NVA regiments!"

By the third day, companies form the three other infantry battalions in the 196th Bde: **3rd Bn., 21st Inf; 2nd Bn., 1st Inf; 1st Bn., 46th Inf.** had been airlifted to Hiep Duc Valley to bolster American manpower. These reinforcements circulated from one end of the Hiep Duc-Que Son contact area to the other.

B Co., 4-31 remained pinned down in the vicinity of Hill 118. Enemy mortars and small arms fire immobilized the infantrymen. A platoon from **C Co., 4-31** under the command of 1LT James Simms (Clarendon Hills, Ill.) was dispatched to aid B Co. "Blue Ghost" gunships of **F Trp., 8th Cav.**, helped to prevent the NVA from over-running the company's position.

As darkness fell, 1LT Simms was maneuvering his platoon to assist B Co. "Shell casings from the gunships overhead streamed down on us," said the lieutenant. As the element advanced toward an enemy position which had been hard hit by airstrikes and gunships, they moved up what they thought to be a dew-soaked slope. The gunships made another pass, and we had to hit the dirt," explained 1LT Simms. "It was then that we found out the ground was soaked with blood-not dew!"

B Co. attempted to pull back to reach their night defensive position, but they were being pounded by enemy mortars. PFC Marion Feaster (Deland, Fla.) took cover instinctively in the tall grass of a nearby stream bed. Exhausted from hours of continuous fighting, Feaster dozed momentarily.

Suddenly, he was conscious of an NVA soldier crouching in the tall grass near him. The mortar fire subsided, and the company began to move out. Feaster lay motionless expecting the NVA soldier to fire at the withdrawing troops. Feaster was powerless to intervene because he had dropped his rifle off to the side in his haste to take cover. The NVA soldier brandished an AK-47 rifle, but he made no attempt to fire on Feaster's comrades. He remained motionless until the Americans had gone, and then moved away into the night.

Feaster was alone in enemy territory armed only with two hand grenades he carried on his belt. Someone had found his M-16 and carried it off, thinking it belonged to a wounded man. Feaster made his way along the stream bed in order to remain hidden. Several times he heard NVA soldiers talking on the banks above him. Where the water was deep, Feaster swam beneath the surface to avoid detection.

Finally, he was forced to abandon the stream in order to rejoin his company whose position he suspected to be in another direction. He made his way cautiously down a narrow path. Suddenly, the stillness was pierced by

(Continued -3)

the cracking of AK-47 fire.

Feaster had walked through the middle of an NVA ambush! Thinking that he was a pointman for an American element, the NVA had let Feaster go through in the hope of catching a large force. Realizing their mistake, the NVA opened fire, but Feaster sped away into the night.

Dawn saw Feaster entering the **B Co.** defensive position amid the crackle of enemy sniper fire. The startled Americans "thought sure the NVA were attacking" when they heard the NVA firing at Feaster.

The NVA were fighting more aggressively and were much better supplied than they had been in recent months. In most cases, the enemy was well-entrenched in bunkers and camouflaged fighting positions. "The NVA seemed to have little interest in conserving ammunition," commented one company commander. Intelligence reported that there was a sizeable NVA force massed in the general vicinity of LZ West.

On the morning of August 19, a UH-1D "Huey" helicopter was shot down over Hill 102 inside NVA-occupied territory, by enemy anti-aircraft fire. Aboard were eight men - among them LTC Eli Howard (Woodbridge, Va.), commanding officer of the **3rd Bn., 21st Inf.** Also aboard was Oliver "Ollie" Noonan (Norwell, Mass.), an Associated Press photographer. All eight men died when the torn chopper exploded in flames as it fell.

The push to recover the bodies of the victims of the "Huey" tragedy sparked one of the bitterest engagements of the turgid confrontation. For almost a week the men of LTC Howard's **3rd Bn., 21st Inf.** strove against unrelenting NVA fire to reach the crash site on Hill 102.

"It was hell out there," remarked PFC Barry Daniels (McCordsville, Ind.), a rifleman with **C Co., 3-21.** "The NVA were all over the place with weapons and packs. We couldn't move 100 meters without being attacked." So it went for one long week, the men of **3-21** pushed and pushed.

On Sunday, August 24, men of B Co., 3-21 who were accompanied by their new battalion commander LTC Robert C. Bacon (Falls Church, Va.) fought their way back into the tangled crash site. Hill 102 was won.

Earlier in the week, the decision was made to divide the operational control of the 196th Inf. Bde. troops between LZ West (**4-31**) for the northern sector and LZ Center (**3-21**) for the southern sector.

Task Force **4-31** battled the 1st Main Force Regt. near Hill 118 while Task Force **3-21** closed in on the enemy massed south of LZ West. In addition, elements of the 7th Regt., 1st Marine Div. were air-lifted to the vicinity of LZ West and began to drive toward the enemy from the east.

South of LZ West, **A Co., 4-31,** commanded by CPT James Mantell (Columbus, Ga.), had relieved battered **D Co.** Joined by supporting troops from Task Force 3-21, A Co. moved stubbornly forward, knocking out the enemy positions which had taken their toll on **D Co.** As the fighting progressed, Task Force **3-21** ferreted out the enemy bunkers and destroyed them, forcing the enemy to withdraw to the mountains in the west.

The infantry units received immense fire support from batteries of the **3rd Bn., 82nd Arty.,** situated on LZ's Center, West, Siberia, and Baldy. Throughout the action, infantry units came to depend heavily on concentrated artillery support which proved so accurate in helping to stop the on-rushing enemy.

"We tried to get out the first round as quickly as possible," said PFC Jim Weisbecker (Ventnor, N.J.), section chief at B Btry., LZ Center. "When you know that one of your buddies is out there fighting for you and your first

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round may save his life, you don't waste any time."

Thousands of artillery rounds pounded the NVA bunker complexes during those last days of August. Scores of tactical airstrikes echoed through the Hiep Duc and Que Son Valleys. Countless times, 196th Bde. infantrymen pushed forward against pockets of fierce enemy resistance. The Marine advance from the east placed an increased strain on the NVA forces. Slowly, the enemy began to withdraw to the north toward the rugged Nui Chom ridgeline. The American units pursued determinedly. By August 29, the major sources of enemy resistance in the Hiep Duc vicinity had been irreparably crushed.

Hiep Duc had been spared! No casualties or significant damage had been reported from the refugee center. The 196th Inf. Bde. had preserved Hiep Duc and cost the enemy over 1,000 dead.

Americal Division Magazine - January, 1970

16th CAG Metal Angels Of Hope & Mercy By SP4 CRAIG COUTURE

16th Cbt. Avn Grp.

Nineteen Hueys cast dark silhouettes against the lava-red South China Sea. The early morning sky was blazed scarlet and clouds formed delicate designs that a carefree mind could mold into anything it fancied. But to a number of men of Americal's 16th Combat Aviation Group (CAG) the significance of their mission left little time for such pleasant diversions.

On this particular morning, 500 infantrymen had to be lifted into an area where the Viet Cong were suspected of hiding. The operation was a fairly large one; there would be two assaults. The first involved carrying over 200 men of the **1st Bn., 6th Inf.**, 198th Inf. Bde. into a valley 15 miles west of Chu Lai. The second was an assault involving more than 300 men from the **1st Bn., 6th Regt., 2nd ARVN Div.** into the same general area.

Gunships approached the LZ first, firing their rockets and miniguns at any suspicious areas. The command and control ship dropped down and marked the LZ with smoke grenades. The smoke ship, affectionately called "Smokey" followed and circled the area with a protective ring of heavy smoke to conceal the approaching troop-carrying "slicks."

Despite small arms fire that kept bursting from the bushes of the surrounding hillsides, both assaults flown by the **176th Avn. Co.** were successful in bringing Americal and ARVN soldiers to the enemy's doorstep.

Providing such air mobility and direct air support for the Americal and 2nd ARVN Div. is only one of many services the 16th CAG renders to allied forces in the I Corps Tactical Zone.

The 16th Group was first activated and organized on Dec. 20, 1967 and became operational on Jan. 23, 1968, at the Marine Marble Mountain Air Facility, DaNang. This was just one week before the 1968 Tet Offensive exploded throughout Vietnam. The 16th Group, as their motto implies, was truly "Born in Battle."

Originally part of the 1st Avn. Bde., the 16th CAG was attached to the Americal Div. on Dec. 1, 1968. Within a week, the Group relocated from Marble Mountain to its present location at Chu Lai. The unit has the distinction of being the only aviation group in the U.S. Army assigned to an infantry division.

Intent upon carrying out its mission, the **16th CAG**, commanded by COL D. Townsend (Danbury, Neb.), is composed of a Hqs. and Hqs. Co., the 335th Trans. Co., and two battalions: the 14th CAB with units at Duc Pho and Chu Lai, and the 123rd CAB with units in the Chu Lai area.

The 14th Cbt. Avn. Bn. moved to Chu Lai from the Phu Bai Valley in 1967 to support Task Force Oregon. The battalion, commanded by LTC Jerry L. Teague (Alexandria, Va.), is comprised of the [**71st was omitted**] **174th** and **176th** Aslt. Hel. Companies (AHC) and the **132nd** and **178th** Aslt. Spt. Hel. Companies (ASHC).

The **71st** Avn. Co. known as the "Rattlers" arrived in Vietnam in 1964. Three years later, the company moved to Chu Lai with the 196th Inf. Bde. as part of Task Force Oregon and have consistently supported that unit in the Americal's northern area of operations. In recent months, the "Rattlers" have supported the 196th Bde. in numerous operations in the Que Son, Hiep Duc, Phouc Chau, and Phouc Cha Valleys.

Commanded by MAJ William M. Price (Fayetteville, N.C.), the **71st** set an envious record of 25 consecutive months of flying and over 50,000 combat

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hours without an accident in 1968.

Another unit with an envious safety record is the **174th AHC**, located at Duc Pho. The company has the best accident free record in the Americal Div. with not a single accident in the current fiscal year. The pilots have a combined total of 10,500 accident free flying hours. In that time, the company has carried 75,000 passengers and 2,500 tons of cargo. To the soldier in the field that means a hot meal everyday and a quick trop to the rear when stand-down comes. While compiling its record the **174th** has flown nearly 50,000 sorties, including night combat assaults, "dust-off" missions, and emergency ammo resupply.

Under the leadership of MAJ Virgil E. Blevins (Beeville, Tex.), the **174th** has three flight platoons and boasts a motto of "Nothing Impossible" in carrying out its mission to support the 11th Inf. Bde. The troop-carrying aircraft are called "Dolphins" and the gunships called "Sharks."

To the infantrymen, the sight of the **"Shark"** gunships working out on the enemy while the **"Dolphins"** bring in the much needed ammunition is a vision long remembered. As one infantry officer said, "The Sharks give a morale boost to us and scare the devil out of the enemy. After the Sharks shoot up an area, you can count on it being quiet the rest of the night.

Another constant source of support for troops on the ground are the "Minutemen" of the **176th AHC** commanded by MAJ O.R. Hite (Staunton, Va.). Since 1967, the **176th** has been supporting the 198th Inf. Bde.

During August 1969, aviators of the **176th** averaged 94 flying hours and was awarded the Americal Accident Prevention Award for the month.

To provide tactical air movement of combat, combat support, and combat service support units in the Americal area of operations is the mission of the **132nd ASHC.** The company, commanded by MAJ William Jones (Glendall, Calif.), started operations with its Boeing-Vertol CH-47B Chinooks in May 1968. Since then the **"Hercules"** Chinooks of the **132nd** fly an average of 1,000 hours a month lifting over 10,000 passengers and over 5,000 tons of supplies. Their motto of "Versatility, Reliability, and Endurance" describes the support the **132nd** gives daily to the Americal.

Invaluable support is also given to the combat soldier by the **178th ASHC** commanded by MAJ Robert W. Parker (Secane, Pa.). The **"Boxcars"** arrived in Vietnam in April 1966 and moved to Chu Lai as part of Task Force Oregon.

The **178th** have to their credit the distinction of being the first unit to move a complete 155mm howitzer battery in one lift. Once the troops are safely in a combat area, it is up to the "Hercules" Chinooks to keep them supplied and combat ready.

123rd Cbt. Avn. Bn., like its sister battalion, provides air mobility and direct air support to elements of the Americal Div. The battalion, led by LTC Richard K. Dietsch (Manchester, N.H.), prides itself on the professionalism and consciousness in supporting the division. The battalion is comprised of **A and B Companies; Hqs. and Hqs. Co. E Co., 723rd Maint. Bn; F Trp. 8th Cav; and D Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav.**

Providing the Americal with general aviation support is the primary mission of A Co., 123rd CAB. While B Co. essentially has the role of an air cavalry troop. Man of **B Co.'s** missions are visual reconnaissance operations in which a team of four aircraft, one Light Observation Helicopter (LOH), two Cobra gunships, and one Huey "slick" with five infantrymen aboard search an assigned area for signs of enemy activity. During the past year, B Co. accounted for 429 enemy kills.

Known as the "Blue Ghost," F Trp. 8th Cav. arrived in Vietnam in October, 1967. Commanded by MAJ Charles E. Ivey (Urbana, Ill.), F Trp. has the

(Continued -2)

primary mission of gathering intelligence. The unit accomplishes this by means of aerial and ground reconnaissance making maximum use of its firepower, communications, and mobility.

An organic infantry platoon, nicknamed the "Blues," is used for insertions to perform detailed searches of an area. Normally with the insertion of the "Blues" the aerial recon teams consisting of two Cobras and a LOH, screen in the immediate vicinity and provide armed escort for the platoon.

A newcomer to the 16th Group is **D Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav.**, who arrived in Vietnam on May 1, 1969. D Trp., called the **"Sabres,"** extends the reconnaissance and security capabilities of ground units by aerial means. To find the enemy, fix his position, and then annihilate him is the mission of the **"Sabres."**

Providing the Americal with aircraft direct support maintenance is **E Co., 723rd Maint. Bn.** The job of this unit like that of the **335th Trans. Co.** is to support and help maintain the aviation units assigned to the Americal.

The officers and men of the **16th CAG** pride themselves on the ability to do their jobs well regardless of any difficulties. With courage and determination and the professional competence of its subordinate units, the **16th CAG** supports the Americal in I Corps.

Americal Division Magazine - April, 1970
Mission: 153

Story and Photos by PFC Laszlo Kondor

The day begins long before dawn for the men of the "**Blue Ghosts," F/8th Cav., 123rd Avn. Bn.** It's still dark as they assemble at the briefing room to prepare for the morning mission. A pilot swallowed a yawn as the briefing started.

"Today we are going to insert a Ranger team into this general vicinity," stated CPT David W. Owen, operations officer, as he pointed at a large wall map. "We will insert them here and there. Any questions?"

The "Blue Ghosts" were in the air shortly after dawn. The team consisted of a Light Observation Helicopter (LOH) flying point at a low altitude, with two Cobra gunships flying support above the LOH, followed by two Huey's with Rangers of **G Company, 75th Infantry.** (continued)

Photo Captions: Nine photos of Blue Ghost activity over two pages. Caption: ....they crossed themselves, that is the way they go in ...

They flew past the low-lands of rice paddies, hooches, and people; out past the hills, and into the towering mountains southwest of FSB Siberia.

The LOH flew in first to reconnoiter the area, bobbing in and out, sideways through the trees, "**Blue Ghost**" style. While directly above the LOH, the narrow, lethal-looking Cobras circled ready to strike.

A Huey loaded with **Rangers** followed close behind the LOH, the men sitting ready to spring out of the chopper and into the jungle.

There was a strange silence just before the insertion. some of the men were moving their lips, and you knew that they were praying. As the Huey touched down, they crossed themselves and that is the way they go in.

SSG Ralph B. Dunham led the silent party carefully forward, moving slowly and cautiously along a worn trail. The leader froze and motioned an arm signal to the others. Everyone silently melted into the jungle. There was a hushed atmosphere that seemed to linger along the trail as the men lay in wait. Then suddenly there was a sound as a NVA appeared carrying a rifle and a large sack. He came along the trail, and then suddenly turned and ran. There was a crack and he fell. A Ranger appeared out of the jungle beside the downed NVA. Swiftly and silently, the man was moved back along the trail to the pick-up point, and a chopper was called in.

The LOH came in first, dipping down among the tree-tops checking for more of the NVA; followed close by the Cobras. A Huey came in over the river to hover above the water, and the wounded NVA was loaded aboard the ship to be taken bake for medical treatment.

The Rangers then moved further down the river to a clearing and called in another Huey to lift them out.

It was a routine mission. The prize was an NVA messenger with a large sack of documents. The men who carried out the mission had no doubt that they would succeed in others like it.

Two photo captions:
1) View from above and behind a formation of three Hueys.
2) A Cobra gunship coming into a fire base.

Americal Division Magazine - July, 1970

THE CONTINUING STRUGGLE

By 1LT DAVID COFFMAN

The gray clouds of January hung forebodingly over Quang Tin Province. The 196th Infantry Brigade had received a steady flow of intelligence about enemy intentions from Hoi Chanhs, detainees and captured documents.

"We anticipated that the NVA would try to overrun the populated areas around Thang Binh and Tam Ky," said Captain Robert Russell assistant operations officer, 196th Inf. Bde. "The mission of our unit was to block the enemy's attempts to enter these regions."

American and Vietnamese forces deployed on a north-south line to meet this threat. Screening Thang Binh was **Task Force 3-21**, consisting of **Alpha and Delta Companies, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry, and F Troop, 17th Cavalry**. Further south were infantry units from **2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry**. A task force under the operational control of Quang Tin Province was screening Tam Ky, The task force consisted of **Vietnamese Popular and Regional Forces** along with **3rd Troop, 4th Armored Cavalry Squadron, 2nd ARVN Division**, and **Alpha Troop, 1st Cavalry**, AMERICAL Division. At the southern tip of the screen were two battalions from the 5th ARVN Regiment.

On January 6 **Alpha Company, 3rd Bn., 21st Inf.** was moving towards a suspected NVA basecamp. Along the way they met steady enemy resistance, and each outpost they encountered had to be assaulted. As the men of **Alpha Co.** pushed through the high grass, they were hit by intensive AK-47 rifle and .30 caliber machinegun fire. The Americans called in artillery and the dug-in enemy soon found themselves caught in a deadly rain of 105mm and 8-inch shells. Helicopter gunships from **F Troop, 8th Cavalry**, raked the NVA positions from above. After the firing had ceased, the Americans swept the area and found 22 enemy dead. They had found the basecamp.

The next morning **Alpha Co.** spotted another large group of NVA in the distance. Artillery accounted for 15 more kills.

But the day's biggest battle was developing one mile south. Seven tracks from **F Trp., 17th Cav.**, were moving in column, accompanied by the Second Platoon of **Delta Co., 3rd Bn., 21st Inf.** A Scout observer on the command track, Specialist Four Larry R. Gibbs, spotted a lone NVA.

"He was running into a woodline to our right," said Spec. 4 Gibbs. 'We wheeled around toward the woods and opened up."

The men of **Delta Co.** dismounted and moved after the enemy. The infantrymen found two abandoned Rocket Propelled Grenade Launchers and a complete 60mm mortar near the edge of the jungle. The NVA had been eating, and the food they left behind was still hot.

The infantry pushed on into the dense, tangled woods.

"Just as we started to search the area," said Staff Sergeant Tony Alfieri, **3rd Bn., 21st Inf.**, "They cut loose with automatic weapons and RPGs."

The infantry assaulted the enemy positions. A large group of NVA were in a trench line, and the Americans charged in on top of them. A series of vicious hand-to-hand encounters followed. When the American left, the ditch was strewn with enemy dead.

Meanwhile the armor, under the command of Captain Klein S. Harrison, had moved in an linked up with the infantry. The vehicles barreled through the jungle, grinding trees and brush beneath their tracks. The roar of enemy fire was deafening. An RPG round whistled past the command track, tearing off the antenna. The enemy was well-entrenched in a maze of ditches and bunkers barely visible through the thick vegetation.

"You couldn't spot where they were until you were right on top of them,"

(Continued -1)

said Specialist Five David Crevitz, medic for **F Trp., 17th Cav.**

But the Cav rumbled on, with the infantry on line. The M113A1, "A Cavs" raked the NVA with machinegun fire. The new M551 Sheridan Assault Vehicles lobbed one deadly round after another into the enemy's midst. As the assault gained momentum, air strikes and artillery were called in to cut off any retreating NVA.

While the machinegunners and drivers stayed on the tracks, Capt. Harrison and others leaped to the ground. They moved alongside the vehicles with the infantry, hurling grenades and rooting the NVA out of underground hiding places.

The enemy fire died down to a whisper, then ceased altogether. The Americans began to search the area. A total of 39 enemy dead were found in bunkers, ditches and brush. In addition to the weapons they had captured earlier, the Americans turned up 16 AK-47 rifles, two machineguns, two more RPG launchers and over 70 Chinese Communist grenades.

In two days the 196th Inf. Bde. soldiers had killed 95 enemy and destroyed two base camps.

In the next few days the allies continued to take their toll of enemy in a series of isolated encounters. In the largest of these, **Alpha Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav.,** combined with **3rd Troop, 4th ARVN Cav. Sqdn.,** to kill 13 NVA and capture 11 AK-47 rifles.

by this time the 196th Inf. Bde. had received information that the enemy was engaged in another troop build-up in "Pineapple Forest," five miles west of Tam Ky.

To meet this, **task force 1-1** under the operational control of the 196th was formed. The task force consisted of Alpha and Bravo Trps., 1st Cav., with one platoon each from **Delta Co., 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry,** and **Bravo Company, 2nd Battalion, 1st Inf.** This force was to drive north and push the enemy into blocking positions held by **Alpha and Charlie Companies, 2nd Bn., 1st Inf.**

The first encounter came earlier than the Americans anticipated. "We were sweeping towards a woodline," said Private First Class Earnest Harrison, "when we spotted a bunker to our front."

Rifle and machinegun fire spewed from the enemy emplacement. The Americans dove for cover, then opened up with M-16 rifles. A lone soldier rushed the bunker from its blind side and tossed a hand grenade through the portal. Four NVA were killed, including two officers. Another enemy opened fire from a spider hole, and he too was brought down by grenades.

By this time the entire hillside had erupted with enemy fire. The **2nd Bn., 1st Inf.,** soldiers had come upon the enemy force which they were supposed to block. The Americans halted their advance and called for air and artillery support.

"The air strikes lasted all day," said Specialist Four James Steele. "The whole side of the hill was covered with smoke."

The next morning the Americans found no trace of the savage enemy resistance encountered the day before. The NVA had abandoned their fortifications during the night.

The NVA had had ambitious plans for Quang Tin Province. A 196th Inf. Bde. intelligence report written in late January reads:

The general enemy effort appears to have been directed at neutralizing the GVN (Government of Vietnam) pacification gains of 1969....with the political objective of destroying civilian confidence in the power of the GVN to protect them.

The enemy plans had turned to ashes. In a week of fighting the allies had killed 253 enemy while Thang Binh and Tam Ky remained untouched. Several ingredients had gone into the allies' success, and these were summed up by Colonel James M. Lee, at that time commanding officer of the 196th Inf. Bde.

"We received good intelligence and were able to formulate an effective plan. Most important of course, was the splendid performance of the Vietnamese and American soldier once the fighting started."

A M E R I C A L L O G July 1970

A QUARTERLY RECAP OF MAJOR ACTION

AMERICAL LOG - Prologue

Combat activity in Southern I Corps increased considerably in the quarter of March, April and May. Major battalion and company-sized contacts again centered around Tam Ky and the resettlement village of Hiep Duc.

More than 2,000 enemy soldiers were killed by Americal Division units during the three-month period, while 503 weapons were captured, 28 of which were crew-served.

In March, combat action was quite heavy, though sporadic throughout the division as Americal units accounted for more than 680 enemy soldiers killed.

In the month of April, fewer enemy were killed, but and increase in the size of unit contacts was noted.

In May, a sharp rise in enemy activity was noted with several rocket attacks on Chu Lai and a flare up of fighting in the resettlement village of Hiep Duc, 22 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

By SP4 DENNIS SELBY

MARCH – Omitted...

APRIL

The month of April was ushered in with several attacks on firebases of the 198th Inf. Bde.

Incoming small arms fire, RPG's, 60mm mortar fire and satchel charges erupted in the early morning hours of April 1, as an undetermined number of VC were repulsed following a futile attempt to penetrate LZ Bayonet, headquarters of the 198th Inf. Bde.

The 30-minute mortar barrage which initiated action one mile south of Chu Lai, sent the ready-reaction force to the bunker line.

Artillery, mortar and gunships teamed up to saturate the outer perimeter of Bayonet with deadly fire, killing one VC.

In similar action, two platoons of **B Co., 5-46 Inf.** fought off a fierce ground attack on LZ Fat City, five miles northwest of Chu Lai the same morning. The action accounted for one VC killed, one VC detained and an AK-47 captured.

On April 16, infantrymen of **C Co., 2-1 Inf.**, gunships and ground troops of **F Troop, 8th CAV.**, teamed up to bring down eight VC in an operation 11 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

The action began when a "**Blue Ghost**" gunship located six VC. The ship swooped down, guns ablaze and killed the six enemy.

The **Blue Ghost** infantry platoon was inserted into an area as **Charlie Company, 2nd Bn., 1st Inf.** swept in from the other side. The Blue Ghost platoon made instant contact, killing two more VC, with small arms fire.

On April 20, twenty-two NVA fell to rocket and gunfire of the **174th Avn. Co.** (Assault Helicopter) in the 11th Brigade area of operation as the "Shark" gunships turned a routine combat assault into a two hour air-ground battle.

While the company's "Dolphin" utility ships were lifting in one battalion of the **4th ARVN Regiment** and a rifle company of the **3rd Bn., 1st Inf.** into landing zones 20 miles northwest of Duc Pho, a heavy fire-team of gunships spotted fresh .51 caliber gun emplacements.

Said CPT Stephen S. Riddle (Weaverville, N.C.), "While we were marking the enemy positions with smoke grenades, we spotted movement. We saw, engaged and killed three well-equipped NVA who were trying to evade along a river. Our rocket fire must have hit a command post because a company-sized element of confused NVA split into large groups and ran." It was then that the gunships were able to take full advantage of their lethal firepower and kill 19 more enemy soldiers.

In an action the following day, April 21, the recon element of the **1st**

(Continued -1)

Bn., 20th Inf., National Police Field Force and "Shark" gunships teamed up to kill 15 VC while detaining 10 VC suspects.

Three AK-47 rifles and three SKS's were confiscated in the action which took place in the lowlands six miles north of Duc Pho.

In a "non-action" in the 11th Brigade area of the 22nd of April, Bravo Company, **4th Bn., 3rd Inf.** uncovered a 10 to 15 ton salt cache in the mountains six miles west of Duc Pho. The cache was discovered in a pit inside a well-camouflaged hooch. The hut was located near a well-used trail.

MAY

Ninety NVA/VC were killed Friday, May 1 by the **2nd ARVN Division** supported by an **aero-scout company** of the Americal's **123rd Avn Bn.**

After fierce fighting for two days, the ARVN unit re-claimed the re-settlement village of Hiep Duc from the NVA, killing 44 of the enemy. According to an ARVN report, approximately 15% of the village had been destroyed by fire and several civilians had been killed by the enemy.

The Americal **aero-scout company** supporting the ARVN attack accounted for 46 enemy kills***. [From the Division S2/S3 reporting: 196th Bde, vic AT9124 at 010600H-011930H May 70. Totals of contact: 94xVC/NVA KIA, 4xARVN KIA, 14xARVN WIA, 9xAK-47 CIA, 1xM2 Cbn CIA, 1xM-1 CIA, 1x.75mm RR CIA, 1x50 cal MG CIA. 44xKIA credited to 5th ARVN, 46xKIA credited to 71st AHC, 4xKIA credited to Troop F, 8th Cav.]***

"We came in hot with rockets on a .51 caliber machinegun position and knocked it out," explained the **aero-scout** commander, MAJ Stalker (Enterprise, Ala.), "there were four large secondary explosions after the attack."

At mid-afternoon the same day, the **1st Co., 1st Bn., 5th ARVN Regt.** waged a fierce battle with an unknown number of NVA. The fight resulted in 18 NVA killed. A search of the area exposed six enemy weapons including two AK-44s and one MAS-36. Also found were a Chicom submachinegun 2,000 rounds of ammunition and 60 Chicom grenades.

May 13 proved to be an unlucky day for an NVA Company in the 196th Inf. Bde's area of operation as **Alpha Battery, 3rd Bn., 82 Artillery** reported killing 25 enemy soldiers.

While cutting their way through thick vegetation nine miles north west of Tam Ky on May 23, the point element of the recon platoon of the **2nd Bn., 1st Inf.** decided to attend a VC garden party even though they were not invited, after they heard voices in the jungle.

"the voices were coming from about 10 meters on the other side of a hedgerow," said SP4 Larry Hardin (Steger, Ill.) pointman for the recon element. "Our Kit Carson Scout could tell they were Viet Cong by what they were saying. Their weapons were lying on the ground."

The VC were working in a large garden that apparently supplied a battalion of enemy soldiers.

The "Legionaries" crashed into the hedgerow and came face to face with 15 enemy soldiers. "We killed two before they even knew what hit them," said Hardin. "And we dropped five more as they scattered."

Americal Division Magazine - Fall, 1970

Full page color photo of a double exposed LOH flying over trees.

"There once was a scout names Turtle,
in his LOH over trees he would hurdle .
As was often his luck,
While in pursuit of old 'Chuck,'
He'd end up with holes in his bubble."
... The Old Blueghost

Turtle By Cpt David W. Owen F/8.

Turtle flies helicopters. Light observation helicopters specifically. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hubert V. McRae of Lauringburg, North Carolina call him John, but to the officers of the Americal Division's **F Troop 8th Cavalry (Blueghost)** WO1 John S. McRae is known affectionately as Turtle. The origin of his nickname is obscure although a turtle is generally the pseudonym for a replacement or new guy in Vietnam.

For the name to have stuck with WO1 McRae over the months is paradoxical since turtles are generally slow moving, passive, defenseless little creatures- everything a LOH pilot isn't. Actually, no turtle in his right mind would fly a LOH. Except the **Blueghost's** Turtle of course.

Recently WO1 McRae was interviewed about his job as scout pilot in an Air Cavalry Troop. His answers provide a real insight into the kind of man who flies the small Hughes helicopter at tree top level through enemy infested areas.

"Turtle, what is it that you like about being a scout? Is it the challenge of flying low level over known enemy positions or trying to get them to compromise themselves by shooting at you, or is it the classic challenge of battle of man against man? The matching of wits and cunning with the winner taking all?"

"No. Actually, it's the days off. We scouts get more days off than the other platoon."

"When you're down there low level, Turtle, flying at 100 knots, what are you looking for? Is it trails, hootches, fighting positions, or what?"

"Mostly I'm looking for an excuse to come up to altitude and go back to Chu Lai."

"Turtle, what is the biggest hazard to you while you're down there on the deck" Is it the AK-47 fire, .30 caliber machineguns, or .51 caliber fire? What do you fear the most?"

"Trees. Tall., thin dead trees. They'll get you every time."

"It's hard to believe that you worry more about trees than NVA."

"Not really. There are more trees out there than NVA."

"Turtle, on your aircraft you also have an observer and a door gunner. Beside their obvious duties of trying to spot the enemy and signs of activity, what are their secondary jobs. Just what else does the observer do for instance?"

"He prays. From the time we take off until we land. And it's not his secondary job either. It's his primary."

"And what about the door gunner?"

"Mostly he just screams stuff like "Takin'fire! Look out! Watch that tree! We're hit! He prays too."

"Here's a question that will probably require a little thought. To date

(Continued -1)

(Continued -1) Turtle

what has been your most significant sighting as a scout pilot?"

"That's easy. A beautiful girl taking a bath in the Song Ve River."

"No, Turtle. What was your most significant military sighting as a scout?"

"A beautiful girl taking a bath in the Song Ve River. She was an NVA nurse."

"Did you capture her?"

"No, I hit a tree and had to go back to Quang Ngai."

"Turtle, do you have any big operations coming up in the near future? What are you looking forward to in the next month or so?"

"The monsoons. We don't fly much in the monsoons."

"Last question, Turtle. What do you remember as your most gratifying experience as a scout?"

"It was during the battle of Hiep Duc. There were .51 cals all over and beaucoups .30's and AK's. They were even shooting RPG's at choppers. The air mission commander had just told me to go down and do my thing when my high engine oil pressure light came on and I had to go back to Chu Lai. Now that was a gratifying experience.

If the whole truth were known, Turtle did go back to Chu Lai but only to get a replacement aircraft in which he returned to Hiep Duc and did his thing much to the dismay of many of the NVA who were roaming the Que Son Valley at the time.

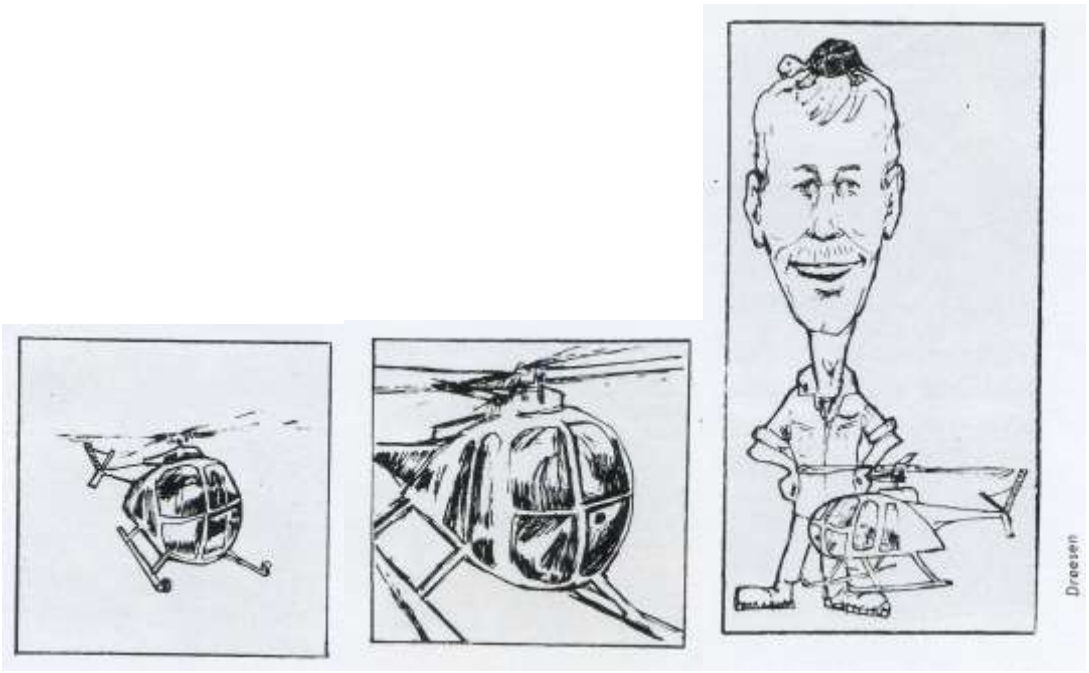
Although they may not be textbook responses, Turtle's answers do reflect one of the qualities a good scout pilot must have in order to survive in his dangerous business. In a moment of serious contemplation Turtle put his finger on it.

"There's an old saying among scouts hat there's two things you can't afford to lose while you're flying scouts. Your sense of humor and your main rotor."

Turtle's face brightened immediately.

"Of course, being a practical man and given a choice, I'd rather lose my sense of humor!" (small Americal Patch).

Color Photo of a LOH on the left half of the page. Photo credit to Walker.



(Three graphics on the right third of the page. Two of a LOH, and a third of a man with a small turtle on his head with a LOH in front of him. Credits: Dreesen

AMERICAL LOG Americal Division Magazine - Fall, 1970

(Photo of helicopter in left quarter of page.)

Prologue

Action in Southern First Military Region decreased slightly in the second quarter of the year as soldiers of the Americal collected a long overdue debt from the NVA at Kham Duc. Over two years since the Kham Duc operation was lost to the 2d NVA Division, the remote Special Forces advised CIDG camp was retaken by the same Division units that played a central role in the harrowing evacuation of allied forces in May of 1968.

During June, July and August units of the Division accounted for more than 1700 enemy killed and denied the enemy of his much needed food supply by capturing over 133 tons of rice. The enemy also lost 534 weapons, of which 32 were crew served.

The month of June saw Division soldiers quell a major NVA offensive in the secluded Hiep Duc Valley. In heavy company-sized contacts, the Americans defeated elements of the 1st NVA Regiment, killing 590 of the enemy soldiers. The month of July saw a decrease in action throughout the area of operations.

The month of August saw a rise in activity resulting in the deaths of 593 of the enemy in many small vicious firefights.

By SP4 Gary Jensen

June

The heaviest action of the quarter took place in the first two weeks of June as "Chargers" of the 196th Infantry Brigade were stopping the last efforts of the NVA's drive into the Hiep Duc Valley.

Early in the month elements of the **3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry** had a very successful and profitable day as the infantrymen killed 12 enemy soldiers and suffered no friendly casualties. **Bravo Company** accounted for 11 of the enemy in three separate firefights. The heaviest contact of the three resulted in six of the enemy being killed.

During his next to last week in Vietnam, Sergeant Richard Anderson, Tacoma, Wash., was much too busy to count days. Within a seventy-two hour period the soldier was instrumental in killing 17 enemy soldiers. Sergeant Anderson, a **FO**, was stationed with a PF outpost nine miles northwest of Tam Ky.

The first night while on a evening patrol Sergeant Anderson and the PF spotted 35 VC. He immediately called in mortar fire, killing seven of the enemy. Two nights later the unit spotted a VC company and called in gunships which accounted for three killed. Not more than twenty minutes later the PF patrol discovered 11 VC in a clearing and in the firefight that followed seven of the enemy were killed.

Action flared on June 13 as **Company B, 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry** killed 33 NVA in close fighting for eight hours.

Company B began taking fire as they neared an enemy basecamp in the Hiep Duc area. The infantrymen retaliated with organic weapons fire killing six NVA. The Americans received a barrage of 82mm mortar rounds. The men of Company B dug in and called in an air strike. Gunships from the **71st Assault Helicopter Company** strafed the NVA positions as the enemy tried to encircle the Americans. **Blue Ghost** gunships from **F Troop, 8th Cavalry** spotted another large group of NVA moving towards the company. the choppers raked the area killing three more enemy as another airstrike silenced the enemy mortars. When the fire subsided Company B swept the area finding 23 enemy killed by small arms fire.

On the 19th of June in ceremonies at Duc Pho the **Recon Platoon of E Company,**

(Continued -1)

(Continued -1) Prologue Fall 1970

4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry was presented the Presidential Unit Citation for extraordinary heroism by General Creighton W. Abrams. General Abrams decorated the unit for valorous action against a far greater size enemy force near the village of Phou Loc on September 6-7, 1968. The Recon Platoon is credited with averting an enemy attack on the city of Quang Ngai in the action.

"This award is significant because so much of war depends on team work, on each member of the team, on each individual bearing his full share," stated General Abrams. "What this award means in the eyes of the U.S. Army is the same as it should for the individual award for bravery," concluded the general.

July - Omitted .....

AUGUST

Action started out slow for the month of August, the heaviest action in the first few days came when the "G**imlets**" of the **3d Battalion, 21st Infantry** killed seven of the enemy in three separate incidents. Three wee killed in the biggest action of the day by Delta Company when they discovered a hootch complex northwest of Tam Ky.

Action flared on the 5th of the month as 16 VC were killed by the **174th Aviation Company** while they were covering a combat assault in the lowlands northwest of Duc Pho.

The 4th ARVN Regiment's first test of the newly opened Kham Duc came the next day as sappers were spotted in the wire and inside the perimeter. The artillerymen opened up on the sappers with everything they had. During the firefight the Americal soldiers were receiving an attack of an estimated 60 mortar rounds and unknown amount of B-40 rocket fire.

At day break a sweep of the area was made, 18 sappers were found killed by the artillerymen's fire. All of the sappers were wearing black shorts. Fifty CHICOM grenades, nine RPG rounds, five RPG launchers and 32 satchel charges were found on the bodies.

Later in the morning **Bravo Company, 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry** swept the suspected area of the enemy mortar location and found six bunkers, nineteen 82 mm mortar rounds and four cases of charges.

Allied forces working in the Kham Duc area also found an NVA hospital, complete with operating facilities. Also found in the same area was a half a ton of medical supplies, large quantities of rice and NVA rations. While in the process of searching the area, five VC were spotted.

Later in the week while conducting a search and clear mission in the lowlands south of Duc Pho, **Alpha Company, 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry**, discovered a rice and potato cache near two huts. The rice was in eleven 55 gallon drums and the potatoes were found in four 55 gallon drums. These finds launched the infantrymen on an intense search of the area which turned up more than eight tons of rice.

Gunships were busy on the 12th of the month when the **Nighthawk** ships from the **71st Aviation Company** were engaged by an undetermined enemy force as they flew along a river. Braving small arms and .30 caliber machinegun fire, the gunships accounted for seven NVA killed.

While flying over a heavily vegetated area west of Quang Ngai, gunships from **F Troop, 8th Cavalry** received small arms and .30 caliber fire from the ground below. The pilots saturated the area with automatic weapons fire, killing 33 NVA in the ensuing five hour ground to air battle.

As the end of August drew near the American support units at Kham Duc were evacuated after successfully supporting the ARVNs and getting them settled into the job of stopping the enemy's supplies. (**Small Americal patch**)

Americal Division Magazine - Fall 1971

AMERICAL LOG By SP4 MARK A SCHULZ

Action in the 23d Infantry Division's (Americal) area of operations (AO) slacked off slightly between June, 1970 and June 1971 except for action during certain periods, as more emphasis was placed on pacification and Vietnamization, especially toward the end of this period.

During this 12-month period, five long-standing operations were ended and three new operations were initiated.

Operations Frederick Hill, Pennsylvania Square, Geneva Park, Nantucket Beach, and Iron Mountain, all ending in April, accounted for 15,208 enemy killed, 3,812 weapons captured and 342 crew-served weapons captured.

These operations were replaced on March 1 with Operations Middlesex Peak, Finney Hill and Caroline Hill

JUNE 1971

The soaring temperatures of southern Military Region 1 in June did not stop soldiers of the 23d Infantry Division's three brigades as they accounted for 222 enemy killed.

The heaviest action of the month occurred in the area 22 miles southwest of Tam Ky in Operation Frederick Hill. Soldiers of the 196th Infantry Brigade uncovered one of the largest enemy rice caches ever found in Military Region 1. The men of **C Company, 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry** conducted an intensive nine-day search operation that produced 97,000 pounds of rice along the coastline, ten miles north of Duc Pho.

In June, a new operation was launched as part of the Division's answer to an enemy offensive. Operation Pennsylvania Square was begun on June 29 by the **1st Cavalry and F Troop, 17th Cavalry**. The operation was successful in countering the enemy threat to the coastal area north of Chu Lai.

JULY 1971

The most severe threat of 1970 had developed in April and May. The 2nd NVA Division Launched a campaign in the Hiep Duc Valley to regain control of the area and use it as a springboard into the coastal plains. The enemy challenge was met swiftly. Moderate to heavy contacts developed throughout June and July. By the time the enemy withdrew in July without accomplishing his mission, he had suffered 1,166 dead.

The same pattern occurred to the south of Chu Lai, in Quang Ngai Province, where the 11th Infantry Brigade conducted Operation Iron Mountain. The "Jungle Warriors" met light resistance in early 1970 as they continued to deny the enemy the resources in the heavily populated and rice-rich area around Quang Ngai City.

Contact with the enemy increased sharply in May, June and July as the enemy mounted a threat to Quang Ngai City. The "Jungle Warriors" successfully repulsed the enemy and killed 535 NVA and VC soldiers during the three-month high point.

To the west and southwest of Chu Lai, the 198th Infantry Brigade continued **Operation Geneva Park** and operations on the Batangan Peninsula. Until May, contact was relatively light as elements of the brigade systematically searched out the enemy forces in the area and destroyed his supply caches, routed out the VC infrastructure and denied the enemy the resources of the area.

During the month of July, units of the 23d Infantry Division teamed up with units of the 2nd ARVN Division to air assault the Kham Duc area near the Laotian border. The joint operation established a fire base and accomplished

(Continued -1)

the reopening of the airstrip at Kham Duc.

Operations began around the old Special Forces camp at Kham Duc on July 12. The purpose of the operation was to break up the enemy supply and logistical system supporting the enemy offensive and destroy any large NVA forces in the area. The initial phases of the operation began when the **2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry** and the **6th ARVN Regiment** seized the camp. No large battles developed, but the operation did successfully disrupt the enemy's logistical system.

AUGUST 1971

As a result of the spring offensive's failure, enemy activity decreased s contact was light throughout the remainder of the year. The enemy began to re-emphasize guerilla type operations. Responding to the enemy trend, units of the 23d Infantry Division began to emphasize small unit operations. Squad size patrols, able to operate independently and with stealth, saturated the AO.

The men of the Division discovered they could operate at night as effectively as the enemy, as night operations were stressed. These techniques proved very effective. Numerous daily contacts caused the enemy a steady loss of personnel. The enemy also lost a steady flow of supplies he could ill-afford to lose, as more caches were discovered. The enemy's knowledge that he had no safe havens, at any time of the day, had a tremendous defeating effect on him.

SEPTEMBER 1971

Operations around Kham Duc ended on September 19. The operation had successfully interdicted the enemy's lines of communication and had contributed to the destruction of Main Force units. Final results were 107 enemy killed and 60 individual and crew-served weapons captured.

OCTOBER 1971

Severe tropical typhoons Kate and Joan seriously curtailed military operations during the period of Oct 15 to 26. 23d Infantry Division troops and material assets were diverted to engage in disaster relief operations in conjunction with 2nd ARVN Division units

NOVEMBER 1971

The 23d Infantry Division continued the assistance program in November to bring relief to thousands of refugees created by typhoons Kate and Joan. Large quantities of food and building supplies were provided and engineer units cleared roads and rebuilt bridges.

DECEMBER 1970

Pacification operations, always an integral part of the 23d Infantry Division's program, received extra impetus in the latter part of 1970. The number of combined operations was increased monthly, reaching a high of 560 in December.

Particularly successful were the rice denial operations conducted with Regional Forces and Popular Forces in the Geneva Park and Iron Mountain AOs.

As the year closed, the men of the Division could look back proudly on their accomplishments. Every threat had been aggressively thwarted.

(Continued -2)

Although it was evident that the American efforts in the war would decrease, a high level of operations was sustained and the division moved toward 1971 with the same competence and professionalism that earned it many successes in 1970.

JANUARY 1971

The new year was characterized by light to moderate action, but the year started off with heavy activity when **LAMSON 719** began.

Operation LAMSON 719 was a large, complex operation designed to sever the enemy's supply lines and destroy the stockpiles along his supply routes in Laos. American forces were to reopen QL-9 through Khe Sanh to the Laotian border. ARVN forces would then attack into Laos to interdict the enemy's supply routes.

Logistical and airmobile support would be provided by the United States. To insure the security of QL-9, a shifting of American forces westward toward the Laotian border had to occur.

The 23d Infantry Division was called upon to place forces under operational control, and augment those of the **101st Airborne Division (Airmobile)** and the **1st Brigade, 5th Mechanized Division.** Elements of the 23d Infantry Division began moving north on January 29-the date of movement depending upon the unit. **4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry** moved north on January 29, 1st Squadron, **1st Cavalry** arrived at Tam Ky on January 30. **F Troop, 8th Cavalry** moved north on January 29, as did the 116th Assault Helicopter Company, 176th Assault Helicopter Company and the 178th Assault Support Helicopter Company.

Headquarters Company, **71st and 174th** Assault Helicopter Companies moved north at the same time, and formed the 14th Combat Aviation Battalion, Also, **1st Battalion, 82nd Artillery** was moved north to support operations for Jefferson Glen and LAMSON 719.

FEBRUARY 1971

At the peak of **Operation LAMSON 719, 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry** was responsible for the eastern portion of the AO, just south of the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ). **4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry** operated in the eastern portion of the AO, with responsibility for preventing enemy infiltration, and maintaining the security of QL-9.

1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry was responsible for the coordination and execution of the defense of Khe Sanh, **H Troop, 17th Cavalry** was to provide convoy security along QL-9, and also act as a brigade reaction force. **F Troop, 8th Cavalry** provided gunship cover for convoys, and an aero rifle platoon for use as an immediate reaction force.

Support units from the 23d Infantry Division also redeployed to support the division's combat units. Their mission was made much more difficult by the distances involved and by the short notice prior to the start of LAMSON 719. Initial problems were overcome, however, and the mission was accomplished.

MARCH 1971

On March 1, Headquarters, 11th Infantry Brigade moved north, taking with it the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry, H Troop, 17th Cavalry and the **6th Battalion, 11th Artillery.** Later in **LAMSON 719, 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry** came under control of the 11th Infantry Brigade.

In non-LAMSON 719 action, Operation Frederick Hill, conducted by the 196th Infantry Brigade in close cooperation with the 5th ARVN Regiment, terminated

(Continued -3)

March 1.

The purpose of the operation had been to increase the overall effectiveness of the pacification operations near the coastal area, and the destruction of Main Force NVA units operating in the western portion of the combined tactical area of responsibility. The results of the operation, which had lasted 23 months, were 7,514 enemy killed, 1,848 weapons captured and 192 crew-served weapons captured. March 1 also saw the end of Operation Geneva Park, conducted by the 198th Infantry Brigade and the 6th ARVN Regiment, which had also lasted 23 months. Its mission had been to secure the major lines of communication, and the destruction of enemy forces posing a threat to Quang Ngai City and the Chu Lai Combat Base. The results of the operation, were 2,337 enemy killed, 532 weapons captured and 49 crew-served weapons captured.

Operation Nantucket Beach, conducted by elements of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry and the 6th ARVN Regiment, within the 198th Infantry Brigade tactical area of responsibility on the Batangan Peninsula, was terminated on March 1. The mission of the operation had been to further enhance the pacification program of the government of Vietnam. The operation, characterized by light and scattered action, had lasted eight months. The enemy suffered 630 killed, 207 weapons captured and five crew-served weapons captured.

Operation Iron Mountain ended March 1. The operation had lasted 23 months, and had concentrated on the security of major lines of communication and furthering the goals of pacification throughout the combined tactical area of responsibility. It was conducted in Quang Ngai province by the 11th Infantry Brigade in close coordination with the **4th ARVN Regiment**. Iron Mountain resulted in 4,466 enemy killed, 1,1130 weapons captured and 94 crew-served weapons captured.

Operation Pennsylvania Square, initiated on June 29, 1970, ended on March 1. The operation in the open terrain in the northeastern portion of the 23d Infantry Division, was ideally suited for the employment of cavalry.

The responsibility for the operation had been entrusted to the **1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry with F Troop, 17th Cavalry** attached. Contact was light to moderate throughout the operation. The results of Operation Pennsylvania Square were 216 enemy killed, 95 weapons captured and three crew-served weapons captured.

APRIL 1971

On April 6, **Operation LAMSON 719** was officially terminated. On April 8 the 11th Infantry Brigade with **4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry; 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry; H Troop, 17th Cavalry** ***[Historian Note: The 14th Combat Aviation – Plus Troop F, 8th Cavalry were also part of Operation Lam Son 719. This left the Americal Division short of Aviation resources.]*** and direct support units, began movement back to the 23rd Infantry Division AO. Between March 28 and April 8, all 23d Infantry Division aviation assets returned to Chu Lai.

1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry passed to the operational control of the 101st (Airmobile) and did not return to the 23d Infantry Division until April 30.

As of April 11, the **1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry** had the record of rice captured under existing operations. they had collected 108,330 pounds of rice.

MAY 1971 – Omitted

This is an example of an item found in an Americal Division situation report that refers to Troop F, 8th Cavalry:

Date reported= May 14, 1971.
COURIER RICHARD W. CUNNINGHAM RICHARD W. CUNNINGHAM 3000

a. OP CAROLINE HILL Summary. The 196th Bde units reported light contact in their combined AO with the 1st Task Force. Enemy losses were 15 NVA & one VC KIA. One VN was detained. **F/8th Cav, conducting BDA at 1430H after airstrikes had been delivered by Helix 17 against 15-20 NVA in bunkers vic ZC180480, confirmed 15 NVA KIA and 2 bunkers destroyed.** A/1-1 Cav, with 37th ARVN Rangers, conducted opns vic AT9350. F/17th Cav, with 21st ARVN Rangers, conducted opns vic AT9252. B/1-1 Cav, conducted opns vic AT9752 and continued on reaction force for 196th Bde. C/1-1 Cav, conducted maintenance opns in Da Nang, and continued on reaction force for the 196th Bde. At 1450H, vic AT947520, an M113A1 from F/17th Cav detonated an estimated 250 lb. bomb while crossing an old rice paddy, which resulted in 5 US KIA and total destruction of the vehicle. US casualties reported during the period were 5 KIA and one WIA(E).

This is a sample Combat Operation After Action Report from Troop F, 8th Cavalry:
REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES- This document was retrieved by Leonard White, Veteran of F/8th Cavalry:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
F TROOP, 8TH CAVALRY
23D INFANTRY DIVISION
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96374

AVDF_ABBJ 11 APR 1971

SUBJECT: After Action Report (U)

THRU: Commanding Officer
123rd Aviation Battalion (Cbt)
APO San Francisco 96374

TO: Commanding Officer
16th Aviation Group (Cbt)
23d Infantry Division
APO San Francisco 96374

I. (C) Air-Cavalry Missions:

Box N/A
1. Type Mission: Rescue and Recovery/Contact Mission
2. Time: Entered: 1655 hrs - Departed: 2000 hrs
3. Unit Supported: 174th AHC - 1/20th Inf 11th Inf Bde
4. Rules of Engagement and Clearance Initials: Amcl (52 Romeo)
5. Aircraft committed: 4 AH-1G, 1 UH-1H, 1 OH-6A
6. Activity:

a. Team directed by 123rd Avn Bn to conduct a Rescue and Recovery Operation for downed aircraft (Dolphin 21 - 174th AHC) at BS 631518.
b. During and after the Rescue and Recovery Operation the Team engaged the suspected enemy locations upon the direction of the engaged friendly ground element (1/20th Inf) with negative assessment.

II. (C) Remarks:
a. Total KIAs and Detainees: None
b. Operations Officer's Comments: None

GEORGE W. SIBERT
MAJOR, INFANTRY
COMMANDING

Downgraded at 3 year intervals: Declassified after 12 years: DOD DIR 5200.10

This is an excerpt of the Troop D, 1/1st Cavalry (Air) history. The assignment of Troop D, 1/1st Cav. had a huge impact on the unit assignment of Troop F, 8th Cavalry.

D Troop

1st Squadron / 1st Cavalry Regiment

Unit History in Vietnam updated June 2008

Prepared by Raymond Keith, rekeith@fone.net

Upon deployment to Vietnam in 1967, the 1st Squadron / 1st Cavalry Regiment consisted of three armored cavalry troops and one air cavalry troop, D Troop, which was not deployed until July 1968. D Troop spent that year training and equipping at Fort Hood to be one of the first Air Cavalry troops constituted as red unit- gunships, white unit- Light Observation Helicopters LOH and blue unit- UH-1s with aero rifle platoon. This organization provided flexibility, fire power, rapid response, close communications and extreme mobility ideally suited for jungle warfare and destined D Troop to primarily offensive missions like scout, reconnaissance, rapid insertion, search and destroy, interdiction and attack; but also search and rescue, medivac, resupply, flare drops, recovery and the list goes on.

D Troop was shipped to Vietnam with aircraft on board to join its parent unit, the 1st Squadron/1st Cavalry Regiment, which was already in Vietnam attached to the Americal Division at Chu Lai. Enroute, D Troop's orders were changed temporarily attaching it to the 101st Airborne Division. D Troop pilots were flying missions with the 101st and learning the area of operations when the ship reached Da Nang on July 21,1968. The pilots were transported to Da Nang by C-130 and returned to Camp Eagle with the troop aircraft, personnel and equipment. D Troop remained on combat duty in I CORP for the next four years using Sabre as their call sign. Camp Eagle was a sprawling base camp located in the coastal plain south of Hue and approximately 60 miles northwest of Da Nang.

The 101st Airborne Division was undergoing a conversion from an airborne (parachute) to an airmobile (helicopter) formation and was renamed 101st Air Cavalry Division on July 1, 1968 and renamed again as the 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) on August 29, 1969. The Division was short of aviation assets in the summer of 1968 and therefore arranged for service of D Troop until its own aviation assets were up to strength. D Troop flew missions with the 101st Aviation Battalion primarily in northern I CORP in the Quang Tri, Thua Thien and Quang Nam Provinces. UH-1C model gunships were replaced with AH-1G Cobras through the summer of 1968 as new aircraft were received and crews were trained in-country. The 2nd Squadron of the 17th Cavalry reported fully equipped to the 101st Airborne Division early in 1969. D Troop was then attached to the 2/17 Cavalry, exchanged some personnel with one of their troops and flew missions with 2/17 through May, when D Troop departed for Chu Lai.

(Continued -1)

Chu Lai was established in 1965 about 60 miles southeast of Da Nang as a Marine airfield to augment the air operations at Da Nang. It was located on the coast and expanded to include Navy logistics support for the Marines and Task Force Oregon and the Americal Division. It included port facilities, Swift Boats and, later, concrete runways/taxiways and steel hangar facilities.

D Troop was returned to operational control of the Americal Division at Chu Lai in May 1969, but it did not join its parent unit because the 1st Squadron /1st Cavalry Regiment had already acquired another Air Cavalry Troop, **F Troop / 8th Cavalry**, at the time it joined the Americal Division in January 1968. The Americal Division, formed in Viet Nam from three infantry Brigades, was not airmobile but found a pressing need for aviation assets. It activated the 123rd Aviation Battalion on December 8, 1967 from a nucleus taken from the 161st Aviation Company, which was being deactivated (Pelicans and Warlords). Troop D (and later **F Troop/ 8th Cavalry**) was assigned to the 123rd Aviation Battalion so all of the aviation resources could support the entire Division. D Troop operated out of the steel hangars and plywood barracks and bunkers left from the original Marine air base (1965-68). The Troop lived along the runways and flew missions primarily in the Southern part of I CORP in Quang Nam, Quang Tin and Quang Ngai Provinces until the end of 1971.

Rest of D Troop history is omitted.....

This is excerpted from communications during the evacuation at Kham Duc in May 1968:

13 May 68 1650 TACC (SGT VOLK) OPERATIONS GOLDEN VALLEY IN QUANG TIN PROVINCE (ZC008088) 75 KILOMETERS WEST OF TAM KY AT 120810H A-1H assigned TO THE 6TH AIR COMMANDO SQUADRON, HIT BY ENEMY GROUND FIRE. PILOT SAFELY EJECTED. RESULTS: NO INJURY, AIRCRAFT DESTROYED.

1651: **USARV (CAPT BERKSHIRE) OPERATIONS GOLDEN VALLEY IN QUANG TIN PROVINCE (ZC008008) 75 KILOMETERS WEST OF TAM KY AT 121205H UH-1C ASSIGNED TO TROOP F 8TH CAV ON MEDEVAC ESCORT MISSION HIT BY ENEMY GROUND FIRE. RESULTS: ONE WOUNDED IN ACTION, AIRCRAFT MAJOR DAMAGE.**

1652: USARV (CAPT BERKSHIRE) OPERATIONS GOLDEN VALLEY IN QUANG TIN PROVINCE (ZC008088) 75 KILOMETERS WEST OF TAM KY AT 120800H CH-47B ASSIGNED 178 AHC HIT BY GROUND FIRE ON LANDING APPROACH. AIRCRAFT EXPLODED ON TOUCHDOWN. RESULTS: FOUR INJURIES AIRCRAFT DESTROYED.

1653: USARV (CAPT ARMSTRONG) OPERATIONS GOLDEN VALLEY IN QUANG TIN PROVINCE (ZC008088) 75 KILOMETERS WEST OF TAM KY AT 121500H CH-47 ASSIGNED 178 ASH HELO COMPANY HIT BY ENEMY FIRE WHILE ON GROUND.
RESULTS: NO INJURY, ACFT DESTROYED.

1653: **USARV (CAPT BERKSHIRE) OPERATIONS GOLDEN VALLEY IN QUANG TIN PROVINCE (ZC008088) 75 KILOMETERS WEST OF TAM KY AT 12150H UH-1C ASSIGNED TROOP F 8TH CAV ON MEDEVAC ESCORT MISSION HIT BY ENEMY GROUND FIRE.**
RESULTS FOUR WOUNDED IN ACTION, AIRCRAFT DESTROYED.

1700: III MAF (LTCOL BLAGG) OPERATIONS GOLDEN VALLEY (REF JE 121146, 121431, 121551, 130645) (S), IN QUANG TIN PROVINCE (ZC0030984) 75 KILOMETERS WEST OF TAM KY UPDATE: AT NGOK TAVAK PRIOR TO EVACUATION OF BASE:

This is an article from the 196th LIB Newsletter:

gimlets low crawl to nva base camp

LZ CENTER- When the trail ended because of thick overhanging jungle growth a platoon of "Chargers" from the 196th Infantry Brigade low crawled themselves into an enemy base camp and plenty of action.

The 2nd platoon of Co. A, 3rd Bn., 21st Inf., was on a search and clear operation, 11 miles northwest of Tam Ky. The previous day they had evacuated several detainees from a hamlet. After interrogation by the battalion intelligence section, a Vietnamese woman gave the location of an unknown size enemy force.

The Americal Division unit was now patrolling the probable location---the same area they had made enemy contact the day before.

Blue Ghost gunships from **F Troop, 8th Cav.,** assisted them by rocketing the location before the platoon moved into the vicinity.

"The "Charger" platoon filed down the trail that was flanked with triple canopy jungle vegetation. When they could to no further because of the heavy growth the men began searching for a way to continue.

The point element discovered a narrow path which was so overgrown with jungle vegetation that the men had to low crawl. After crawling 50 meters, point man SP4 Terry Green (Springfield, VA.) heard what he thought was running water.

Moving forward a small distance Green came to the source of the noise--- a large water falls. Next to the stream was an enemy base camp. The camp was extremely well camouflaged and was ringed with fighting positions and lookout posts.

As Green looked over the apparently abandoned enemy positions, he spotted movement in some bushes near a tunnel. A short burst of M-16 fire brought down a VC who was attempting to escape.

While reloading his weapon two more VC, their weapons drawn, came rushing towards Green. Platoon leader, 1LT Laurence McNamara (Fairfax, Va.) spotted the enemy—wheeled his M-16 around and killed them before they got to Green.

"This sent them scrambling everywhere," said Green. As they approached a tunnel a couple of infantrymen heard a noise above the enemy position, threw a few grenades on top and killed two more VC.

A separate element of the platoon, in the meantime, was sent to follow the course of the stream. They ran into three VC trying to escape. Two of the enemy were killed by a salvo of M-16 fire. The remaining VC was captured and brought back to the rest of the platoon.

Lieutenant McNamara was searching for enemy positions when he found a large tunnel complex. "I was reaching down and pulling out a VC when I saw he had a grenade with the pin pulled," said McNamara. "I shoved him back in the hole and hollered 'grenade'," said 1LT McNamara.

The blast of the grenade in the tunnel killed three more of the enemy. After a thorough search of the camp the lead element of the platoon began crawling back down the same path that had led them to the base camp.

Suddenly, the sound of quick movement in the jungle in front of the platoon was stopped with a quick reconnaissance by fire. Checking the area the "Charger" element discovered a dead VC medic.

Documents found in the dead medic's shirt pocket listed the VC who were active in the area by name.

After the "Charger" unit's visit eleven names could be scratched off the active list.

This is an article from the 196th LIB Newsletter:

Vol 1, No. 5 CHARGER OCTOBER 5, 1969

NVA STOPPED AT HIEP DUC

LZ WEST ** AMERICAL Division infantrymen were locked in combat with two regiments of NVA recently 17 miles southwest of Tam Ky. The violent ten-day battle took 516 enemy lives.

The unit involved was a task force comprised of companies form 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry and 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry.

Early fighting saw 59 NVA soldiers killed and 6 captured when an element of the 2nd NVA Division was surprised before it could launch a pre-dawn assault on LZ (Landing Zone) West. A sweep of the area turned up a small enemy arsenal. Scattered on the slopes of the 4th Bn., 31st Inf.., fire support base were rocket propelled grenades, rocket launchers and explosive charges.

NVA forces hoped to destroy the American-supervised Hiep Duc refugee center. The enemy had vowed they would wreck the center and disperse or kill its inhabitants. Broadcast messages told the refugees that no one could stop the NVA efforts.

"The American and South Vietnamese government cannot protect you, boomed the loudspeakers. "We will wipe out your settlements."

The infantryman made the NVA eat their words.

In subsequent fighting, Bravo Company, 4th Bn., 31st Inf., encountered a large bunker complex near Hill 118. Enemy machine gunners pelted the Americans from concealed positions.

Reinforcements came immediately. A platoon from Charlie Company joined Bravo and helicopter gunships from **F Troop, 8th Cavalry,** rained deadly fire on the enemy positions.

The battle raged for ten days. Most of the action involved con-
(Cont. on page 10) tact that soon mushroomed into heavy exchanges of fire.

Elements of the 3rd Battalion, 82nd Artillery, provided invaluable firepower throughout the operation. Explosions rocked enemy bunkers, accounting for many enemy deaths and clearing the way for an infantry assault.

Eventually, the NVA elements were thrust back toward the Nui Chom ridgeline, where the ?n Regiment, 1st Marine Division, waited for the remnants of the battered NVA force.

"We definitely disrupted the NVA plan to overrun Hiep Duc and LZ West," asserted LTC Cecil M. Henry (Rome, Ga.), commanding officer of the 4th Bn., 31st Inf.

Enemy equipment captured by the 4th Bn., 31st Inf. included ?26 individual weapons, two mortar tubes, four damaged .51 caliber machine guns, 208 Chicom grenades and nineteen B-40 rockets.

This is an article from the 196th LIB Newsletter:

Cav. Vs Sniper

By Sp4 Richard Merritt

LZ HAWK HILL**In fast-paced action in Que Son Valley, 21 miles northwest of Tam Ky, ground units of **F Troop, 8th Cavalry**, killed one Viet Cong sniper as circling 'Blue Ghost' gunships blasted two other enemy.

The CA by the Chu Lai-based unit met the fast-shooting sniper as the infantrymen up a deeply rutted trail. Viet Cong tunnel entrances and Ho Chi Minh sandal tracks were everywhere along the bamboo-shrouded foot path. The site of the brief contact was near where NVA mortar and machine gun emplacements were situated during the August offensive aimed at the 196th.

Artillery form B Battery 3/82 at LZ Center was called in on the site of the encounter.

This is an article from the 196th LIB Newsletter:

Vol 2, No. 8 CHARGER AUGUST 1, 1970

1-46 MIX ROCKS AND FRAGS – KILL 53 NVA

1LT Michael Simmons

LZ Hawk Hill**In a rock-throwing, grenade tossing battle west of Tam Ky, Americal Division infantry, artillery and helicopter gunships recently combined to kill 53 NVA.

Companies B and C, 1-46, were conducting search and clear operations in the rugged jungle terrain of Hiep Duc Valley.

"We sent one company to clear the high ground to the north and another to clear the valley floor, said MAJ James M. Hallinan, (Akron, Ohio), operations officer, 1-46.

Co. B moved out to sweep the valley floor in the early morning hours and immediately became involved in what proved to be the biggest firefight of the day.

"We started moving out of our night laager around 5:30 in the morning, "said 1LT Drake H. Erby, (Milton, Wis.), 2nd platoon leader. "The 3rd platoon was point, mine was second and the 1st platoon was drag."

As the company moved across a small grassy opening, the point platoon began receiving rifle fire from a tree-line to the front. At the same time the 1st platoon, which was still in the night laager waiting for the other platoons to move across, began receiving heavy mortar and automatic weapons fire.

"We spotted some NVA in the woodline to the north and opened up on them, "said SSG Charlie Hall, (Hookertown, N.C.), 1st platoon sergeant. "As we were blasting them, someone also noticed two attempting to sneak up on our perimeter. We threw hand frags and killed them both."

As the 1st platoon continued to fire suppressive fire, the 3rd platoon continued to receive sniper fire and incoming mortar rounds. The 2nd platoon spotted some communication wires on the ground and cut them. The mortar rounds temporarily stopped. The 2nd platoon then moved up to take point and was ordered to secure a defensive position from which an assault on the dug in NVA could be made.

"We dug in faster than I ever imagined it could be done," said Lt. Erby. By this time the 3rd platoon had joined the second – only the first platoon remained to cross the open area.

Gunships from the 71st Assault Helicopter Co. and **F Trp., 8th Cav.,** killed three NVA. Artillery was also pounding the enemy positions as the 1st platoon began to move from the old night laager.

"We moved out by fire and movement and spotted the bunkers, "said SSG Hall. "We had no place to go but forward so that's what we did."

The ensuing battle was a grenade-tossing, bunker to bunker battle, as the infantrymen moved in to destroy the NVA.

As the bitter struggle progressed, the 1st platoon found they had used all their hand grenades. One squad each from the 2nd and 3rd platoons collected all the available grenades and moved to aid the 1st platoon.

With the arrival of reinforcements and more grenades the "Professionals" continued the assault.

It was a bunker to bunker, hole to hole fight, "said Lt. Erby. "We would toss a grenade into a bunker and it would come flying back out. So we resorted to throwing in a rock to confuse the enemy and then immediately tossing in a grenade. It worked."

The infantrymen finally knocked out the last bunker. In the area search that followed, they found that there had been a total of 14 heavily fortified bunkers connected by a trenchline. Twenty-nine dead NVA were counted by the

(Continued -1)

Americans.

"Evidently the NVA had planned to ambush as we moved out," said Lt. Erby, "but we moved before they were ready and caught them flatfooted."

Co. B then moved to the high ground and later spotted a large number of NVA in the open. A firebird from 71st Assault Helicopter Co. was called in and killed 10 of the enemy.

Co. C, clearing the high ground, had received heavy mortar fire and the entire morning. However, the men of Co. C continued to support Co. B. As a result four NVA died from Co. C's intense barrage of rifle and machinegun fire.

Two days later soldiers of the 6th Reg., 2nd ARVN Div., swept the site of Co. B's contact. The ARVN soldiers found six additional NVA killed by artillery from Btry. C, 3-82.

There were several reasons for the success of the Americal Div. soldiers, but one in particular stood out.

"It was an all-out effort on everyone's part," said Sgt. Dale Phelps, Van Nuys, Calif.), Co. B, 1-46. "It was fantastic how everyone worked together."

This is an article from the 196th LIB Newsletter:

Snakes are chasers

Birds bait Charlie

By SP4 Ed Buckley

CAMP CHARGER-They search, find, clear and depart ... from the air.

Although brief, it is an apt description of operations conducted by Da Nang's only two air cavalry units, **D Troop, 1st Sqd., 1st Cav.** and **F Troop, 8th Cav.**

In these units morale is high. So high, in fact that Captain James R. McLeod (Anaheim, Calif.) troop commander says, "I've got a waiting list of men trying to join my unit." He feels that one of the reasons for this is that the two air cav units are seeing more action ~~that~~ [than] most other US units in the Da Nang area.

Their mission requires them to perform air reconnaissance patrols and to act [as] a reactionary force in certain situations, this the two troops are always out and looking for enemy positions threatening the safety of Da Nang and the Us forces here.

McLeod feels that because their mission is so vital the men get involved and put forth their best. According to McLeod even the personnel working in the rear, are interested in their work and take pride in it because they realize the importance of having a smooth running operation and keeping the equipment in top condition.

In addition to maintenance and other support personnel, each troop has four special platoons which fly the missions. These are the scout platoon, gunship platoon, slick platoon and the aero rifle platoon (Blues).

Barely clearing the tree tops, a Light Observation Helicopter (LOH) manned by members of the scout platoon searches for signs of enemy activity or military structures.

If the LOH or the "little bird" finds something he may engage the target himself, mark the target's location with smoke and let the Cobra Gunships roll in and fire up the area, or he might do both.

While the LOH searches through the area two gunships (snakes) circle overhead prepared to move in and assist or protect the "little bird".

During the whole operation the slick command ship is circling high enough to keep a watch on the safety and location of the other ships, especially the "little bird" which is always in danger of being shot down when it's scouting at a low altitude.

In addition to a four man crew, a team of Blues also rides in the slick as a precautionary measure in case one of the choppers are downed. at that time the Blues will be inserted into the area to secure it from possible enemy attack.

Not only do the air cav units perform recon missions during the daylight hours, they are also responsible for patrolling the Da Nang area each night on Night Hawk missions.

With the progression of the Vietnamization program, both troops have become involved with certain Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) units in the Da Nang area.

F Troop has been working with the 196th's Combat Training Center

(Continued -1)

training infantrymen from the 51st ARVN Regiment. These ARVN Greens – counterpart to the American Blues – are participating in reconnaissance patrol and insertion exercises to enable them to take over the job previously executed solely by the Blues.

In addition to the training program, **F Troop** has also been involved in actual combat operations with the same ARVN unit.

D Troop has been working with the Greens from the 5th ARVN Regiment in recon and insertion operations for more than six weeks. On these operations D Troop uses their own choppers and crew members, but work under the direction of the ARVN's rather than the 196th. Instead of American Blues, the infantrymen inserted on the ground in this type of operation are ARVN Greens.

Each troop's operations are conducted in boxes or areas of land assigned them by the 196th. They work these boxes for a certain allotted time period according the priority assigned each box.

If the unit is working with an ARVN unit on a certain operation, the box is assigned by the commander of that ARVN organization.

"C H A R G E R" 196th Infantry Brigade
Vol 2, No. 4 Da Nang, Vietnam February 25, 1972 Pages 4-5

Thunder returns to abandoned Rawhide

By SP4 Steve Brooks

FIREBASE RAWHIDE. Rawhide thunder rolled over the Arizona Territory, and it was like old times on the once abandoned firebase.

Ghosts of grunts and redlegs from the past jumped aside and cheered as elements of the 3d Bn, 82d Arty, 2d Bn., 94th Arty, 196th Engineer Co (Pro) and F Troop, 17th Cav. returned to the hill to blast suspected enemy locations in nearby valleys.

For the 196th, the success of maintaining an effective defense posture
around the city of Da Nang means keeping the enemy off-balance.

An artillery raid accomplished this by carting artillery batteries out to strategic positions where they bombard suspected enemy positions and interdict supply routes. Then, just as quickly the artillery moves back to their previous defensive positions. All this can take place in the space of a single day.

Operating with less than 24 hours notice, the surprise artillery raid was the first time the base, called Hill 65, had seen any action since it was closed down in October 1971. This particular mission lasted three days.

It didn't take long to occupy the hill-the first engineer units were clearing the road to Rawhide at 8 a.m. and the guns were being laid in on the hill by noon of the same day. Then , with a LOH light observation helicopter) and a Cobra team from **F Troop 8th Cav** flying as spotters, the guns began to fire. It became a constant pattern of yelling directions to the blast-deafened gunners, jerking the lanyard and doing it again.

"Hey, number two gun! Deflection zero zero five eight!"

The gunner yells back "Zero zero five eight!", the engine roars to life and hydraulics whine, and it's Number two gun stand byyyyyy, FIRE!" The sweating gunner jerks the lanyard and it's shock wave and smoke, then lift another round and jerk the lanyard, over and over.

The raid was a standard artillery operation, according to Major Deral Willis, operations officer in charge. "The best defense is to zip out there and hit 'em now and then. It was a combined operation of the engineers, artillery and cavalry, because all three units are needed to work together.

"I can't clear the road for my guns or secure them on the road or in position. For this we have the engineers and the Cav. and of course, my guns are there to do the most damage. So we really need each other."

In less than three days the raid was over, and the base was abandoned as quickly as it has been occupied, leaving the dust and smoke to settle on the memories of the hill known as Rawhide.

F/8th door gunner's life? It's hectic

by SP4 STEVE BROOKS

Over the Dong Ha Valley, Republic of Vietnam – "They told me in AIT that I had 15 seconds to live once the shooting started. I beat the clock."

SP5 Jim Lowe (Buckhannon, W. Va) rides behind a machine gun in the unprotected doorway of a Huey Slick. Jim Lowe is a door gunner.

He spent 13 weeks in AIT learning how to service helicopters and shoot from the air, then did four months at the NCO academy.

When he came to Vietnam, he joined **F Troop, 8th Cavalry** as a Cobra crew chief. "I couldn't fly, of course, but when the pilot came back at the end of the day and told me about beaucoup kills, I was proud, because you can't do anything without Cobras flying. But I wanted to fly too, so I became a door gunner.

Lowe's day stars out with a formation, where he gets his assignment. The sun is just glinting on the PSP pad when he goes to ready his "ship" for flight, cleaning windows, connecting microphones, drawing and cleaning his machineguns.

Lowe invented his own mount, for using twin M-60s and built it in the hanger. "We took it to the troop Commander, Major Kennedy and test fired them for him. He loved 'em!" Every day Lowe cleans his 60's. "You fly behind a 50, you take care of it. It'll save your life."

When his wife found out Lowe was attending door gunner school, they had a lot to talk about. "She's happy as long as I'm happy and don't stick my neck out, and I can't do that anyway, with a wife and a kid at home. I like aviation, though, and want to go into it back in the world when I ETS. This is good practice for then."

In the air, Lowe is part of a team. Pilot Ben Nielson commented, "I can't fly without door gunners. They're my eyes and ears to the rear. They tell me how high off the ground I am, where I'm taking fire from. I couldn't land in a bush LZ without them."

It goes both ways, according to Lowe, who believes that "The pilots have our lives in their hands." The helmets they wear provide intercommunication and the pilots and door gunners discuss strategy as they cruise over Vietnam at 100 knots per hour.

One recent day started high over the foothills of the Ashau Valley, just south of the DMZ. The "Blue Ghost" team included Lowe's slick, a LOH (light observation helicopter) and two Cobra gunships.

The pilot's voice crackled over the intercom. This is a specified strike zone. If you see enemy positions, fire em up!" Lowe answers, We'll probably throw hot brass all over the bird."

"That's all right. You just keep shooting. Keep your eyes open for tracers, and if you see muzzle flashes, get em!"

"Somebody taking incoming at 12 o'clock."

"Roger, that's Carrol."

"Rocket fire at 7 o'clock low! We're taking tracers!" The twin 60's on one side of the bird open up. Lowe's .50 cal on the other waits for bigger targets. Far below, the LOH buzzes close to the ground, looking for targets.

Over the intercom. "Keep an eye on that little bird. If he starts taking fire, put some stuff down there.

"TAKIN' FIRE, TAKIN'FIRE!!"

Lowe mashes his thumb down on the .50 cal trigger and the whole ship shakes

(Continued -1)

as he slides across the seat, raining fire on an enemy gun emplacement. The ship slams violently to on side as an NVA Rocket Propelled Grenade airbursts a few feet away. Lowe continues firing, his heavy shoulder shaking from the recoil of the big machine gun.'

After a moment, the tracers stop streaking by. The pilot's calm voice comes over the headset: "That dude you shot at. I think you got him, he stopped firing."

The slick continues circling, just south of Firebase Sarge, which is burning heavily.

For a moment it's all conversation again. "Here's where we took the RPG."

From then on, the flight was a series of sights on the ground, sounds over the intercom.

A Cobra pilot comes on the air "takin' fire! I'm hit! I've got a round in the belly of the ship!"

The wounded Cobra spins and makes a run for the sea, and Lowe's slick makes a tight turn to give chase. Again the pilot's voice. "Strap down everything back there- if he goes down, we're going right on his tail and pick him up."

Lowe jumps form his seat and begins stuffing loose tools and ammunition into corners, under seats, then opens up new boxes of .50 cal ammo and snaps the belts together, then into the gun. His eyes dart from side to side, and his lips purse against the microphone. The slick is straining at 105 knots shaking with the speed.

This time luck is with them the Cobra makes it to Quang Tri, spilling fuel all the way. The other Cobra in the flight needs to be rearmed.

Lowe and his partner are the only ground crewmen around, so they run over and rearm the snake, then refuel their own slick. Now night is closing on the airstrip, and the birds shut down for a few hours.

Over the next two days, Lowe and his team snatched 12 Americans from firebases being mortared, rocketed, and overrun.

When Brigadier General Joseph c. McDonough', commander of the 196th Infantry Brigade, visited **F Troop**, he pinned two Distinguished Flying Crosses on Lowe. For a moment it was all close again, as the orders read "Distinguished Flying Cross to SP5 James Lowe, for heroism in flying over territory known to be occupied by regimental sized NVA forces and high caliber anti-aircraft emplacements. Lowe dismounted and helped carry a wounded Marine to the helicopter, during which time the base was undergoing intense mortar attack. Lowe's deadly suppressive fire allowed the aircraft to escape."

The orders can't tell of the endless circling over enemy machineguns, the shock of a .50 cal. recoiling against your hands the yelling over the intercom when everybody is taking fire, the sensation of lifting off a pad just as incoming blows it up, and of looking into the eyes of an enemy machine gunner trying to kill you.

The orders can't convey things like that, or how Jim Lowe thinks of going home now, and how it feels to be short. If you want to know about things like that, ask Jim Lowe, door gunner. He'll tell you what it's all about.

This article comes from the 198th Brigade Newsletter

'ready rifles' kill 43 ~use aero-scout attack~

LZ STINSON – They came by air, approaching the enemy like huge metallic insects speeding to the kill.

With their guns barking like hounds bent on bringing down the elusive fox, aero-scouts of **F troop, 8th Cavalry** teamed with elements of the 1st Bn., 52nd Inf. recently to account for 43 enemy dead in some dozen separate engagements near LZ Stinson.

The "kangaroo" tactics used by the gunships and "Ready Rifles" infantrymen routed both NVA and Viet Cong forces from trenches near the village of Cay Thi (2).

"The **gunship fire support** was great, the element of surprise shocked the enemy, and we had beaten him even before he knew what was happening," said Maj. John F. Lehmann (Frankfort, Ky.), acting commander of the 198th Brigade element. "These aero-scout tactics are new to us, but they are an effective aid to an already highly developed fighting ability as a combat-hardened unit."

During the day light observation helicopters and small patrol units were sent out to search suspected enemy locations, while a reinforcement group was standing by at LZ Stinson, ready to be flown in wherever contact was made.

South of Duyen Phuoc (3) village, along the Tra Khuc River, the enemy was cooking rice out in the open, and got a deadly surprise when the 1/52 troops stopped by unexpectedly for chow.

Other times the battalion's reinforcement platoon landed and flushed the enemy out of hiding and into open terrain where the "**Blue Ghosts**" brought them down quickly.

for fighting men too busy to keep their own!
(Scrapbook: A 20-30 page xeroxed copy of articles selected and sent by the Army to veterans after they returned from Vietnam.)

Viet Copter Rescue
Like Trapeze Act

CHU LAI, Vietnam (Special) - To six U.S. Army Rangers on a Recon patrol a trapeze act is a wild ride through the night on a rope dangling from a Huey with a hail of enemy fire tracing their every move.

The G Go. Rangers, 75th Inf. Americal Div., had spotted two Viet Cong in a woodline 20 miles west of Chu Lai. A closer check revealed about 20 of their comrades enjoying a party. The team leader Sgt. Richard Welch of St. Cloud Minn. called in artillery.

When the rounds were on target, he radioed for a pick up from the area. A Huey from **F Troop, 8th Cavalry,** arrived followed by a flare ship to illuminate the area, and a gunship to provide protective fire.

The landing zone that the patrol had moved onto was too small for the copter to set down, and with the enemy in hot pursuit there was no time to move to another one. So a rigging and a rope ladder were dropped to the Rangers.

A McGuire rigging is a wooden yoke attached to a choppers's underside with ropes dropping 120 feet.

Pfcs, John Haines of Massapequa, N.Y., and Perry Hughes of Dallas scrambled up the ladder into the chopper with full field gear.

Sgt. Thomas McCarthy of Massapequa Park and Spec 5. Robert Baldwin of Freehold, N.J., grabbed the ladder and hung on.

Welch and Spec. 4 John Shenkaruk of Detroit grabbed the McGuire lines. During the lift up, with the four men swinging 120 feet below, Shenkaruk was brushed against a tree, lost his balance and ended up swinging by his feet. Welch cam to his aid and steadied him by grabbing him around the legs.

Shenkaruck managed to pull his radio from his back and call the pilot. "I'm hanging upside down, can you set me down anywhere?" he asked. "Impossible," said the pilot so for the next 20 minutes and 15 miles Shenkaruk rode through the dark in this position until the pilot was able to set down in a rice paddy.

The ropes had become so tangled they had to be cut away. Then the men scrambled into the rescue craft and were flown to Chu Lai.

F/8 CAV Helicopters – VHPA listing

List of ALL Helicopters used in Vietnam -

Model	Tail Number	Purch. Date MMYY	Begin in Unit YYMM	Begin Hours	Finish in Unit YYMM	Finish Hours	Total Hours in Unit
UH-1C	65-09563	0566	6908	715	6909	758	43
UH-1H	65-09962	0666	7107	3388	7211	4036	648
OH-6A	65-12969	0567	6808	532	6905	655	123
OH-6A	65-12997	0767	6808	298	6905	719	421
UH-1C	66-00603	0966	6808	948	6808	1015	67
UH-1C	66-00674	1166	6808	919	6809	984	65
UH-1C	66-00676	1166	6808	1002	6808	1019	17
UH-1C	66-00678	1166	6808	940	6808	940	0
UH-1C	66-00738	0167	6808	782	6809	903	121
OH-6A	66-07800	0967	6808	692	6808	692	0
OH-6A	66-07824	0967	6808	709	6905	1039	330
OH-6A	66-07827	1067	6808	608	6808	697	89
OH-6A	66-07829	1067	6808	577	6808	656	79
OH-6A	66-07838	1167	7103	1179	7211	1972	793
UH-1C	66-15011	0267	6812	997	6907	1245	248
UH-1C	66-15039	0267	6808	1002	6810	1138	136
UH-1C	66-15040	0267	6808	958	6907	1313	355
UH-1C	66-15042	0267	6808	685	6808	752	67
UH-1C	66-15073	0367	6908	685	6909	727	42
AH-1G	66-15316	1167	7208	2412	7301	2623	211
AH-1G	66-15319	1167	7005	800	7010	1099	299
UH-1H	66-16024	0267	6808	645	7004	1860	1215
UH-1H	66-16026	0267	6808	544	6910	1391	847
UH-1H	66-16028	0267	6808	579	6904	1109	530
UH-1H	66-16254	0467	7002	1522	7203	2947	1425
UH-1H	66-17022	1167	7101	2087	7207	3168	1081
OH-6A	66-17762	0368	7110	609	7112	752	143
AH-1G	67-15612	0568	6808	7	7003	947	940
AH-1G	67-15621	0568	6808	1	7101	1774	1773
AH-1G	67-15627	0668	6808	0	7007	1372	1372
AH-1G	67-15639	0668	6808	0	7207	2482	2482
AH-1G	67-15644	0668	6808	0	6909	622	622
AH-1G	67-15648	0668	6808	1	7207	1425	1424
AH-1G	67-15650	0668	7101	1078	7207	1949	871
AH-1G	67-15663	0768	6809	1	7004	983	982
AH-1G	67-15664	0768	6808	0	7003	1041	1041
AH-1G	67-15666	0768	6809	1	6901	284	283
AH-1G	67-15680	0768	7212	1793	7301	1841	48
AH-1G	67-15709	0868	7004	336	7007	562	226
AH-1G	67-15714	0868	7101	1394	7206	2172	778
AH-1G	67-15769	1068	7005	678	7012	1066	388
AH-1G	67-15795	1068	7011	891	7012	943	52
AH-1G	67-15804	1168	7208	2396	7301	2634	238
AH-1G	67-15834	1168	7201	1775	7207	2034	259
AH-1G	67-15865	1268	6903	0	6912	635	635
OH-6A	67-16002	0468	7101	1123	7112	1522	399
OH-6A	67-16019	0568	7208	1518	7301	1694	176
OH-6A	67-16040	0568	6808	130	6901	515	385

OH-6A	67-16049	0568	6808	30	6905	464	434
OH-6A	67-16050	0568	6812	97	6905	249	152
OH-6A	67-16067	0568	6808	1	6907	654	653
OH-6A	67-16094	0668	7105	821	7110	1251	430
OH-6A	67-16214	0768	7212	2656	7301	2731	75
OH-6A	67-16223	0868	6809	0	6907	648	648
OH-6A	67-16232	0868	6809	0	6811	147	147
OH-6A	67-16251	0868	7101	1483	7102	1518	35
OH-6A	67-16275	0868	7205	2214	7205	2216	2
OH-6A	67-16338	0968	7105	654	7301	1481	827
OH-6A	67-16535	0169	6902	5	6905	167	162
OH-6A	67-16536	1268	6901	0	6907	338	338
OH-6A	67-16638	0269	7105	938	7110	1258	320
UH-1H	67-17158	0168	6901	120	6905	425	305
UH-1H	67-17262	0268	6808	148	6909	1049	901
UH-1H	67-17339	0368	7005	1202	7011	1566	364
UH-1H	67-17684	0768	7105	2163	7106	2236	73
UH-1H	67-17714	0868	7208	2915	7301	3135	220
UH-1H	67-17788	0968	7101	1529	7104	1731	202
UH-1H	67-17801	0968	7103	2241	7203	3111	870
UH-1H	67-17815	0968	7302	2537	7302	2567	30
UH-1H	67-17840	1068	7005	966	7011	1339	373
AH-1G	68-15021	0169	6904	0	7301	2245	2245
AH-1G	68-15054	0269	7208	2474	7211	2578	104
AH-1G	68-15055	0269	7208	2788	7212	2976	188
AH-1G	68-15071	0369	7208	1459	7301	1567	108
AH-1G	68-15097	0369	7006	256	7012	585	329
AH-1G	68-15106	0469	7208	2402	7301	2679	277
AH-1G	68-15199	0769	7103	1618	7103	1656	38
UH-1H	68-15217	1268	6901	0	7301	2987	2987
UH-1H	68-15243	1268	7201	2205	7207	2621	416
UH-1H	68-15322	0169	7107	1622	7302	2762	1140
UH-1H	68-15590	0469	6906	0	7011	1098	1098
UH-1H	68-15622	0569	6906	0	7104	1459	1459
UH-1H	68-16311	0969	7012	1411	7112	2210	799
UH-1H	68-16324	1069	6911	0	7012	919	919
UH-1H	68-16327	1069	6911	0	6912	159	159
UH-1H	68-16364	1069	6911	0	7006	556	556
UH-1H	68-16450	1169	6912	0	7004	336	336
AH-1G	68-17033	0969	7201	1434	7203	1581	147
AH-1G	68-17034	0969	7002	37	7203	1587	1550
AH-1G	68-17111	0170	7101	654	7301	1909	1255
OH-6A	68-17147	0569	6906	0	7003	284	284
OH-6A	68-17151	0469	7003	19	7003	40	21
OH-6A	68-17152	0569	6906	0	6912	148	148
OH-6A	68-17157	0569	6906	0	6907	47	47
OH-6A	68-17165	0569	6906	0	6906	11	11
OH-6A	68-17179	0569	6907	1	7002	352	351
OH-6A	68-17190	0569	7101	1163	7102	1255	92
OH-6A	68-17202	0669	6908	0	7012	769	769
OH-6A	68-17211	0569	7003	45	7207	1630	1585
OH-6A	68-17225	0669	6908	4	7101	732	728
OH-6A	68-17230	0669	7102	1106	7104	1211	105
OH-6A	68-17234	0669	7201	1516	7301	2093	577
OH-6A	68-17235	0669	6908	1	7101	712	711
OH-6A	68-17244	0769	7208	326	7301	690	364
OH-6A	68-17254	0769	6908	0	7104	898	898
OH-6A	68-17275	0869	6910	1	6910	40	39
OH-6A	68-17289	0969	7208	1522	7210	1563	41

OH-6A	68-17295	0969	6911	0	7104	669	669
OH-6A	68-17297	0969	7201	1675	7301	2206	531
OH-6A	68-17309	1069	7004	317	7205	1770	1453
OH-6A	68-17336	1169	7208	1885	7301	2061	176
OH-6A	68-17338	1169	7201	1241	7205	1494	253
OH-6A	68-17344	1169	7201	1529	7205	1790	261
OH-6A	68-17357	1269	7003	28	7006	306	278
OH-6A	68-17369	1269	7103	153	7107	477	324
UH-1H	69-15037	0170	7302	1756	7302	1781	25
UH-1H	69-15040	0170	7107	914	7110	1138	224
UH-1H	69-15056	0170	7105	888	7301	2164	1276
UH-1H	69-15366	0570	7208	1419	7301	1548	129
UH-1H	69-15379	0570	7101	614	7102	773	159
UH-1H	69-15389	0570	7007	0	7101	636	636
UH-1H	69-15423	0670	7201	1650	7301	2336	686
UH-1H	69-15452	0670	7212	1642	7301	1702	60
UH-1H	69-15476	0670	7007	0	7302	1999	1999
UH-1H	69-15711	0970	7208	878	7301	1085	207
UH-1H	69-15828	1170	7012	0	7012	46	46
UH-1H	69-15836	1170	7012	0	7012	74	74
OH-6A	69-15976	0270	7004	7	7012	590	583
OH-6A	69-15999	0370	7212	2156	7301	2276	120
OH-6A	69-16012	0470	7007	1	7106	715	714
OH-6A	69-16013	0470	7208	1466	7208	1526	60
OH-6A	69-16031	0570	7201	1257	7202	1257	0
OH-6A	69-16053	0770	7208	1512	7301	1722	210
AH-1G	69-16414	0270	7101	572	7106	918	346
AH-1G	69-16438	0470	7101	354	7102	476	122
AH-1G	69-16440	0470	7008	0	7301	1574	1574
AH-1G	69-16447	0570	7008	0	7206	1284	1284
UH-1H	70-15856	0571	7212	521	7302	697	176
UH-1H	70-15916	0571	7212	574	7302	673	99
AH-1G	70-16020	0372	7208	178	7301	562	384
UH-1H	71-20081	0472	7208	57	7302	495	438
UH-1H	71-20084	0472	7208	126	7211	535	409
UH-1H	71-20093	0472	7206	3	7302	266	263

Total helicopters = 143 Total number of hours = 71459

Email address: roush@servtech.com

Note: This list only includes helicopters that were in this unit after September 1966. The primary source of this information is the U.S. Army Goldbook. Accuracy is estimated to be about 80% to 95%.

Please send additions or corrections to:

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The following are selected text from Emails that were received related to the funeral of James McQuade. McQuade was the Vietnam era DSC recipient from Troop F, 8th Cavalry.

F/8th Cav 123rd Avn Bn supported the Americal Division in Vietnam. These are messages I have copied from former Americal Division pilots (Mike Sloniker & Bill Staffa) from the Vietnam Helicopter Flight Crew network regarding services for two F/8th Cav soldiers who were recently interred at Arlington National Cemetery. Mike Sloniker is the current Vietnam Helicopter Pilot Association Historian.

Subject: F/8 funeral Lt James McQuade/Sp4 James Hackett-05 May 2000 ANC From: "Mike Sloniker" Date: Sat, 06 May 2000 07:57:14 -0400

Attended one of the best, simple, and from the heart ANC funerals to date this morning. Over 40 attendees, of which 28 were Blue Ghosts, majority 1972 Blue Ghost vets of the Easter Offensive 1972.

The Air Cavalrymen honor and tradition was enhanced by the moving words spoken by Col ret Jack Kennedy commander F/8 at the time of the deaths. Powerful Additonally, they walked the 1+ mile to the gravesite behind the casket.

Afterwards we ate lunch at the Ft Myer NCO club where I learned more about the warriors from Blue Ghost. They flew in the 101st AO when it was falling in 1972. One AH-1G crew got into IMC and had to make an IFR approach into Bastogne. Snake was also on a 20 min fuel light at the time. EVERYONE knows that is impossible, but because of the IMC they were on instruments and landing to a fire on the FB. When the AC of the snake (La Celle) was asked how he was doing he said," My front seat has a standard ticket, and WE are doing just fine." When they finally got on Bastogne, an American advisor told them they had to get out of there because there was going to be ground attack, they told the grunt Colonel he could fly the snake out of there, they weren't.

Next morning, after no ground attack, a Blue Ghost slick, having no place to land, HOVERED over the snake and they gravity fed JP-4 from a blivet inside the slick to the Snake. They refer to it as the first aerial refueling of a snake by a slick.

Here is how that looked in YOUR 1999 VHPA history on YOUR CD ROM: Rosebeary and Gorski climbed out and told him what happened. Even though it was now almost completely dark, White immediately decided to mount a search for his downed crew. He had another flight of two AH-1s in the rearm/refuel pit. Once again, It consisted of Blueghost Red, CPT Tim Sprouse, and 1LT Chuck LaCelle, Blueghost 26. This ubiquitous tag-team just seemed to be everywhere in the battle. White directed Sprouse to take **Blueghost 3**0 and the other gunship to search the Dong Ha area for any sign of the lost crew. The three crews launched off in the dark for their missing mates. But low clouds had moved in over Dong Ha. Every time they tried to drop down below them to visually search the area, the NVA gunners opened up on them, and Sprouse was unnerved by the "big red tennis balls," which were being fired at them. Several times, they heard an emergency beeper. But nobody ever responded to their calls to "come up voice." At one point, Sprouse also observed somebody firing what appeared to be small "pengun" signaling flares carried by all crewmembers. But without voice contact, he was hesitant to commit one of his helicopters for a pick up or even a closer look. It could easily have been a trap.(15)

Prior to launching on the search, Blueghost Red had been able to refuel. But Blueghost 26 had not. Consequently, he got a "low fuel" light before the other two. This light came on in the cockpit when the helicopter had 20 minutes of fuel left before flaming out. In practical terms, it meant that it was time to land. LaCelle announced his fuel status to Blueghost Red. The leader acknowledged and then directed that he remain in the search for five more minutes since the nearest airfield at Hue/Phu Bai was not that far away. LaCelle complied and after five more minutes of fruitless searching, turned to head for the airfield. But more cloud decks had moved in. They could not proceed visually. Instead, they had to switch to instrument flying to get through the clouds. To help them navigate, they contacted the radar controllers at Hue for radar vectors. But the controllers could not pick them up on their radar scopes. Anxiously, they contacted a US Navy radar aboard one of the ships out in the Gulf. But they also could not pick up the helicopters. So LaCelle headed off in what he thought was the direction of Hue/Phu Bai. After several minutes and approaching fuel exhaustion and flameout, he spotted a light through the clouds. With no other options, he descended through the clouds and landed next to the light. Moments later, his engine flamed out. Luckily, LaCelle had stumbled upon a friendly ARVN outpost. He had landed at Bastogne, an old US 101st Airborne Division firebase now occupied by a battalion of the 1st ARVN Infantry Division, several miles west of Hue/Phu Bai. The two American advisors greeted him warmly. They had been surrounded by NVA forces for several days and asked him if he could arrange gunship support for their battalion. He called Captain Sprouse who was overhead to report his status and their request. Then he and his gunner tried to get some sleep.(16) As the three helicopters were searching for Blueghost 39, Captain White called down to the Troop headquarters at Marble Mountain. He told them to round up all sober pilots and be prepared to launch out immediately to Hue/Phu Bai to support a first light effort to continue to search for the crew, and recover LaCelle and his gunner from Bastogne. One of the administrative clerks immediately went to the Officers' Club to start rounding up the crews.(17)

Captain Morse and his wingman landed at Da Nang. Both aircraft were so badly damaged that they would require several days of repair work before being flyable again. They debriefed intelligence on the dramatic events unfolding up north. Then Morse got on the phone and called back to his squadron commander at NKP. He told him of the situation and stated that they needed more A-1s at Da Nang. This was going to require an extensive effort to fish this guy out of the middle of the NVA Army. His commander replied that several A-1s would be dispatched that night to augment the effort. Then Morse tried to get some sleep. He knew that tomorrow was going to be a very busy day. The effort was going to be difficult, but there was no doubt that they would go back in to get him. That was what they did. That was why they were there. They would do everything they could to get him out. He was one of ours and would not be left behind. Like any other downed airman, all efforts would be made to get him out as long as he was still alive and free. But Morse could not doze off. The thought of the guns haunted him. There were so many. Instead, he either paced or shook the whole night. It was "the worst night of his life."(18)

We remembered the fallen with dignity, the McQuade brother looks like his fallen brother, the Hackett family personally thanked Jack Kennedy for his words, and we have one more VN set of helicopter warriors in the hallowed ground of Arlington National Cemetery.

It was a great day to be an American.

So just who are these guys? More from YOUR history on YOUR 1999 VHPA CD Rom concerning the rescue of Bat 21 Bravo, written by author Darrel Whitcomb and

provided to us for OUR history::

"Blueghost 28 and 39 proceeded into the area at low altitude. 39(Frink, Kulland, Paschall, and Astorga) was out front at 50 feet above the ground. Blueghost 28 was at 300 feet, about 3,000 feet behind, in proper position to deliver rocket and machine gun fire against anything which might shoot at the 39. But as they passed Dong Ha and crossed to the north side of the river, they began to take heavy ground fire.
Blueghost 28(Rosebeary, who was an Okla State Classmate of Sloniker's) responded with rockets and 40mm fire against the guns. But the ground fire was coming from everywhere, and immediately began scoring against both helicopters. Captain Rosebeary was thrown off of balance. He could hear and feel the rounds slamming into his aircraft. Some shattered his canopy. Others ripped at the vital components of his machine. Critical systems began to fail. All types of warning lights began to illuminate in the cockpit. Rosebeary's trusty Cobra was being rapidly converted into a piece of torn wreckage.
He could also see that Blueghost 39 was taking hits. Rosebeary called for the two of them to turn and leave the area. 39 did not respond verbally, but Rosebeary could see that he was beginning to turn. Then 39 began to smoke from the engine area, and Rosebeary watched him cross behind a tree line and set down in a controlled landing at coordinates YD218628.(8)
The crew of Blueghost 39, consisting of pilots 1LT Byron Kulland and Warrant Officer John Frink, crewchief Specialist Five Ronald Paschall and gunner Specialist Five Jose Astorga, was down behind enemy lines and in serious trouble. During the run in, they had also seen all of the muzzle flashes. The pilot, 1LT Kulland, began a descent to try to use the terrain and trees for protective cover. The gunner Specialist Five Astorga, called out ground fire to him and began returning fire against the overwhelming force. But his gun jammed and he was hit in the leg and chest. He passed out momentarily and came to when the helicopter lurched to a stop on the ground. He quickly unstrapped and crawled to the cockpit to check on the other three. One pilot and Paschall were conscious. Somebody threw Astorga a survival vest, and he began to crawl away from the chopper. But he realized that he was alone so he decided to turn back to make an effort to pull out the rest of the crew. Then someone yelled "VC!" and he could see enemy troops closing in. They were firing their weapons at the helicopter. It exploded in a violent fireball. The other three crewmembers were still onboard. The wave of heat from the explosion swept over Astorga, and he renewed his efforts to crawl away.
Immediately, he was set upon by NVA troops and captured. He began his long journey north to Hanoi. He never saw his two pilots or crewchief again. (9)
But Captain Rosebeary did not know this as he struggled to keep his ripped and shattered helicopter in the air and escape to the south. Fortunately, his main radio still worked. So as he egressed, he called a warning to the other two choppers not to cross the river. He also made his own Mayday call, announcing that he was badly damaged and heading southeast to escape. Jolly Green 67, one of the HH-53s which had launched for Mike 81 was still in the area. He acknowledged the call and proceeded to rendezvous with Blueghost 28.
Once clear of the immediate danger area Rosebeary and his Gunner Warrant Officer Charles Gorski tried to determine the condition of their aircraft. It was severely damaged. The antitorque control was gone and the transmission by-pass light was on. The fuel tanks were also leaking fuel at the rate of about 50 pounds a minute. So Captain Rosebeary kept flying until the engine quit. He then autorotated onto the beach south of the Cua Viet River.(10, 11) Almost immediately, Jolly Green 67 landed and picked up the crew.(12) Just a few minutes later, Blueghost 30 landed next to the wreckage of 28 and recovered what gear they could along with radio code cards and maps. The copilot, Warrant Officer Laughlin, was in

shock over the fate of his compatriots on Blueghost 39. But for a turn of fate, he would have been there instead of Warrant Officer Frink. (13)"

Subject: Arlington Funerals
From: "Bill Staffa" <skeeter6@erols.com>
Date: Sat, 6 May 2000 09:10:12 -0400

Skip assures The Loadhacker,

Thx for the concern. Rest assured the family is being well represented by Military assistance.
Keep in mind that Gary was one of the, if not the most decorated Scout Pilot.
His decoration begin one level below the Medal of Honor with the Distinguished Service Cross, plus multiple Silver Stars and Distinguished Flying Cross.
Its in keeping with his 'extraordinary gallantry' on SE Asia battlefields he be accorded this timely 'Full Honors" burial at Arlington.
Those honors are planned to include Cassion, Military band, Firing Squad, Bugler, US Flag presentation and (hopefully) reversed stirrup horse borne boots. RIP Skip

Just for the record, it doesn't matter if the deceased is Audie Murphy. The decorations don't matter. I have been the family representative for three burials at Arlington, including two General Officers, to include one with the DSC.

The firing party is normal procedure. "Full Military Honors" includes a band and a number of soldiers, ranging in size based on RANK (not decorations). For a Colonel, BG, it's about 40 plus the band. The horse is accorded those in the rank in Colonel or above. That's because originally the Regimental Commanders were mounted while everybody else wasn't. Somewhere in the regulations (they're on line) there's a little blurb that says commissioned officers of the Field Artillery or Cavalry (which does not officially exist as a branch anymore) may be accorded the honor of the "riderless horse" (they have a fancy name for that horse - doesn't come to mind) ... "cassion" seems to ring a bell ... means he has a hood and a blanket-like covering ...

In "Full Honors" the band proceeds the caisson to the gravesite playing some appropriate music. They are flexible, and at my father-in-law's funeral I asked them to play "The Caisson Song" on the way ... and all the officers present wore RED sox in honor of a "big-time" Field Artilleryman. (The first Artillery OCS graduate to be promoted to BG). They played the song, though the band leader felt it was a bit "jaunty" for a funeral.

What Mike is saying is essentially correct. It takes two or three weeks, sometimes more, to arrange "Full Military Honors", but they do a bang-on job even with just a small group.
This time lag causes a problem sometimes with those of certain faiths that require the individual to be interred within 48 hours ... I assume they "try" to accommodate these cases.

The essence is that any service member who is eligible to be interred in Arlington is an official "hero", by the charter
of the cemetery itself ... the Purple Heart is the same as The Medal of Honor.

And, due to the number of funerals they actually have to do ... sometimes 12

Full Honors and as many as 24 others (there are two Chaplains, for instance, on duty each day and one company of the 3d Infantry Regiment), they don't get overly flexible with scheduling.

Whatever is arranged, it will be one of the most moving experiences the family and friends will ever have, it is the one last true place where you feel someone appreciates the soldier. The burial party is immaculate, their uniforms fit ... they're never faded or washed out ... the animals are majestic ... the flags are bright and crisp ... quite a moving experience ...

Just a shame we have to see our friends go there.

Bill Staffa

The following section will include articles from the Americal Division's weekly newspaper, "The Southern Cross" that reference Troop F, 8th Cavalry activities. The first issue was published in May 1968 and the final issue was in the fall of 1971. The newspapers were usually eight pages with cartoons and world events included. Approximately 118 issues have been located with perhaps 40 that are still missing. Nearly 50 of these newspapers had a photo or article referencing the Troop F, 8th Cavalry:

Southern Cross Newspaper: Approximately 120 issues of the Americal Division's weekly newspapers have been located. Approximately 40 issues are still being sought. Over 40 of the issues located to date have references to Troop F, 8th Cavalry in articles or photos.

This first reference to "**Blue Ghost**" was in a comic strip "Miracle Man" written for the Americal Division "Southern Cross" by Dave McGowan. The reference is found in frame 12 in the lower middle area of the cartoon.

June 68 Southern Cross - page 7

Miracle Man *...WAS LAST SEEN HOPPING INTO THE SUNSET. STILL UNFAMILIAR WITH THE POTENTIALS OF HIS NEWFOUND STRENGTH, PFC DUDLY IS NOW FOUND PERFECTING A SKILL WHICH WILL BECOME LEGENDARY....

Reference to Blue Ghosts

Page 7

AMERICAL ------- DIVISION
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SOUTHERN CROSS

Vol. 1, No. 5 CHU LAI, VIETNAM August 17, 1968

WORK TOGETHER—A Cayuse observation helicopter from the 8th Cav.'s Trp. F hovers near a thicket while ground soldiers of the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. go in to recover the body of a Viet Cong killed by the air cavalrymen. A combined action such as this accounted for 68 enemy kills recently. (Photo by Sp4 Bill Guerrant, Photo Editor)

Photo Caption- WORK TOGETHER-A Cayuse observation helicopter from the **8th Cav.'s Trp. F** hovers near a thicket while ground soldiers of the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. go in to recover the body of a Viet Cong killed by the air cavalrymen. A combined action such as this accounted for 68 enemy kills recently. (Photo by Sp4 Bill Guerrant, Photo Editor)

Cavalry Forces Kill 61 NVA

HILL 29--Americal Div. air and ground cavalrymen trapped and killed 61 North Vietnamese regulars recently in a close-in, 11-hour battle described by their commander as a "classic cavalry action."

Jet bombers supporting the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. "Dragoons" and the "Blue Ghosts" of Trp. F of the 8th Cav. accounted for another seven kills in the first significant action in the division's area

(Continued -1)

(Continued -1) Cavalry Forces Kill 61 NVA

in several days.

The fight started early July 23 when an enemy force began pelting a Trp. A platoon with recoilless rifle fire from a hilltop west of here

Engineer Company

"We have reason to believe the force was an NVA engineer company, and I think the only reason it fired at my platoon was to scare it out of the area," said LTC Richard D. Lawrence, "Dragoon" commander.

The mobility of the ground cavalry and the quick reactions of the air outfit combined to give the enemy soldiers more than they had bargained for.

"We got the remainder of Trp A on the road quickly, and hit the enemy with artillery, jet strikes and the 'Blue Ghost' gunships while the tracks were enroute," Lawrence said.

"I don't think the enemy had planned on a sustained contact, and I think he was pretty surprised at the classic cavalry swiftness."

Work With Dragoons

The "Blue Ghosts" are assigned to the division's 123rd Avn. Bn. and work under the operational control of the "Dragoons" primarily as a reconnaissance element.

The remainder of Trp. A joined with its 2nd platoon, and, enlisting the aid of the gunships and artillery fire, ringed the enemy soldiers and went in after them.

"There was very little contact for a while, then some of our gunships discovered movement to the south. The ground units adjusted their positions and surrounded the enemy again," said MAJ Harold J. Earlywood, **"Blue Ghost"** commander.

No Escapes

This time, no one escaped the trap.

The cavalrymen dismounted, and, with the aerial-rifle platoon from the **"Blue Ghost"** troop, began searching bunkers and spider holes for the enemy.

"We had hit them so hard they were completely disorganized. My men moved from bunker to bunker and spider hole to spider hole and mopped them up. We killed several with grenades thrown in bunkers, and several by simply going in after them," said CPT George Kaczer, of Spokane, Wash., Trp. A commander.

Kaczer said he and the men on his vehicle used more than 50 grenades during the battle. Lawrence said "from 45 to 50" enemy were killed in the close-in fighting.

"My men kept their platoon integrity and went at the job methodically. The Blue Ghosts did a real good job, too," Kaczer said.

The combined cavalry force captured eight individual weapons in the Operation Burlington Trail action. Four Americans were wounded during the day-two in the initial attack on the cavalry platoon and two when a helicopter was forced down by enemy fire.

17Aug68-Southern Cross Vol. 1 No. 5. Page 4-5 Full Page Spread
H i g h F l y i n g S u p p o r t

Photo Captions-

1- Gunship banks to start run (flex guns and small rocket pods, might be an older B-Model gunship; rather than the more common C-Models.)
2- Painted crest of the 123rd Avn Bn.
3- Smoke guides in resupply chopper (These markings look like a 14th Avn Bn helicopter instead of the 123rd Avn Bn.
4- Gunship crew sights weapon (One is wearing a "Warlord" pocket patch from B/123rd Avn Bn)
3. "Warlord" OH-23 searches for traces of the enemy. (Helicopter #15280 is shown with a door gunner wearing chicken plate armor and flight helmet using a cut-down M-60 hung out with bungee chord.)

Air traffic controller watches chopper land

4. Air traffic controller watches chopper land (view is from the perimeter area looking back to the South China Sea at Ky Ha heliport).
5. Maintenance is a never-ending task. (evening silhouette of a crew chief working on the main rotor with the engine cowling opened out for post-flight inspection.)
6. Courier run leaves Chu Lai daily. (Americal Patch with Pelican painted on the helicopter nose (nose art) identifies it as A/123rd Avn Bn helicopter. The skid tips appear to be red. Red tipped skids identify it as a 1st flight platoon helicopter. Blue tipped skids would identify it as the 2nd flight platoon).

Story and Photos
by
Southern Cross
Staff

CHU LAI--The men of the 123rd Avn. Bn. make their presence known daily to both enemy and friendly troops throughout the Americal Div. area of operations.

Their duties range from finding the enemy to destroying him and from resupplying isolated landing zones to providing transportation for division personnel.

The battalion is made up of the Co. A "Pelicans," the Co. B "Warlords," the **Trp. F, 8th Cav. "Blue Ghosts**," a signal detachment, a transportation detachment and a headquarters element. ***(Note by Leslie Hines: Co C 123rd Avn Bn was often omitted and most people in the unit did not realize it existed. This was a small unit stationed at Duc Pho.***)

Organic Aviation

It was organized early this year as the division's organic aviation unit from outfits already in the area (Note: formed from the 161st AHC of the 14th Avn Bn., 1st Avn Bde. At the time it was unusual for a division to have organic aviation not under the 1st Avn Bde. It may have been the first one set up this way in Vietnam.). It is commanded by LTC John N. Brandenburg (Note: John N. Brandenburg later commanded the 3/21st Bn in the 196th Inf Bde. He retired as a Lieutenant

(Continued -1)

(Continued -1) High Flying Support

General).

The Co. A "Pelicans" are responsible for general air support for the division. Their duties include resupply (Note: Mainly for Division Artillery), road patrol (Note: Mainly for 26th Engineers & 9th Marine Engineers), the transportation of VIP's and the providing of aircraft for the various courier flights from Chu Lai. (Note: 1 special forces mission was supported at Phu Bai, 1 special forces mission at Da Nang, 1 mission to provide reconnaissance for the Marines at Da Nang, Nightly flare mission, & Command & Control missions for 1st/1st Cav and other units were omitted from this article.)

Their efforts are often unsung, but nonetheless represent a vital cog in the air support of the fighting soldiers of the Army's only named division.

For instance, they fly nearly 50 tons of cargo each week.

Take War to VC

The high-flying "Warlords the only aero-scout company in Vietnam, are equipped to take the war right to the enemy's doorstep.

The company carries its own infantry, reconnaissance and firepower support elements in one neat, three-helicopter package.

Using the standard OH-23 observation helicopter, the Co. B "Warlords'" primary mission is reconnaissance. Teams of two gunships and one OH-23 scour the division area for traces of the enemy, and the mobile aerial-rifle section is available for closer inspection when it is needed.

Though the company's duties are primarily reconnaissance, and not combat, its members have accounted for more than their share of kills in action which has been centered mainly in the southern part of the division's area of operations.

Other Support

The **"Blue Ghosts" of Trp. F, 8th Cav**., though assigned to the battalion for organizational purposes, are attached to the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav., and more will be said about them in a later issue.

The 449th Sig. Det. provides avionics support for the battalion's aircraft. Though the scope of the signalmen's mission has greatly increased as the size of the battalion has increased., they have never failed in the vital job of keeping the aviators "on the air."

The 406th TC Det. "Roadrunners" (Note: reorganized to Higher Level Direct Support function as E/723rd Maint. Bn in 1969) keep the battalion in the air and on the go. The detachment provides direct support for the battalion, and calls no job short of entirely rebuilding an aircraft too large or too small.

Personnel from the battalion also are responsible for the operation of the Ky Ha tower, which controls much of the helicopter traffic coming and out of Chu Lai.

300 Killed

NVA Force Smashed

By PFC DEAN NORLAND
Staff Writer

HAWK HILL--On a rain soaked battlefield in the flooded rice paddies near Tam Ky, soldiers of the Americal Division killed 300 NVA regulars in two days of fighting.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav., and three companies of the 198th Bde and one company of the 11th Bde. under the Cav's. operational control combined forces with **F Trp., 8th Cav.** helicopter gunships and Air Force jets to rout an estimated battalion-size enemy force.

The first morning of the battle, "Dragoons" from B Trp. and D Co., 4th Bn., 21st Inf., began the action against well-entrenched NVA soldiers.

Furious Firefight

LTC Richard D. Lawrence, commander of the 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav., directed the ground attacks. "The action during the first afternoon was one of the most furious firefights that the squadron has been in since I've been here," he recalled.

Forward air controlled jet strikes were called in to soften up the enemy positions. Then night fell on the first day of battle and the Americal troops kept an eye on suspected enemy positions waiting for the fight to resume in the morning.

Additional Units

During that first night, Cos. A, B, and C of the **1st Bn., 52nd Inf.**, 198th Bde. joined the forces on the scene.

The next morning dawned gray and wet. The rain of the day before continued without let up. More air strikes were called, and helicopter **gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav.,** fired at the enemy.

Steps were taken to seal possible escape routes. Elements of A Trp. of the "Dragoons" and D Co. of the "Gimlets" ran into some heavily defended and well fortified NVA positions.

NVA Dug In

LTC Lawrence said, "The two units were receiving anti-tank rocket fire at a distance of less than 25 meters. The enemy had dug in to stay."

It took a pair of rifle companies most of that second afternoon to ferret out the North Vietnamese soldiers. One NVA corporal was discovered hiding under a mound of dirt.

LTC Lawrence noted, "Two of his fingers formed a 'F' for victory which was not to be the case for him and his comrades."

More Air Strikes

Again air strikes were called in. Air Force forward air controllers pin-pointed some of them to within 100 meters of friendly troops. One position which had come under six bombing attacks was taken by the infantrymen with relatively few shots.

Tunnel Complex

One of the final areas assaulted by ground troops revealed a large tunnel complex with entrances measuring four feet square. A unit commander thought that the maze had recently housed a rocket cache, however, none was found.

By the end of the second day, what remained of the NVA force had disappeared under the cover of rain into a valley to the southeast. Once again, the Americal had stifled and enemy threat in Quang Tin Province.

"Dragoons" Get Awards

By PFC ERIC LAMBERSON

1st Sqdn., 1st Cav.

HAWK HILL-The Chief of Quang Tin Province presented two plaques to the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav., in ceremonies here recently, for defending the city of Tam Ky during a bloody three-day battle.

Two NVA regiments, which were threatening Tam Ky and the surrounding villages, were badly mauled during the fighting leaving behind 473 dead.

CPT James D. Logan, "Dragoon" S-3, accepted the engraved plaques on behalf of the men of the unit.

The inscription on the plaques read, "The Military Administration and the people in the Quang Tin Province award this souvenir to the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry, in appreciation of the Quyet-Thang operations on the twenty-fourth through the twenty-sixth of August 1968."

The "Dragoons" were supported in the battle by units of the 196th and 11th Inf. Bdes, **F Trp,., 8th Cav**. gunships and tactical air and artillery.

Viet Cong Repulsed At Fat City By 'Brave And Bold' Artillerymen

By PFC DEAN NORLAND - Staff Writer

CHU LAI--It was very early on a Sunday morning atop Hill 35--commonly known as "Fat City"--and the men of **D Btry., 1st Bn., 14th Arty.**, were firing to the north in support of a division infantry unit.

Suddenly, the tables were turned; the artillerymen began receiving fire from the south. Mortars, CS gas rounds, and rockets showered in. The fight, which had been initially waged at a distance, turned into a face-to-face confrontation.

"A VC sapper squad of eight to ten men had cut through three rows of triple-deck concertina wire," explained CPT Elvus Farrow, the battery commander.

The artillerymen were forced out of two of the battery's four gun pits. CPL Phillip Connell had his own battle going near one of the guns.

Private Fight

"When the mortars started coming in I was in my hootch." The gunner continued. "I grabbed my helmet and M-16, dove outside, and got behind a baffle wall."

Connell got up to check out the situation. He saw the darkened figure of a man dropping grenades down the barrel of one of the howitzers. The VC saw the corporal.

"He bowled a grenade at me," the artilleryman exclaimed.

Connell hit the dirt and managed to roll rive or six feet before it exploded. The corporal received shrapnel in his left leg but was able to return fire with his M-16. Missed!

Another Grenade

Again the VC pitched a grenade at Connell; it hit the corporal's side. This time he rolled in the opposite direction before it detonated.

"I guess he thought he had me," the artilleryman related. As the sapper walked up for a close look at his intended victim, Connell put the rifle on automatic and killed his assailant.

The corporal, with shrapnel in both legs by this time, got up and started treating some of his wounded buddies.

Meanwhile, other D Btry. personnel had pushed the remaining VC outside the wire, and Cobra gunships dispatched from **F Trp., 8th Cav.** made their presence known

Helpful Cobras

CPT Farrow praised the support his unit received from the helicopter gunships. "The Cobras were outstanding, and it took them only a short time to arrive."

A body count revealed one dead VC inside the perimeter and two more outside the fence. Blood trails were found leading away from the area.

About an hour later, after the ground attack had been thwarted, the artillerymen returned to their 105's and continued their original fire mission to the north.

CPL Connell summed up his experience when he said, "I'm not all that brave. But there's no way I'm going to sit still and let 'Charlie' get me."

He was evacuated to the **9th Spt. Hosp.** here and was treated for the leg wounds.

Words Turn
Into Bullets

CHU LAI--Three Viet Cong who thought the Psychological Operations (PSYOP) team broadcasting in their area was "all bark and no bite" were in for a shock.

The team was using a Navy swift boat to patrol a portion of the Americal coast line. "We were broadcasting standard taped messages," said CPT Banta York the 198th Inf. Bde. PSYOP officer.

As the team cruised off the shore, a helicopter flew out towards the swift boats and opened fire on the tree line.

The VC reacted immediately by returning a hail of automatic weapons fire.

The swift boat got into the act and placed .50 cal., M-60, and 81mm mortar fire on the enemy position.

"While we were placing suppressing fire on their position, the gunships from **F Trp., 8th Cav.** came in and really worked the area over," CPT York said.

Three VC were killed in the action.

Cobras Coil For Kill

Cobra gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. patrol skies in support of elements of the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. The "Blue Ghosts" were flying in an operation northwest of Tam Ky. (Photo by PFC Eric Lamberson, 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav.)

Photo Caption: Cobras Coil For Kill

Cobra gunships of **F Trp., 8th Cav**. patrol skies in support of elements of the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. The "**Blue Ghosts**" were flying in an operation northwest of Tam Ky. (Photo by PFC Eric Lamberson, 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav.)

WASHDAY BLUES: HOW TO HANG IT & NOT BE HUNG

TAM KY-Memo to NVA and VC laundrymen: Don't hang the wet wash too near those "concealed" tunnel complexes.

That's what one did 5 1/2 miles west of here, and the mistake cost the enemy three NVA and eight VC killed as **F Trp., 8th Cav. and B Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav.** emptied the complex and cleaned house.

Action began when an **F Trp.** LOH spotted green and black enemy uniforms hanging on vegetation next door to the entrance of a tunnel complex.

Guided by the helicopter, SP4 John L. Snyder (Sheffield, Ohio) and SGT Michael Kawela (Chicago) of B Trp. joined an ARVN interpreter to checking the tunnel.

Three VC were seen in the tunnel and, when verbal orders and three smoke grenades failed to bring them out. The "Dragoons" used satchel charge to kill the VC.

When B Trp. returned to recon the area the following day, ILT Greg L, Yacovou (Norwich, Conn.), first platoon leader, saw three VC running near his tracks. Two were killed, and two RPG-7 rounds and a VC flag were found with the bodies.

Some 35 minutes later in the same area, Regional Force soldiers, working with the first platoon, found another tunnel whose occupants also tossed out grenades.

PSG Neil P. Farmer saw the action. "I fired on the VC and pinned them down until two tracks maneuvered near the tunnel and threw in a satchel charge."

Three NVA and two VC were killed send a weapon was captured.

And the laundry? None has been seen hanging in the area recently. (AMERICAL (IO)

Combat In Review

CHARGERS TURN TO OLD STANDBY--LOW CRAWL

By SP4 MILTON SICH

LZ CENTER – When the trail ended in thick overhanging jungle growth, a platoon of "Chargers" from the 196th Inf. Bde. low crawled into an enemy base camp and plenty of action.

The second platoon of **A Co., 3d Bn., 21st Inf.** was on a search-and-clear operation 11 miles northwest of Tam Ky where the previous day they had evacuated several detainees from a hamlet. Interrogation had produced the location of an unknown-size enemy force.

Now the platoon was patrolling the probable location in the same area in which they had made contact the day before.

"Blue Ghost" gunships of **F. Trp., 8th Cav.** assisted by rocketing the location before the platoon moved in.

Waterfall

The "Charger" platoon filed down a trail flanked by triple canopy jungle vegetation. When they could go no further because of the heavy growth, the men began searching for a way to continue.

The point element discovered a narrow path so overgrown with jungle vegetation that the men had to low crawl. After moving 50 meters, point man SP4 Terry Green (Springfield, VA) heard what he thought was running water.

Moving forward a short distance, Green came to a large waterfall. Next door was an enemy base camp, extremely well camouflaged and ringed with fighting positions and lookout posts.

As Green looked over the apparently abandoned enemy positions, he spotted movement in bushes near a tunnel. A short burst of M-16 fire brought down a VC attempting to escape.

Scramble

While reloading his weapon, Green was rushed by two more armed VC. Platoon leader 1LT Lawrence McNamara (Fairfax, Va.) wheeled and killed both VC before they reached Green.

"That sent VC scrambling everywhere," said Green.

Approaching a tunnel, two infantrymen heard a noise above the enemy position, threw grenades on top, and killed two more VC.

Meanwhile, a separate element of the platoon was sent to follow the course of the stream and ran into three more fleeing VC. Two were killed by M-16 fire, and the other was captured and returned to the rest of the platoon.

Inactive

1LT McNamara found a large tunnel complex, "I was reaching down and pulling out a VC when I noticed he had a grenade with the pin pulled," said 1LT McNamara. 'I shoved him back and hollered 'grenade!'"

The grenade blast in the tunnel killed three more VC and, after a thorough search of the camp, the platoon's lead element crawled back down the same path that had led to the base camp. Sudden movement in thick jungle in front of the platoon was stopped with a quick reconnaissance by fire. A check of the area revealed a dead VC medic.

Documents found in the medics shirt pocket named VC active in the area

After the second platoon's visit, 11 names were scratched off the active list. **(196th IO)**

BLUE GHOSTS
ADD SILENCE
AFTER SWEEP

LZ PROFESSIONAL

With the splat of an AK-47 round and thud of a .50 cal. machinegun bullet slamming into the windshield, the third chopper of the day had been hit in the sleepy little valley east of here.

The artillerymen from **C Btry., 11th Bn, 14th Arty.** were doing their best, throwing everything in their repertoire, but "Charlie" kept blasting away.

Two gunships arrived on the scene-- "**Blue Ghosts" from F' Troop., 8th Cav.**

They went high to the west and then came roaring down the valley with doorgunners blasting away and rockets blazing with deadly accuracy.

After four sweeps the valley became silent.

RTOs sent out calls of "good shot" and "that's the way to shoot." The gun had been knocked out and LZ Professional could rest for a moment anyway.

Americal Helps Refugees Resettle Hiep Duc

Photos By
SGT Derrill C. Dalby
Support Command

CHU LAI -- Last month the second phase of the resettlement program for Hiep Duc Province was undertaken and accomplished in a combined effort by the **9th Plt., 29th Civil Affairs Bn.,** MACV Advisory Team, and USAID (United States Agency for International Development) with convoy transportation supplied by B Co., 23rd S&T Bn. and route security provided by **F Troop., 8th Cav**.

Until two years ago, civilians of Hiep Duc were being moved to temporary settlements in Tam Ky due to Viet Cong activity in the province and to enable Allied operations to pacify the area. In March approximately one thousand civilians were returned to the site of their previous homes, and on May 8, an additional four hundred men, women, and children were resettled.

The convoy from **B Co. 23rd S&T Bn.** carried rice, building materials and farming supplies and equipment in addition to the second group of people. The move, a two day operation, went from Tam Ky to LZ Ross to Hiep Duc.

Photo Captions:

1) SP4 Bone helps the refugees in loading their precious sacks of rice aboard the waiting vehicles.
2) Convoy leaves LZ Ross for Hiep Duc Valley (Note: aerial photo)
3) SP4 David Hafford directs refugees in the trucks of B Co., 23rd Supply and Transportation Bn.
4) SP4 Lemon, with "Old Glory" waving in the breeze, begins convoy taking refugees to their new homes.
5) A pair of 23rd S&T drivers sit in their trucks, waiting for refugees to climb aboard.

Combat In Review

Rangers Dangle From Chopper

Trapeze Act Real Thriller

BY

PFC DEAN WILLIAMS

CHU LAI--Those daring young men on the flying trapeze are a wonderful act.

To six Americal Rangers on a recon patrol the trapeze was a McGuire rigging, dangling from a Huey at night with a hail of enemy fire instead of a spotlight.

A McGuire rigging is a wooden yoke attached to a chopper's underside with 120 ft. ropes hanging down. Two bowline loops at the end of the ropes are used to snatch infantrymen off the ground.

The **G Co. Rangers, 75th Inf.,** spotted two VC in a woodline 20 miles west of Chu Lai. A closer check revealed about 20 more enemy troops enjoying a party.

The team leader SGT Richard Wolch (St. Cloud, Minn.), called artillery on the VC location and radioed for extraction.

Up And Away

A Huey from **F Trp., 8th Cav.,** piloted by 1LT John Wyatt (Los Angeles) answered the call. A flare ship followed to illuminate the area, along with a gunship to provide protective fire.

Wolch and SP4 John Shenkaruk (Detroit) grabbed the McGuire lines.

During the lift up and move out - a tricky maneuver with two members of the team already in the chopper and two already hanging on the rigging - Shenkaruk was brushed against a tree causing him to lose balance and ended up dangling and swinging by his feet.

Shenkaruk managed to pull his radio from his back and call the pilot. "I'm hanging upside down, can you set me down anywhere?"

Hectic Ride

"Impossible," said the pilot, so for the next 20 minutes and 15 miles they journeyed in this precarious position.

Engulfed in darkness, the chopper was able with some expert handling and luck to set down in a rice paddy wet of Fat City.

After the entangled ropes were cut away, the Ranger trapeze artists were cut away and flown to Chu Lai. (Americal IO)

CONSTRUCT STURDY TOWER

CHU LAI--In blazing sunlight the **123rd Avn. Bn.'s** newly constructed Ky Ha Flight Control Tower here first looks like a gigantic red and white checkerboard.

The brainstorm of 1LT Richard Leonard (Newport Beach, Calif.) and SFC James P.L. Gordon (Washington), the tower was constructed with assistance from 10 enlisted flight-tower controllers operating the installation.

Gordon planned, supervised, and worked through completion of the 19-day project.

"It's constructed of salvaged materials, a window from here and a plank from there," Gordon said. "We didn't have any professional carpenters."

The Ky Ha Flight Control Tower is massive and hardnosed like an old trooper.

It has a field elevation of 73 feet, a sub-floor of 3/1/4 inches of sheet metal weighing more than 580 pounds, and three feet of sandbags between its hard core walls-hardy construction to withstand direct enemy rocket and mortar hits Americal IO)

Combat In Review

BIG BRAG SILENCED WITH COSTLY BATTLE

LZ BALDY-Americal infantrymen were locked in combat with two regiments of NVA recently 17 miles southwest of Tam Ky. The violent ten-day battle claimed 516 enemy lives.

The unit involved was a task force comprised of companies from **4th Bn., 31st Inf. and 3rd Bn., 21st Inf.**

Early Fighting saw 59 NVA soldiers killed and six captured when an element of the 2nd NVA Div. was surprised before it could launch a pre-dawn assault at LZ West. A sweep of the area turned up a small enemy arsenal. Scattered on the slopes of the fire support base were RPGs, rocket launchers, and explosive charges.

NVA forces hoped to destroy the American-supervised Hiep Duc refugee center. The enemy had vowed they would wreck the center and disperse or kill its 3,000 civilian inhabitants. Broadcast messages told the refugees that no one could stop the NVA efforts.

"The American and South Vietnamese- Governments cannot protect you," boomed the loudspeakers. "We will wipe out your settlement."

The infantrymen of the Americal made the NVA eat their words.

In subsequent fighting, **B Co., 4-31 Inf.** encountered a large bunker complex near hill 118. Enemy machinegunners pelted the Americans from concealment.

Reinforcements came immediately. A platoon from C Co. joined in the fight, and helicopter gunships from **F Trp., 8th Cav.,** rained deadly fire on the enemy positions.

The battle raged for ten days. Most of the action involved contact that soon mushroomed into heavy exchanges of fire.

Elements of the **3rd Bn., 82nd Arty.,** provided invaluable fire-power throughout the operation. Explosions rocked enemy bunkers, accounting for many enemy deaths and clearing the way for an infantry assault.

Proud Men Serving Our
Action
Army
SFC Fenton
M. Edwards
Career Counselor
Spt. Cmd.

Photo Caption: By MSG H.A. Bonesio

(Note Right column cut off when xeroxed.)

Division troops was represented by the "Top kick" of **C Co. 26th Engr.** Bn., 1SG Alva Cox, while from the same organization SSG William Singfook and SP4 Charles F. Lewis, HHC , SSG Wanice Walls, A Co., SP4 Carl F. Kij. D Co, from **1st Cav.**, SP4 John Gildroy, A Trp., SP4 Eugene Jackson, B Trp., SGT William Wasson, C Trp.

Support Command had MSG Leroy Dix, **23rd Admin Co.**, SSG Elbert J. Wilkerson, Hq& Band, SP4 Douglas Stroup, Hq&A Co 723rd Maint. Bn, from the **23rd Sup. & Trans Bn.**, SFC Frank Procesll, and MSG John Aro, HHC, MSG Richard Herman and SP4 Angel Rivera, A Co., SP5 Fidel S. Babuta and PFC Stephen Raper, B Co.

Division Artillery retains SSG Richard Acre and PFC Sanford Cowart, C Btry., PFC William Reener, D Btry., **1-14th Arty.**, P? Billy Henley and PFC Robert L. McMillian, Btry., PFC Kelley Snyder, **D Btry., 6-11th Arty**-SFC Alberto S. Zayas, C Btry., **3-18th Arty-SGT** Victor W. Rafner and PFC Jesse Edmond, HHB, PFC John Holden, B Btry., **3-16th Arty**; 1SG Conrad F. Lushbaugh and SGT John Morgan, HHB, MSG John B. Roth, HH&SB, PFC Erik Olsen **A Btry., 1-82nd Arty.**

The **16th Combat Aviation Group** keeps SP6 Max Bates, **178th ASHC**, **SP4 Oscar M. Bryant, F Trp., 8th Cav., SFC James Wyche B Co., 123rd Avn Bn.**, SFC William Jackson and PFC William A. Case, **D Trp., 1-1st Cav.**

The 11th Infantry Brigade reenlistees are PFC Timothy Cook A. Co., PFC Vernon W. Jayne and Paul D. Pruitt, B Co., SP5 Dennis Gildersleeve, PFC Gary Lawrence and PFC Carl E. Parker, Co., **3-1st; from 4-3rd Inf.**, SP5 James D. Anderson and PFC Roy W. Lark, HHC, PFC Davey Miller, A Co., PFC Dwight Aiden B Co., PFC Ed C. Colter, C Co., PFC Charles L. Sener and PFC George Mitchell, D Co., SSG Donald May, E Co.; from **1-20th Inf.**, PFC Dana R. Young and PFC Daryl L. Elmer. B Co., PFC Robert Hernandez, Co. C., PFC Eddie Wilcox, D Co.; from **4-21st** SP4 Jewel R. Wright, HHC, PFC Norman B. Haldeman, B Co., PFC John L. Mitchell, PFC Donald E. Norris, PFC Emmet Anderson, PFC Jerry Jenkins, D Co., PFC Larry Ashley, PFC Jimmy Stewart E Co.

Hiep Duc Supply Push

LZ HAWK HILL -- A convoy of 18 Vietnamese trucks recently set out from Tam Ky with one mission: to resupply the refugee center at Hiep Duc.

Leaving Tam Ky early in the morning, the trucks rolled down highway 535, protected by elements of the divisions' 196th Bde.

Soldiers from **4-31st Inf.** held key sections of the road. APC's from F Trp. 17th Cav., rumbled alongside the convoy during the entire trip, while helicopter gunships, provided by **F Trp., 8th Cav.** hovered constantly overhead.

The enemy did not challenge the array of firepower, and the convoy safely reached Hiep Duc by later afternoon.

The success of the convoy may have had some far reaching results.

"It definitely showed the people at Hiep Duc that the Government of Vietnam is concerned about them," asserted MAJ. James Y. Iha (Whaiawa, Hawaii), civil affairs officer, 196th Bde.

"The Viet Cong cadre in that area have claimed for a long time that they are winning the war," said CPT. William H. Marty (Santa Cruz, Calif.), PSYOPS officer, 196th Bde., but "the convoy's success hurt their creditability." (196th Bde IO)

Vol. 3, No. 5 CHU LAI, VIETNAM January 30, 1970

Ground Fighting Erupts Near Tam Ky

CHU LAI – The flatlands and rolling hills west of Tam Ky reeled under the pounding of artillery, APCs and infantry units as firepower slammed into enemy positions during recent activity four to six miles west and southwest of the Quang Tin province capitol.

Vietnamese Popular Forces elements teamed up with American ground forces to smash Viet Cong and NVA troop concentrations in the area. American and friendly Vietnamese casualties remained light through the action while the hostile forces lost more than 200 killed in action.

Infantry elements from 1st Bn., 46th Inf. and 2nd Bn., 1st Inf. worked out on their own as well as teaming up with A and B troops, 1st Sqdn, 1st Cav. and F Troops, 17th Cav.

Long range recon patrols from G Company, 75th Infantry operated in the area in addition to "straight leg" units of the 196th Inf. Bde.

A Troop smashed an enemy attack just off Tien Phuoc Road and joined with PFs providing flank security when they received small arms fire from one flank.

The tracks wheeled to bring fire to bear on the enemy, but kept other vehicles in position to cover the new flank areas. When RPG fire came in from several directions the men of the cavalry unit reacted to suppress it.

Once the enemy attack's momentum was broken, the tracks and Popular Forces came on line to assault the woodline.

The action was the first extended combat test for the troop's Sheridan Assault Vehicles. Their firepower was directed against the enemy RPG teams.

"That 152mm gun really hurt them," said SGT James J. Mullins (Danville, Va.).

Helicopter gunships from **F Troop, 8th Cav**. added their support to the ground units in the action.

Companies of the 1st Bn., 46th Inf. made the first contact in the "Pineapple Forest" region west of Tam Ky while they were checking the results of Air Force jet strikes in the area. "We confirmed where the jets had hit," said PFC Gayland Blosser, (West Liberty, Ohio). The enemy bunkers in the area were destroyed."

After sweeping through the target area, one element engaged a small enemy force. Shortly afterward, lead elements of another company sprang an impromptu ambush on the NVA squad, killing two enemy.

Another element detected an enemy base camp as the day closed. Artillery was called in on that part of the Ap Benh Valley. The next morning a sweep of the area tallied 11 dead enemy, attributed to the previous night's artillery pounding.

The sweep also revealed a large gathering of material and supplies.

Nearby "Dragon Valley" saw infantry elements engaging smaller units of enemy, using organic firepower against the NVA.

Further down the valley, a LRRP team made heavy contact with a large enemy element and had to be extracted, but not before they could direct artillery against the larger NVA force.

The same company that had previously formed a hasty ambush later detected an enemy unit. Artillery tore into the hostile troops and dispersed those that were not killed immediately.

LTC Peter J. Foss, (Framingham, Mass.) commander of 1st Bn., 46th Inf., summed up his battalion's activity.

"We constantly drew the enemy into contact. The soldiers of the battalion did an outstanding job, completing all missions; but the salient fact was that no friendly soldier suffered the slightest injury during the entire series of encounters."

Cannoneers of the 3rd Bn., 82nd Arty. firing from Hawk Hill and positions near Tam Ky supported the cavalry and infantry units in the area. The artillerymen responded to the requests for fire missions by heaving heavy concentrations of fire into widely dispersed target areas (196th Bde. IO and Div. Arty. IO)

Combat In Review

Calvary, Infantry Rout Enemy;
Kill 20 In A Day Length Battle

LZ HAWK HILL - Elements of the 196th Brigade and 1st Squadron 1st Cavalry thwarted an NVA attack and triggered a day of fighting in which 20 enemy lost their lives.

The infantry and armor task force was moving across open ground 14 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

The massive tracks of **B Troop, 1st/1st** were sweeping west accompanied by a platoon from **D Company, 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry, Company B, 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry** was operating to the south.

The calm was shattered as an NVA patrol emerged to the front of B Trp.

"Seven of them ran across the trail," said PFC Steven Russell (Irving, Tex.) of Co. D. "They weren't more than 20 meters away."

Engines whined and roared as the tracks catapulted into position for an on-line assault.

"We swept for 200 meters," said PFC Russell, "but it looked like they had disappeared."

The open field vanished as the tracks thrashed into the jungle, still in search of the enemy.

The troops who had been on the tracks until this point, dismounted.

Just at that moment the enemy opened up with RPG's and small arms fire.

But the NVA barrage had come too late. The Americal soldiers were already on the ground returning fire. The tracks raked the area with .50 caliber machinegun bursts.

"Blue Ghost" helicopter gunships from **F Troop, 8th Cavalry** and artillery were called in.

The NVA scrambled away leaving two dead. Sweeping the area, the Americans found eight more bodies 500 meters away.

To the south B Co. had begun to search the brush. A burst of fire rang out from an enemy bunker, and again the action picked up.

The B Co. soldiers assaulted the bunker, killing 2 VC. The 196th soldiers were just regrouping when the whole area seemed to erupt with enemy fire. The infantrymen called for support.

The helicopter gunships spotted two VC running for a bunker. They were cut down by a blaze of machinegun fire.

On the second sweep, a chopper destroyed the bunker itself with a rocket. Another VC was killed as he tried to escape from the smoldering ruin.

Four more enemy were shot as they tried to escape through open fields to bring the total enemy dead to 20. (198th IO)

27Feb70-Southern Cross Vol. 3 No. 08 Page 1

Pilots Receive DFC

CHU LAI -- Two Division pilots of "Blue Ghost," **F Troop, 8th Cav.,** 123d Aviation Bn. received the Distinguished Flying Cross during ceremonies held in the Blue Ghost briefing room recently.

LTC John F. Brosnan, 123d Aviation bn. commander, presented the medals to CPT David W. Owen (Birmingham, Mich.) and CPT Robert D. Wiggins (Pensacola, Fla.) for heroism during the same action on Jan. 6, 1970.

Flying a Cobra, CPT Wiggins, aircraft commander, and CPT Owen, gunner, spotted a trench line manned by an estimated 100 NVA.

Disregarding the low ceiling and poor visibility, they immediately attacked with rockets and 40mm fire.

No sooner had they begun their attack when they started receiving heavy .51 and .30 caliber fire.

The aircraft took six hits, one hitting the transmission.

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Combat In Review

Boxcars Undaunted Resupply Complete

CHU LAI -- Two CH-47 Chinooks from the Division's **178th Assault** Helicopter Company (Note: Assault Support Helicopter Company, ASHC) recently made a daring resupply mission to LZ Professional despite adverse weather conditions and reports of heavy enemy activity.

The weather had been bad for two weeks. Low clouds, scattered squalls and poor visibility made flying difficult.

Almost all aircraft were grounded and resupply of remote LZ's and FSB's had been sporadic.

Most LZ's, however, have enough supplies in store to keep them functioning at a normal level for a number of days.

On this particular day, LZ Professional had met with an unusual amount of enemy harassment.

The "hooks met with two Huey Cobras from **F Troop, 8th Cav.** which 1LT Robert Lockwood (Cockeysville, Md.) piloted one bird, WO1 Philip Washington (Claremont, Calif.) and CW Richard Dominy (Seattle) the other.

Fifteen minutes after notification the ships were -on their way to the LZ loaded with ammunition.

The "hooks" rendezvoused with two Huey Cobras from **F Troop, 8th Cav.** which flew as armed guards.

An H-model Huey, also from **F-8th Cav.**, accompanied the mission as a recovery vehicle in case a ship got shot down.

No ships received any hits and LZ Professional received its ammunition, weather and all. (16th CAG, IO)

AMERICAL ------- DIVISION

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SOUTHERN CROSS

Vol. 3, No. 09 CHU LAI, VIETNAM March 06, 1970

Vol. 3 No. 9 March 6, 1970 Chu Lai, Vietnam

INFANTRYMEN STAND GUARD while a member of their squad searches an enemy bunker. These F Troop, 8th Cavalry soldiers are in a recent operation 10 miles northwest of Tam Ky. (Photo By SP4 J. B. Majerus)

Photo Caption: INFANTRYMEN STAND GUARD while a member of their squad searches an enemy bunker. These **F Troop, 8th Cavalry** soldiers are in a recent operation 10 miles northwest of Tam Ky. (Photo By SP4 J.B. Majerus)

Viet Recon Effective

LZ HAWK HILL – Air mobility and the cavalry concept are nothing new to the men of **F Troop, 8th Cavalry**, the "**Blue Ghost**" of the 123d Aviation Battalion.

However, to the officers and men of Recon Company, 5th ARVN Reg9iment, it is a new approach to an old problem: finding and fighting the enemy before he has a chance to slip away, a tactic at which he is a past master.

The **5th ARVN Rgt.'s Recon Co.**, commanded by 1LT Chuyet, got its first introduction to the cavalry concept while participating in a joint American-Vietnamese eagle flight operation about 10 kilometers west of LZ Hawk Hill.

With the aero riflemen of "**Blue Ghost**" acting as pathfinders and controllers for the Cobra gunships, the ARVN and American troops dropped out of the sky in a number of lightning raids on likely enemy base areas that had been picked as a result of ARVN intelligence information and "Blue Ghost" visual reconnaissance missions.

During the course of the day, five targets were hit resulting in three VC kills and a number of detainees.

The exercise served as an excellent shakedown for the ARVN's and sold them on the potential of eagle flights.

The "Blue Ghost Blues" who accompanied the ARVN's on the ground had nothing but praise for their allies who despite their unfamiliarity worked with the helicopters like the invented air mobility.

As they touched down, they were met by bursts of AK-47 rifle fire. The combined ground force burst from their helicopters and swept toward the source of the enemy fire.

Within minutes, they swept up a mortar firing position within 40 meters of where the choppers had unloaded. The weapon was complete with ammunition and optics. The seven NVA soldiers manning that position were killed.

SSG ALVIN LINKER (Charlotte, N.C.) of the F Troop, 8th Cav., "Blue Ghost" aero rifle platoon moves aside the thatched door of an enemy bunker as he prepares to search the abandoned structure during a recent operation 10 miles northwest of Tam Ky.
(U.S. Army Photo by SP4 J.B. Majerus)

06Mar70-Southern Cross Vol. 3 No. 09 Page 6

Photo Caption: SSG ALVIN LINKER (Charlotte, N.C.) of the **F Troop, 8th Cav.,** "Blue Ghost" aero rifle platoon moves aside the thatched door of an enemy bunker as he prepares to search the abandoned structure during a recent operation 10 miles northwest of Tam Ky. (US. Army Photo by SP4 J. B. Majerus)

'Blues' Inserted

A "Blue Ghost" helicopter of F Trp., 8th Cav. heads for a safe altitude after inserting men of the unit's aero-rifle platoon on a recent mission 10 miles northwest of Tam Ky. (Photo by SP4 J. B. Majerus)

Photo Caption - 'Blues' Inserted

A "Blue Ghost" helicopter of **F Trp., 8th Cav.** heads for a safe altitude after inserting men of the unit's aero-rifle platoon on a recent mission 10 miles northwest of Tam Ky. (Photo by SP4 J. B. Majerus)

Presidential Unit Citation For Heroism

CHU LAI --The 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. and **F Trp., 8th Cav**. were awarded the Presidential Unit Citation during a colorful ceremony at the 1st Sqdn. headquarters recently.

The units received the award for distinguishing themselves by extraordinary heroism while engaged in military operations against hostile forces in the Republic of Vietnam from January 31 to March 31, 1968.

During this period the units encountered aggressive, well armed and supplied NVA and VC units in company, battalion and regimental size. The 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. supported by **F Trp., 8th Cav**. displayed exceptional courage and initiative in opposing a highly motivated enemy who consistently occupied heavily fortified bunkers and tunneled complexes with excellent fields of fire.

Operating independently, with attached infantry or in conjunction with ARVN forces, the units killed 1,046 NVA and VC in 217 separate engagements while only sustaining 11 fatal casualties of their own.

LTC Richard G. Graves, commanding officer of the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav., MAJ Charles E. Ivey, commanding officer, **F Trp., 8th Cav**., was present at the ceremony.

The guidon streamer was presented by GEN Creighton W. Abrams, CG , USARV.

Also present were LTC Melvin Zais, CG, XXIV Corps; MG Lloyd B. Ramsey, CG, Americal Division; BG John W. Donaldson and BG Edwin L. Powell, assistant commander, Americal Division. (Americal IO)

(Continued -1)

(Continued -1) Presidential Unit Citation

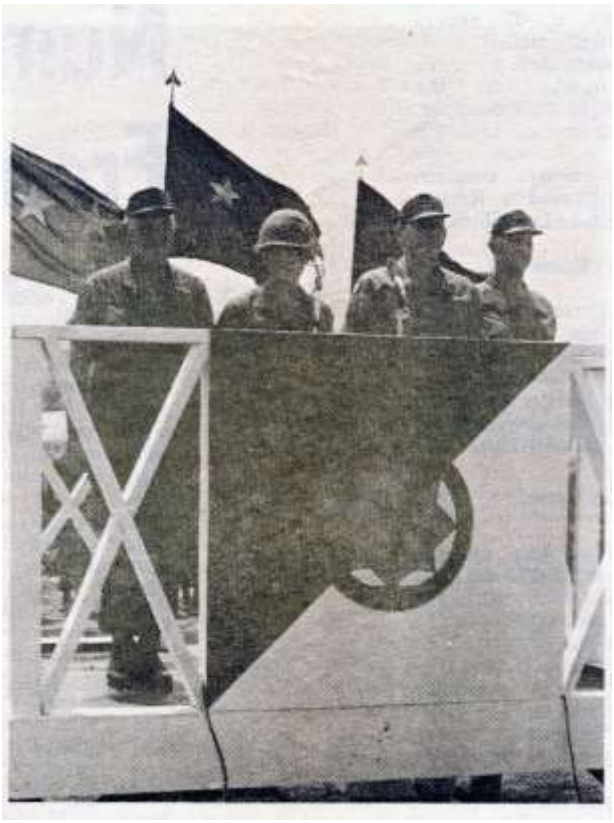
Art and Photos
By
Americal IO

Drawings and photos:

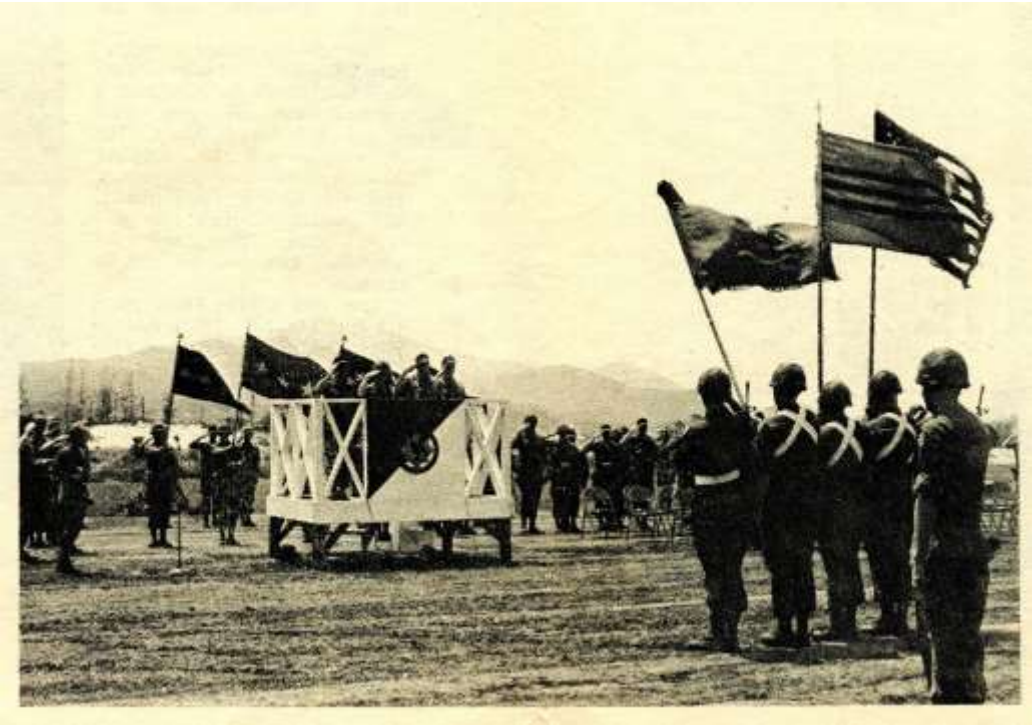
1) Drawing of a **1/1st** ACAV with helmetted crew (credit: Frank W. Prickett)

2) Drawing of helmetted crew member manning a .50 cal machinegun on 1/1st M-48 tank (credit Tom Dreesen)

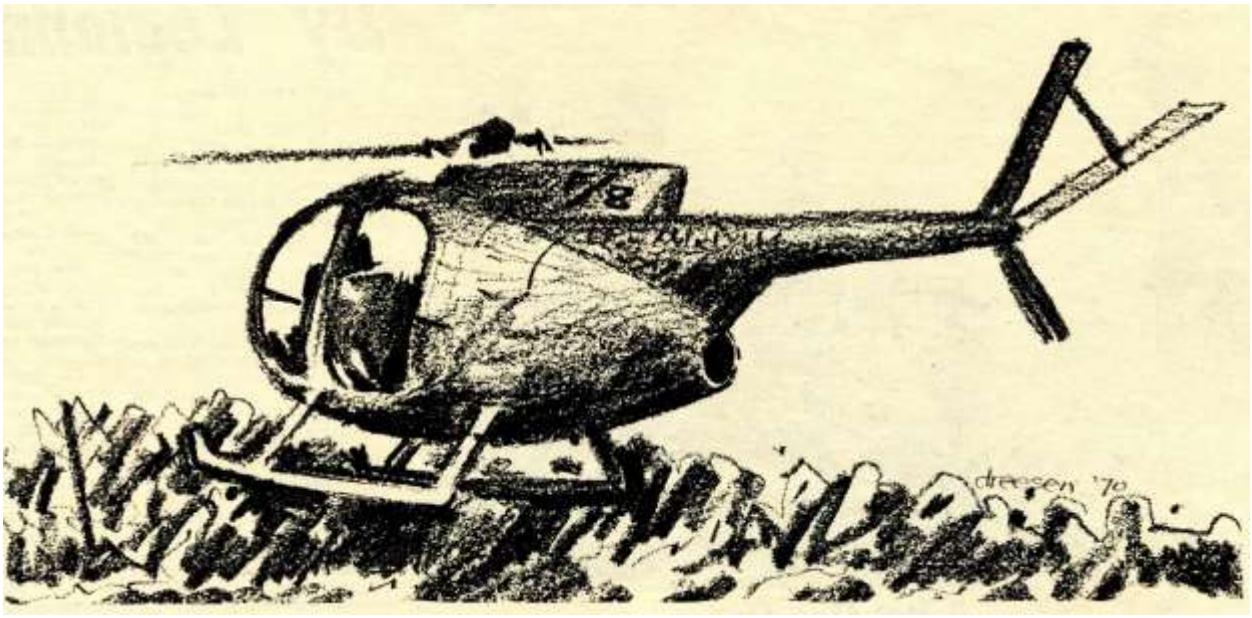
3) Drawing of Huey helicopter by Tom Dreesen.



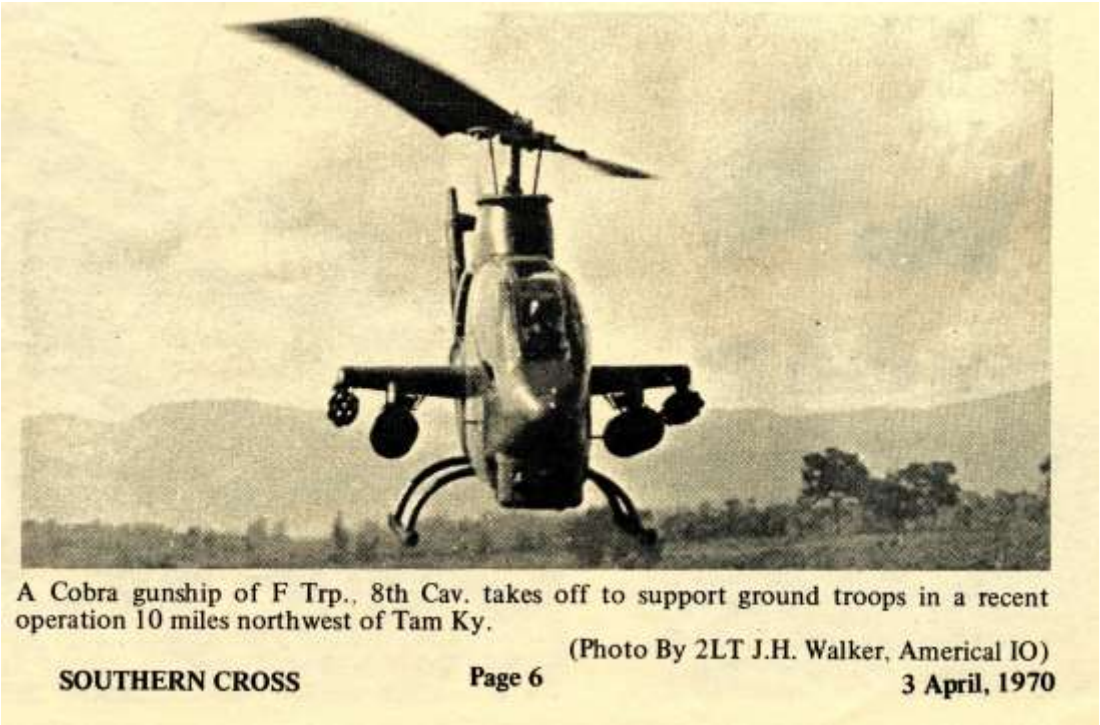
4) Photo of the ceremony with the generals in a stand adorned with the **1st/1st Cav** crest.



5) Photo of ceremonial the parade ground and stand.



6) Drawing of F/8 LOH (Credit Tom Dreesen).
7) Drawing of M-48 tank.
8) Drawing of a tracked vehicle (Credit Tom Dreesen).



A Cobra gunship of F Trp., 8th Cav. takes off to support ground troops in a recent operation 10 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

(Photo By 2LT J.H. Walker, Americal IO)

SOUTHERN CROSS Page 6 3 April, 1970

Photo Caption: A Cobra gunship of **F Trp., 8th Cav**. takes off to support ground troops in a recet operation 10 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Americal Division's (Americal Crest)
28th Anniversary (Excerpt from larger article)..

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After a midsummer lull activity picked up when **the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry** teamed up with the elements of the 11th and 196th Brigades to engage regulars of the 2nd NVA Division about five miles west of Tam Ky. During the three day battle, August 24-27, 548 NVA gave their lives to the Communist cause.

Action again flared when the 2nd ARVN Division and the 11th Brigade forces [?joined forces?] to spoil an enemy attack on Quang Ngai City. The allied forces accounted for 422 enemy killed and 93 small arms captured.

In September Operation Champaign Grove successfully relieved pressure on the Ha Thanh CIDG camp. During the operation, the 11th Brigade, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry and 2nd ARVN Division soldiers killed 323 NVA.

Late in the month in Operation Burlington Trail, units of the 1st Cav. **F Troop, 8th Cavalry** and the **4th Battalion 21st Infantry** joined forces to kill 92 NVA on September 24 and 300 more on the September 25 and 26.

In November the two longest running Americal Operations, Wheeler/Wallowa and Burlington Trail, were completed. The former, which was primarily conducted by the 196th Infantry Brigade, accounted for 10,020 enemy dead and 2,053 captured weapons during its one year existence. Operation Burlington Trail accounted for 1,948 enemy and 545 weapons captured.

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Div. Recap: 5-46th nets 43 rockets

During the first week of May Americal Division soldiers accounted for 120 enemy killed in the Southern I Corps. Highlight of the week was the capture of 43 122mm rockets intended for use against Chu Lai.

Geneva Park – Omitted .....

Iron Mountain – Omitted .....

Frederick Hill

Ninety NVA/VC were killed by the 2nd ARVN Division supported by an aero-scout company of the Americal Division **123rd Aviation Battalion.**

After fighting for two days, the ARVN unit reclaimed the village of Hiep Duc from the NVA, killing 44 of the enemy according to the ARVN report. Approximately 15 percent of the village had been destroyed by fire and several civilians had been killed by the enemy.

The American aero-scout company supporting the ARVN attack accounted for 46 enemy kills. The aero scouts also silenced two crew-served weapons and recoilless rifle positions.

There had been 42 of the enemy killed during the previous day's activity.

Clearing an area struck hard by division gunships **Co. Co.,[sic] 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry** found three NVA killed by **F Troop, 8th Cavalry**, Blue Ghost gunships. Later they found two more NVA loaded with ordnance also accredited to **F Troop** gunships. The finds were made 23 miles west of Tam Ky. On the bodies were 150 rounds of machinegun ammunition and 35 CHICOM grenades.

Combined operations of **A Company, 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry** and a **Popular Forces platoon** brought down six VC and captured two AK-47s seven miles northwest of Tam Ky. A Co. swept the area as the PFs set up a blocking force 400 meters away.

Action continued 18 miles southwest of Tam Ky as soldiers of the **1st Battalion, 46th Infantry** killed three VC in two separate incidents. The recon platoon while approaching a suspected VC command post, engaged four VC resulting in one enemy killed, while the others successfully evaded. A search of the area revealed 35 pounds of rice and 30 pounds of potatoes.

In other action, elements of the 1st platoon, **C Co., 1st Battalion 46th Infantry**, while conducting a saturation patrol surprised two VC near a shelter nestled in thick underbrush.

One VC darted out and was dropped immediately by weapons fire. The first squad then surrounded the shelter. Several members of the squad heard movement from an opening of the tunnel. They threw a grenade inside and killed the hiding communist.

Elements of the **4th Bn., 31st Inf.** while searching an area near Hiep Duc, 22 miles northwest of Tam Ky, found the bodies of seven NVA killed by an earlier artillery-strike.

An infantry company, while in their night defensive positions two miles northwest of Tam Ky, observed a lone enemy moving in the brush near their perimeter. M-60 fire brought the enemy down and soldiers later retrieved the AK-47 he was carrying.

Units on patrol in the bushy hills near Hiep Duc discovered the bodies of three more NVA killed by an air strike in earlier fighting.

The **1st Bn., 46 Inf.,** while on a search and clear mission 20 miles southwest of Tam Ky, located a concealed enemy hootch area. In one of the shelters an alert "professional" located a new SKS rifle.

C Battery, 3rd Battalion, 82nd Artillery slammed artillery into an enemy mortar position near LZ Siberia, 25 miles west of Tam Ky. Four NVA were killed and the mortar setup was destroyed.

Eight miles southwest of Tam Ky, **B Co., 1st Bn., 46th Inf.,** found four VC

(Continued -1)

graves that were about three months old. The kills were attributed to **Bravo Battery, 3rd Battalion, 16th Artillery.**

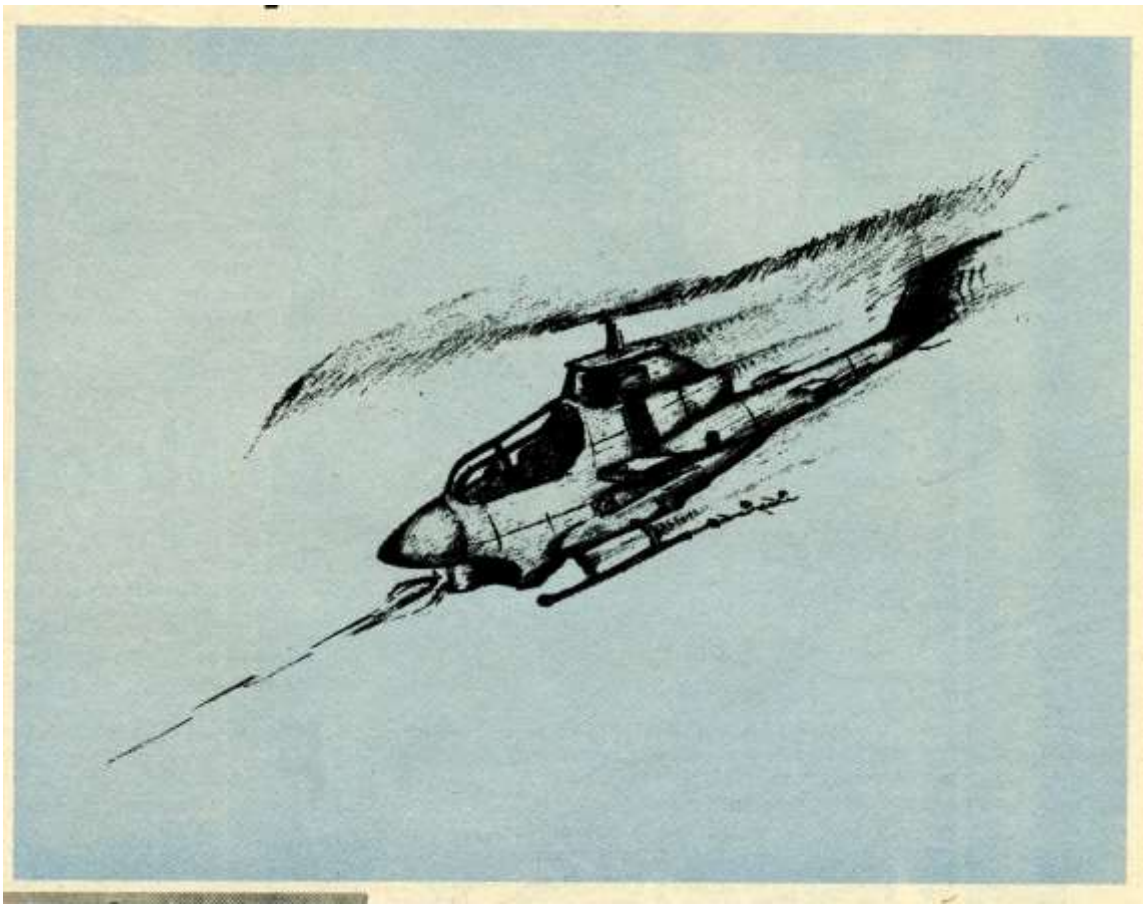
The recon element of **1st Bn., 46th Inf.** with the aid of a Kit Carson Scout, surrounded a group of hootches and brought six suspects under government control.

Hearing movement outside their night defensive position, 22 miles northwest of Tam Ky, alert **4th Battalion, 31st Infantry** blew their claymores and opened up with small arms fire.

A check of the area in the morning found the bodies of two NVA, a partially constructed litter, and numerous blood trails.

Men of the **4th Bn., 31st Inf.,** moved in to check an area they had been in contact in the day before. The company had taken small arms fire and was aided by firebird gunships from the **71st Aviation Company** in repelling an attack near Hiep Duc, 22 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Enemy hedgerow trimmed by 8th Cav, Blue Ghost



(graphic drawing of Cobra gunship helicopter)

(Continued)

By SGT Robert Nordyke

LZ HAWK HILL (196th INF BDE IO) - "We were told we were going to confirm a body count but it did not turn out that way," said First Lieutenant Kenneth Ruesch, Medford, Wisc.

It was early afternoon when the second platoon of **Charley Company, 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry** received word that they were being flown off Observation Post Legionnaire, nine miles northwest of Tam Ky, to assist the infantry platoon of **F Troop, 8th Cavalry**. The **Blue Ghost Cobra gunships** had observed an unknown size enemy force about 3,000 yards from the observation post. The Cobra raked the area with automatic weapons fire.

Soon the infantrymen were on the ground about 110 yards from the **Blues**.

Moving through the heavy brush, Company C linked up with the Blues and coordinated plans to sweep the area where the gunships had fired upon the enemy.

With the second platoon of Charley Company on the left flank and the Blues on the right the men moved ahead to a hedgerow about ten yards to their front.

There was movement in the dense vegetation immediately. Two NVA soldiers attempting to evade west thru the thicket were killed with small arms fire.

Two more enemy soldiers were found lying dead nearly invisible in the high grass. Another NVA was almost overlooked, but an alert squad leader from Charley Company spotted him hiding in the hedgerow. When the squad leader spoke, asking the NVA to surrender, the enemy moved from his concealed position and started moving toward the sergeant. Fortunately another soldier noted the quick movement the NVA made as he got to his feet. He fired and the enemy died holding the grenade the attempted to throw.

The last NVA flushed out decided the odds were against him and gave himself up. With the two enemy killed which the **gunship** had confirmed earlier, the final score was seven enemy killed and one captured. Also taken in the operation were several pounds of rice, NVA uniforms, rucksacks and several CHICOM grenades.

AMERICAL ------- DIVISION

SOUTHERN CROSS

Vol. 3, No. 23 CHU LAI, VIETNAM June 26, 1970

11th Inf Bde stops sappers

By SP4 Mark Geiser

FSB 4-11 (11th INF BDE IO) - Without an enemy round being fired, "Jungle Warriors" of the 11th Infantry Brigade here recently nipped a midnight sapper attack in the bud, killing 10 VC soldiers and detaining two.

A large number of enemy weapons which included two rocket propelled grenade (RPG) launchers, two AK-47's, one AK-50, one 9mm pistol, 76 CHICOM grenades, 10 RPG rounds, 11 B-40 rockets, and one five-pound satchel charge were seized in the aborted attack on this **3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry** firebase.

Near Midnight three enemy sappers had advanced through the perimeter wire when a fourth member of the party, with an RPG launcher slung over his shoulder, touched off a trip flare. "I looked in front of me and there were a dozen of them just frozen in place," recalled Specialist Four Jerry D. Parker, Hickory, N.C., of Company D.

With the enemy sighting, the bunker line opened up with rifle and machinegun fire. Hand grenade and claymore mine shrapnel showered the area. Constant illumination, intermingled with accurate mortar fire from the 81mm and 4.2 mortar sections, encircled the perimeter as the soldiers methodically dispatched the intruders in their sights.

After the ravaging fire subsided, the second platoon was called upon to make an on-line sweep of the area. As the infantrymen made their way to the wire, the bodies of two sappers armed with RPG launchers were discovered.

Uncovering no additional bodies or weapons, the search was discontinued until early morning.

Direct artillery fire from **D Battery, 6th Battalion, 11th** Artillery continued to suppress any further enemy activity. Two platoons from Company D continued their push outside the wire uncovering eight additional bodies.

The attacking force had consisted of 14 enemy sappers and supporting riflemen.

According to Captain Harry G. Sheppard, Palmetto, Fla., commanding officer of Company D, "The sapper squad was extremely well armed."

Division Recap

Children reveal caches

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - In Operation Geneva Park several Vietnamese children lead troopers of H Troop, 17th Cavalry to an impressive cache of 96 mortar rounds, 60 mines, and a variety of other highly explosive ordnance. Elsewhere in Operation Fredrick Hill the **3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry** and the **2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry**, accounted for three-fourths of the brigades 43 enemy killed for the week. In Operation Iron Mountain the **174th Aviation Company** killed 34 NVA in a two day action.

Geneva Park

In an action eight miles north of Quang Ngai, Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry, received incoming mortar rounds, rifle-propelled grenades and small arms fire when an undetermined number of Viet Cong assaulted their night defensive position early Friday morning. The company repulsed the attack with small arms fire and 81mm mortars. Also on station were gunships from **F Troop, 8th Cavalry**, which supported the infantrymen in the battle. At first light the company swept the area and found 14 CHICOM grenades, one rifle, two rifle-propelled grenades, and one booby trap. The company also killed one sapper.

The following day, **Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry**, spotted four to five enemy soldiers carrying packs moving through the mountains 22 miles west of Quang Ngai. The company unleashed a heavy barrage of small arms fire to kill two. The infantrymen then swept through the area and discovered three burlap packs containing medical supplies, 34 cans of condensed milk, six time fuses and some rice.

Working in the same area, **Alpha Company**, came upon one Viet Cong killed and the capture of several miscellaneous documents.

Elsewhere, several Vietnamese children turned over to **H Troop, 17th Cavalry**, an impressive cache of munitions. The total cache consisted of 96 mortar rounds, 60 mines, two 2.74 inch rockets, two 57mm recoilless rifle rounds, two rifle-propelled grenades, one CHICOM grenade, four artillery rounds and six fuses. **H Troop**, maneuvering in an area 12 miles northeast of Quang Ngai, destroyed the munitions.

Also, Alpha Company, **1st Battalion, 6th** Infantry received three artillery rounds, one mine, one booby trap, one mortar round, and 60 small arms rounds from Vietnamese children in an area 10 miles northeast of Quang Ngai. The 39th Engineer Battalion, working with Alpha Company, received two artillery rounds, one fuse, and two mortar rounds from the children.

While maneuvering in an area 22 miles west of Quang Ngai in the early morning, **Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry**, encountered two to three NVA in green uniforms in the thickly
vegetated mountainous terrain. The company responded with automatic weapons to kill one and capture one AK-47, two AK-47 magazines, 70 pounds of salt, and several items of miscellaneous field gear.

In another action, **Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry**, while maneuvering in an area 14 miles northeast of (continued on page 6) (continued from page 1) Quang Ngai, came upon four Viet Cong carrying packs and weapons maneuvering in the low coastal plain. The company engaged the enemy with small arms fire to kill one. Also captured was one pack.

In an area 15 miles southeast of Chu Lai, **Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry**, found one .51 caliber ammunition box hidden under some hedges. The box contained two fragmentation grenades, one 60 volt battery, one green NVA

(Continued -1)

uniform, documents, and other miscellaneous items.

Elsewhere, incoming mortar rounds, rifle-propelled grenades and CHICOM grenades pounded the night defensive position of **Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry** eight miles north of Quang Ngai. The infantrymen repulsed the sapper attack with a heavy barrage of small arms fire, grenades and 81mm mortars. Gunships were called on station to saturate the outer perimeter as flareships maintained intensive illumination. The infantrymen swept the area later to find several CHICOM grenades and rifle-propelled grenades scattered about the perimeter.

In an area 22 miles southwest of Chu Lai, **Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry,** discovered one freshly dug grave. The NVA kill was attributed to the contact the unit had the previous day.

Elsewhere, **Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry,** found signs of recent enemy activity in an area 12 miles northeast of Quang Ngai. At the location of the infantrymen found 13 cans of mackerel, four three-pound bags of rice and one butchered calf.

Late Wednesday evening, a large cache was discovered when a rallier led **Echo Recon, 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry,** to the site, 15 miles northwest of Chu Lai. The cache, hidden in a camouflaged hooch, consisted of nine AK-47's, one rifle, one carbine, 31-60mm mortar rounds, five rifle-propelled grenades, five sticks of dynamite, one CHICOM grenade, 18-60mm mortar fuses, three containers of TNT, four 10-pound shaped charges, one fuse setter and two magazines.

Fredrick Hill

Significant action took place when elements from the **3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry** killed 12 enemy soldiers while suffering no losses.

Early that morning **D Company, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry** found itself operating in the thick vegetation 20 miles northwest of Tam Ky. The "Gimlets" encountered a lone NVA with a pack. The engagement and death of this lone NVA soldier triggered what was to be a black day for the hard-luck enemy.

Bravo Company, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry, operating in the same area engaged and killed one Viet Cong, and then moments later sweeping through another woodline observed and engaged 10-12 NVA. the stumbling NVA fled into the closest vegetation. Bravo Company, not to be out maneuvered, quickly surrounded and pinned down the enemy. Soon, however, the "Bushmasters" received five to six incoming mortar rounds. Undaunted they held their ground and called for support from **Bravo Battery, 3rd Battalion, 82nd Artillery,** along with gunships. Four enemy kills were confirmed.

As they were checking out the "kill zone" they began taking round from another enemy position. Again they called in artillery and were rewarded with a secondary explosion. Six more NVA were confirmed killed.

A search of a village turned up the weeks only rice cache five miles northwest of Tam Ky. One-half ton of rice was confiscated by Bravo "Legionnaires", **2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry,** two hundred pounds of which was polished and hidden in huge ceramic pots in a tunnel.

Support from **F Troop, 8th Cavalry** and **F Troop, 17th Cavalry,** accounted for two enemy killed, both in searches of tunnel complexes.

Iron Mountain – Omitted .....

This Cobra gunship from F Troop, 8th Cavalry is homeward bound after providing support for the infantry. The Troop, "Blue Ghost", was inserted in an area suspected to have a VC basecamp. (Photo by SSG L.E. Perkins)

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Photo Caption: This Cobra gunship **from F Troop, 8th Cavalry** is homeward bound after providing support for the infantry. The Troop, "Blue Ghost", was inserted in an area suspected to have a VC basecamp. (Photo by SSG L.E. Perkins)

AMERICAL ------- **DIVISION**

SOUTHERN CROSS

Vol. 3 No. 28 CHU LAI, VIETNAM July 31, 1970

Gunships of F Troop, 8th Cavalry teamed up to kill 15 enemy in the previous weeks action. (Photo by SSG L.E. Perkins)

Photo Caption: Gunships of **F Troop, 8th Cavalry** teamed up to kill 15 enemy in the previous weeks action. (Photo by SSG L.E. Perkins)

Weekly recap

Division soldiers tally 114 enemy

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - Last week saw 114 enemy fall to the guns of the Americal. In operation Frederick Hill, the "Polar Bears" of **Charlie Company, 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry** received 13 Hoi Chanh, of which six brought their families. Elsewhere in Operation Iron Mountain the "Jungle Warriors" of the 11th Infantry Brigade accounted for 31 enemy killed. The lightest action occurred in Operation Geneva Park as the "Brave and Bold" of the 198th Infantry Brigade tallied eight enemy killed.

Operation Frederick Hill – Omitted ....

Operation Iron Mountain – Omitted ....

Operation Geneva Park

In an area northwest of Quang Ngai, several Vietnamese revealed to Delta Company, **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry** the location in which two enemy weapons were concealed. The infantrymen searched the area to find two carbines.

Elsewhere, **Delta Company, 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry** while maneuvering in the mountainous terrain west of Quang Ngai, spotted five NVA evading in the thick vegetation. The company swept through the area to find a small basecamp revealing signs of recent activity. Found within the complex was one pistol belt, one CHICOM grenade two fully loaded AK-47 magazines, two canteens, 100 pounds of salt, 50 pounds of rice and other miscellaneous items.

The next day in an area northeast of Quang Ngai, two Vietnamese led Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry to the location of three booby traps. The infantrymen searched the area to find and destroy the munitions.

Elsewhere, Delta Company, received two booby traps from Vietnamese children. The company, maneuvering in an area northeast of Quang Ngai, destroyed the booby traps.

In an area southwest of Chu Lai, Alpha Company, 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry, killed one NVA as the enemy approached their location,. Captured in the action were four CHICOM grenades, one fragmentation grenade and one pair of field glasses.

On the same day Delta Company while maneuvering in an area west of Quang Ngai, discovered two freshly dug graves. The enemy kills were attributed to a previous contact of the company.

In another action northwest of Quang Ngai, **Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry**, while maneuvering in mountainous terrain, found one NVA body. The kill was attributed to enemy contact the company experienced the previous day. Found near the body were one AK-47, three fully loaded AK ammunition clips, two CHICOM grenades, one pair of field glasses and other miscellaneous items.

Late in the week gunships from **F Troop, 8th Cavalry** received several rounds of small arms fire in an area northwest of Quang Ngai. The pilot spotted two Viet Cong wearing black pajamas in a bombed out shelter on the ground below and fired on the enemy with automatic weapons to kill both.

Later, in the same general area, the pilot observed another Viet Cong in a black uniform running along a trail and opened fire to kill him.

In an area southeast of Chu Lai, **Echo Recon, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry,** while on a routine patrol, spotted one Viet Cong moving through sparsely vegetated terrain. The infantrymen engaged the enemy with small arms fire to kill him.

Soldier rescued after 18 hrs alone in bush

By PFC GUY WINKLER

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - Perhaps the luckiest man in the Division is Sergeant T. Talamoni, Santa Anna, Calif., who was stranded for 18 hours alone in "no man's land."

Sergeant Talamoni, a member of **D Company, 1st Battalion, 1st Cavalry, Aero-Rifle Platoon (ARP),** recently participated in a combined reconnaissance mission with **F Troop, 8th Cavalry, ARP,** in an insertion on a hill 10 miles south of Hiep Duc in support of the 196th Infantry Brigade. The general area south of Hiep Duc is frequently referred to as "no man's land" by Division soldiers.

At the time of the insertion, the plan was for two helicopters carrying ARPs to land on the hill simultaneously while a number of other gunships provide cover. The first helicopter under a barrage of small arms fire, encountered difficulties with the limited space available for insertion and crashed on the hill after snagging a tree stump with the tail rotor. The second helicopter, with Sergeant Talamoni on board, was hovering a few feet off the ground when the ship was hit by enemy fire. The fire caused the helicopter to spin in an uncontrollable spiral which threw Sergeant Talamoni from the ship onto a log on the ground approximately 55 yards away from where the ship finally crashed. After Sergeant Talamoni hit the log on the side of the hill he slid to the bottom where he lay unconscious for about 30 minutes.

In the frenzy of enemy fire and not knowing that Sergeant Talamoni was missing from the rest of the crew near the two ships, the support helicopters dropped down to recover the ARPs from the hill where they (continued on page 6) **Sgt Talamoni luckiest man** (continued from page 1) were taken to nearby Tien Phouc for medical evacuation.

When he regained consciousness, Sergeant Talamoni said, "I could see nothing but LOH's (Light Observation Helicopters) firing on the enemy positions. And I couldn't see anyone from the downed helicopters we were on. I thought I would try to move back to the helicopter to get a smoke grenade to signal for help, but at that time the LOHs were running out of fuel and had to leave to refuel. I Knew Charlie was somewhere around so I moved 65 yards to the south so the enemy couldn't get me. Right away, I dug a foxhole."

With a broken left leg and right arm, Sergeant Talamoni, armed with nothing but a bayonet, dragged himself farther from the enemy where he dug a foxhole to conceal himself.

Sergeant Talamoni continues, "I lay in the foxhole and I couldn't see anything...it was getting dark. I lay there until about 9:00 p.m. when I heard movement...some one was talking. It

(Continued -1)

was the VC moving west. They were about 25 yards from where I was, but they couldn't see me because I was in the foxhole with some rocks over the top." After the VC left the vicinity of his foxhole, he slept until about five the next morning. "I crawled back to the helicopter to get some smoke grenades. My legs were no use at all...I couldn't use them. But there was no smoke whatsoever. If I stayed there. Charlie would find me so I moved 55 yards west so if the LOHs came, they could spot me in the area." About 7:30 two LOHs from the **1st Battalion, 1st Cavalry** did come. Sergeant Talamoni, who still had his lighter in his pocket built a small fire for the observation choppers to spot. They saw it and radioed an eight man rescue Huey, helicopter, which let the rescue team down to set up a defensive position while a MEDEVAC helicopter was called in.

If the rescue helicopters, but some chance, couldn't spot him, he said that he was anticipating to move to a landing zone eight miles away from where he had recently been. "I tied two sticks around my leg," Sergeant Talamoni said, "I figured that I could make it in about 12 hours."

When asked what he did when he was finally safe, Sergeant Talamoni said, "I was praying to God."

In 1964 Sergeant Talamoni went to Ranger School at Ft. Benning, Ga., The training that he received definitely paid off. "I learned quite a few things," he said, "I can survive, I don't need water or food for a long time, I know I can survive."

Thanks to the dedication of the courageous rescue group, Sergeant Talamoni is alive and safe and deeply grateful to his friends of Company D, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry.

ALLIED TEAM HITS VC

by CPT David W. Owens

CHU LAI (F TRP 8th CAV IO) - While large body counts the discovery of huge ammo weapon caches monopolize headlines of the newspapers in the states and overseas, it is small isolated actions that determine the course of the war in Vietnam.

These small, often vicious confrontations are rarely publicized. Nonetheless they are the bread and butter operations of a war like that being fought in Vietnam, the fighting of unglamorous tedious operations that will eventually break the enemy's back.

Typical of this type of limited action was a visual reconnaissance recently conducted by **F Troop, 8th Cavalry**, "Blue Ghost," in the southernmost part of the 196th Infantry Brigade area of operations about seven miles from LZ Ross. Intelligence indicated that a VC company was active in the area.

Also working in the immediate area was an element of the **1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry** and a platoon of Marines.

When the **Blue Ghost** team of one light observation helicopter (LOH), two Cobras, and three slicks full of the air Cavalry troop's organic aero-rifle platoon arrived on station and identified the friendly locations and
became aware of their intentions, it immediately became obvious to the team leader, Captain Bruce Rolfe, that with just a little coordination between the armored cavalry, Marines and the addition of the Blue Ghost assets the stage could be set for a classic small scale operation. With the
Marines blocking to the north along a river, the cavalry pouncing from the east, and the southern and western boundaries of the area to be searched delineated by rivers, the setting was perfect.

The next four of five hours were characterized by hard work periodically punctuated by sharp but brief exchanges of fire, as **Blue Ghost** screened between the Cavalry, Marines, and river boundaries.

Hard work all night. It could even be hazardous to your health.

By the time the sweep was completed, it had accounted for six VC and a modest number of weapons and ammunition captured. Not very impressive when compared to the statistics coming out of Cambodia or the results of the fighting at Hiep Duc, but for the VC company operating in that particular area, it represented a setback.

This type of small, productive action is being reenacted every day, often more than once a day, over the entire length and breadth of the Division's AO by various Americal and Allied units.

Sergeant Warren L. Foster, Mobile, Ala., climbs from a tunnel after searching it for VC on a search mission near Que Son. Sergeant Foster is a member of the Aero-Rifle Platoon, "Blueghosts," F Troop, 8th Cavalry.
(Photo by SSG L.E. Perkins)

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Photo Caption: Sergeant Warren L. Foster, Mobile Ala., climbs from a tunnel after searching it for VC on a search mission near Que Son. Sergeant Foster is a member of the Aero-Rifle Platoon, "Blueghosts," **F Troop, 8th Cavalry**. (Photo by SSG L. E. Perkins)

Vol. 3 No. 29 CHU LAI, VIETNAM August 07, 1970

LOHs turn 'dust-off'; rescue 15

LZ HAWK HILL (196th INF BDE IO) - It was an occasion for field expediency, turning a Light Observation Helicopter (LOH) into a "dust-off" chopper.

During a series of heavy firefights in Hiep Duc Valley, two pilots flew their small craft into landing zones too small for Huey Medevacs and evacuated more than 15 American soldiers.

Chief Warrant Officer Carlos Quintero, Tampa, Fla., was flying the command and control helicopter for Lieutenant Colonel Richard Carvell, Virginia Beach, Va., commanding officer of **1st Battalion, 46th Infantry**, 196th Infantry Brigade, off Landing Zone West, overlooking Hiep Duc Valley, 22 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

In the valley an infantry company needed help. Private First Class Kenneth Lyon, Tulsa, Okla., a crew chief flying his first mission, explained the situation. "We went in seven or eight times to the company. They were set up on a small hill covered with waist-high grass and huge boulders. We picked up three heat casualties and ran some resupply-ammo, cigarettes, and food."

In mid-afternoon, the company came under heavy fire from an NVA unit. Two Americans were wounded and a "dust-off" medical evacuation helicopter was called.

"The dust-off couldn't get in," explained Chief Warrant Officer Quintero. "The landing zone was too small for the Huey to maneuver into and it was hot- the bird took at least three hits."

Chief Warrant Officer Quintero thought the smaller, more maneuverable LOH cold get in. It did.

"We went in and they were shooting everything," he said, "30 caliber, automatic, small arms fire, but no hits."

Hovering three to four feet above the high grass and rocks, Chief Warrant Officer Quintero held the chopper steady while Colonel Carvell and Private Lyon helped the wounded get on board.

"I don't know how he held it, "recalled Private Lyon. "People jumping on and throwing packs, it's hard."

Safely gaining altitude, the patients were extracted to Landing Zone West. The LOH was soon back to the action.

This time for another wounded-an NVA. Again he hovered precariously over the tiny LZ, secured the load and returned to the fire support base.

Chief Warrant Officer Quintero then took the craft up for a final time.

"When we finished getting the people out, we went out to spot NVA and mark their positions for **Blue Ghost** and Firebird gunships to fire up."

Three days later, another LOH pilot, First Lieutenant Patrick Hadfield, Honolulu, also turned his craft into a medical evacuation chopper in Hiep Duc Valley. Lieutenant Hadfield explained, "I was going out to LZ West to fly the command and control chopper for Colonel Carvell, but when I got out there I heard there were some wounded where a dust-off couldn't get in."

Lieutenant Hadfield and another LOH flying as an artillery observer volunteered to fly the medevac mission.

A string of **Blue Ghost Cobra gunships, F Troop 8th Cavalry,** flew along to provide overhead security.

Alone in his craft, Lieutenant Hadfield flew into the tiny landing zone five times to pick up the wounded.

"There was some incoming," he recalled with considerable understatement. "They'd put on two or three wounded at a time while I was hovering. I guess I picked up 10 or 15 men altogether."

Hiep Duc offensive

Thrust costs NVA 590

By 1Lt David Coffman

LZ HAWK HILL (196th INF BDE IO) - Division soldiers recently helped turn back a major NVA offensive in Hiep Duc Valley. In continual heavy action the Americans decimated elements of the 1st NVA Regiment, killing 590 in the span of two months.

"The enemy's primary aim was to set back and if possible destroy the pacification program in Hiep Duc District" said First Lieutenant John Hunsinger, St.Louis, a member of the 196th Infantry Brigade. "They also hoped to harass the surrounding firebases."

The enemy triggered their offensive by attacking LZ Siberia, secured by **Company D, 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry, and Battery C, 3rd Battalion, 82nd Artillery.** The Americans drove off the enemy, killing 10.

Fighting the first day took place around the area of Hiep Duc District, 23 miles northwest of Tam Ky. The **"Polar Bears"** of the **4th Battalion, 31st Infantry**, killed 34 in a series of sharp firefights.

One of these firefights began when Company D came under heavy fire in an open rice paddy.

"They were well-entrenched in bunkers," said Sergeant Larry Griffin, Chicago, squad leader for **Company D.** "For a while we were pinned down."

"Firebird" gunship from the **71st Assault Helicopter Company** responded to the infantry's call and raked the NVA positions. When the enemy retreated, the "Chargers" swept across the rice paddy and found seven NVA dead.

In the next few days elements of the **3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry**, and 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry--both from the 196th Infantry Brigade--were airlifted into the battle area as fighting continued to rage. In a major ground action, **Company A, 3rd Battalion**, repulsed an attack on its night laager, killing an NVA battalion commander and 18 of his men.

U.S. Air Force jets and Division helicopter gunships played havoc with the enemy. In two days the gunships of **F Troop, 8th Cavalry**, accounted for 61 enemy dead. In the two days following ARVN soldiers operating in the area found 76 more NVA killed by gunships and airstrikes.

At the end of six days of fighting the Americans had killed 255 NVA. Of the ground units the 4th Battalion 31st Infantry, had inflicted the most damage, killing 62.

"At this stage a comparative lull followed as the NVA began to operate in smaller units," said Lieutenant Hunsinger.

Tension mounted during the next month. The action consisted of isolated skirmishes punctuated by heavy firefights. In one of the bitterest engagements, Company D, 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry, combined with **Troops A and C, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry**, to kill 15 NVA in an afternoon of firefighting. Two weeks later, **Company B, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry**, supported by Battery B, 3rd Battalion, 82nd Artillery,

(Continued -1)

killed 18 NVA.

Then the "lull" ceased as the NVA launched a second offensive. Elements of the **4th Battalion, 31st Infantry,** came into heavy contact near LZ West. Three companies from the 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry, were flown into the area in an operation which was to climax one and one half months of fierce combat. For four days the "Chargers" searched for the main NVA force, killing 16 enemy in the process. On the fifth day they found what they were after.

Companies B and C, 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry, were conducting search and clear missions through the rugged jungle terrain. Company C was moving along the high ground while **Company B** searched the valley floor.

As **Company B** moved across a small, grassy opening, the point platoon began receiving heavy fire from an enemy bunker complex. The infantrymen fired back while gunships strafed the NVA from above. Then **Company B** assaulted.

"We used fire and movement," said Staff Sergeant Charlie Hall, Hookertown, N.C., Company B. "It was a bunker to bunker, hole to hole fight." In the next four hours, Company B killed 33 NVA.

On the same day, **Company C** hit another NVA force well entrenched in bunkers and spider holes. In the fight that followed Company C laid down a heavy barrage of fire and called in gunships, artillery and airstrikes.

In the following weeks the action lessened. The allies continued to take a toll of the enemy, but it was evident that the main NVA forces had withdrawn. The enemy had paid a high price for its entry into Hiep Duc Valley. The Refugee Center was still very much in existence, and the Vietnamese had already rebuilt the position previously destroyed by the enemy.

Kham Duc airstrip retaken
by ARVNs and Americans

By SP5 A. C. Barnett

KHAM DUC (DIVARTY IO) -- Two years and two months to the day since **Kham Duc** was lost to an NVA Division, this Special Forces advised CIDG camp was retaken by the same Division units that played a central role in that withdrawal of allied forces.

In May of 1968, an entire NVA Division surrounded Kham Duc, overran the outposts, and from the high ground around the airstrip began an intense mortar and recoilless rifle barrage. The camp was defenseless and a contingency plan to evacuate all personnel was quickly put into action.

In what has been called "one of the most harrowing evacuation efforts of the Vietnam war," the Americal Division sent and infantry battalion and a battery of artillery to hold back the enemy until the evacuation could be completed. The plan called for the approximately 1500 persons in the camp to be flown out in a two day period.

Under cover of more than 150 airstrikes by both US and Vietnamese aircraft from units as far away as Cam Ranh Bay, Tuy Hoa, and Thailand, the heroic airlift was accomplished in only six hours.

The successful evacuation, however did not have the flavor of an offensive victory, so when Kham Duc was reclaimed from the enemy, the privilege belonged to the men that were ordered to fight and withdraw.

More than two thousand ARVNs moved into the ridgeline during the first few days of the recent operation to secure the high ground around the camp.

In the valley below, the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry, 196th Infantry Brigade, was inserted around the airstrip where they quickly cleared the lowland area. (continued on page 6) **Light resistance met** (continued from page 1) Cannoneers from **D Battery, 3rd Battalion, 82nd Artillery**, and **A Battery, 1st Battalion, 82nd Artillery**, were next and within twenty minutes of their arrival the two batteries of howitzers were ready to deliver their devastating support.

This time it was the NVAs turn to withdraw, and while resistance was encountered by the first elements of both the ARVNs and Americans, it was only a very scattered and ineffective effort, a cover for the enemy retreat.

The 26th Engineer Battalion, after destroying over 400 booby traps seeded in the black-top airstrip, had the job of restoring the surface which was pockmarked by a dozen bomb craters.

Just four days after the first assault, a C-130 landed on the repaired runway, the first of 30 sorties that day.

An impressive victory, accomplished by the Vietnamese and American forces, working together in the air and on the ground.

The NVA had beaten a hasty retreat, inflicting only very light casualties and paying heavily for them. But to the **2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry** and the **3rd Battalion, 82nd Artillery** it was a special victory, a victory exactly two years and two months overdue-they had been to Kham Duc before.

NIGHT HAWK NET 49 IN HEAVY ACTION

CHU LAI (AMERICAL 10) -- Action increased sharply in Southern I Military Region as Division units accounted for 193 enemy killed. Highlighting the week's action in Operation Geneva Park, **"Night Hawk"** and gunships from **F Troop, 8th Cavalry** killed 16 NVA north of the Quang Ngai River. Despite a week of light action, soldiers of the 196th Infantry Brigade In Operation Frederick Hill tallied 33 enemy dead and discovered an enemy hospital. Elsewhere gunships of the **71st Aviation Battalion** were kept busy the past week as the **"Night Hawks"** accounted For 23 enemy killed in Operation Iron Mountain.

Geneva Park

In mid-week, **"Night Hawk"** ships accompanied by gunships from **F Troop 8th Cavalry** conducting aerial patrols over the southern section of the 198th Infantry Brigade's AO with their powerful search lights, spotted a large number of NVA congregated on the ground below near the Quang Ngai River. After taking light machinegun fire, the pilots and gunners from **F Troop** went to work killing 26 enemy. The kills were credited to Operation Geneva Park.

Early in the week, **H Troop, 17th Cavalry**, working south of Chu Lai, moved out early in the morning to cordon and search a village. The cavalrymen, using textbook-like tactics, trapped several Viet Cong killing three of them. Captured in the action were six CHICOM grenades two AK-47 rifles, three AK-47 magazines and a carbine with two magazines.

Early the next day incoming mortars, rocket propelled grenades and satchel charges erupted the early morning calm at LZ Fat City west of Chu Lai, as sappers firing automatic weapons, attempted to assault the firebase. The artillerymen located at the LZ and infantrymen from **C Company, 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry** returned the fire with automatic weapons and mortars and called in gunships and flareships. At first light the defenders swept the area to find one VC dead, four satchel charges, and nine CHICOM grenades.

Along the coast northeast of Quang Ngai, naval guns fired on an undetermined number of Viet Cong. Aerial observers from Division Artillery later flew over the area to confirm eight VC had been killed by the fire originating from the ships in the South China Sea.

The next day, **Echo Recon, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry**, picked up a rallier and killed two VC in two separate incidents. The **"Ready Rifles"** engaged several VC evading southwest of Chu Lai and brought down one VC as another rallied. About thirty minutes later, Recon killed another VC and captured an AK-47, two banana clips, two CHICOM grenades and a poncho.

Later in the week while working northwest of Quang Ngai, **Delta Company** killed one VC and later found a hooch. The hooch contained 350 pounds of rice and 350 pounds of potatoes.

Delta Company of the **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry** also found a small cache of 1000 pounds of rice hidden in crocks and metal containers, southeast of Chu Lai Frederick Hill. In mid-week activity the "Gimlets" of the **3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry** killed six enemy in a single day as a result of four contacts in a thickly vegetated area west of Tam Ky. Four of the kills resulted when the enemy walked into well camouflaged defensive positions set up by the "Gimlets."

Company C received credit for the first of these four kills. The Reconnaissance platoon scored in a similar manner when they struck down three more NVA a short time later.

NIGHT HAWK NET 49 IN HEAVY ACTION

The fifth and sixth dead NVA for that day was credited to **Company A.** In

(Continued -1)

that engagement the enemy was spotted trying to escape into a woodline west of Tam Ky, when the company blanketed him with small arms fire.

"Gimlets" momentum continued to increase. Near the week's end **Company A** found a large enemy structure west of Tam Ky with a tunnel system, shortly after killing an NVA in the same area. The tunnels which were used as a hospital, contained a large quantity of medical supplies plus 750 pounds of rice.

Success again marked **Recon platoon** when they wrapped up a busy week three NVA killed. The incident occurred when the enemy walked into Recon's defensive position set up west of Tam Ky.

The **"Legionnaires"** of **2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry** registered several enemy dead. Two of the kills resulted cleverly placed defensive position set up in the triple canopy jungles west of Tam Ky. "Charlie" lost once to the Recon platoon, and again that afternoon to **Company B**. A search of the area by **Company B** revealed six enemy bunkers.

Company D concluded a week of enemy contact when they fired on several VC who were walking down a trail in the dense jungles near Kham Duc. Firebird gunships flew in to assist in the firefight which resulted in four VC killed.

The **"Polar Bears"** of the **4th Battalion, 31st Infantry**, proved themselves home breakers when **Company A** found an enemy bunker complex large enough to accommodate two platoons. The approximately seven week old complex contained seven bunkers.

Also in that area **Company D** found eight Viet Cong suspects--four female adults and four children hiding in their hooch. The infantrymen caught two of the females as they were attempting to hide a small amount of military equipment.

Iron Mountain- Omitted.....

Graphic Art: Pencil drawing of an OH-6A LOH (By SP4 Joel Andrewjeski)

Blue Ghosts destroy NVA standown area

By CPT David W. Owen

CHU LAI (16th CAG IO) - Picture Corporal Nguyen Van Dong of the Second NVA Division standing back admiring his recently finished camouflaged hootch, one of over a hundred he and the other members of his unit just finished constructing in a canopied area about 14 miles southwest of LZ Mary Ann in the southwestern reaches of the 196th Infantry Brigade's AO.

"After all these months of being exposed to the elements and the harassment of Allied attacks, ambushes, artillery fires and airstrikes it will be nice to be able to refit and rest," muses Nguyen.

Nguyen's thoughts are suddenly interrupted by a high pitched drone which he immediately recognizes as the sound of a rapidly approaching light observation helicopter flying low level. Nguyen makes no attempt to retrieve his weapon which is in the hooch because his unit is under strict orders not to fire at enemy helicopters lest they betray the location of the base camp.

Through a hole in the trees he catches a glimpse of a death's head painted on the bubble of the LOH as it speeds by and spots two Cobras and a Huey circling overhead. Nguyen recognizes and old foe, the "Blue Ghosts" of **F Troop, 8th Cavalry.** He is cheering himself with the thought that today "**Blue Ghost**" will present no problem when once again the LOH streaks over his location. This time he hears a muffled crack followed by the sound of something falling through the trees. A small gray canister trailing yellow smoke finally tumbles through the branches

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and comes to rest at his feet. The next sound, is the ear splitting crack of 2.75 inch rockets passing through the sound barrier as they race to a deadly rendezvous with the yellow smoke.

For Nguyen the war is over and for his comrades-in-arms the first rockets and yellow smoke marked the beginning of an afternoon of hell filled with 2.75 inch rockets, 20mm cannon rounds, 500 pound bombs, napalm cans, plus 155mm and 175mm artillery rounds.

The initiators of this holocaust were CWO2 Robert Drury, Oconomowoc, Wis., the "Blue Ghost" team leader, and WO1 Phillip Weiland, Orchard Lake, Mich..

"Once we were aware of the magnitude of the base area and finally began taking heavy fire out if it, we realized it was a target for "fast movers" and contacted Helix (forward air controller)," recalls CWO2 Drury. "We stayed on station and after each set of fighters dropped their ordnance, we went back in and did a bomb assessment and marked new targets for the next set. It went on like this all day long; I was really beat when we finally broke station for Chu Lai."

Beat the "**Blue Ghosts**" were. But nowhere near as beat as the former residents of the by then smoldering base camp.

'Nighthawks' kill 49 enemy

By SP5 William Hayes

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - Working the same area two nights in a row, a double **"Nighthawk"** team from **F Troop, 8th Cavalry** recently accounted for 49 enemy soldiers killed during a total of five and one half hours of air to ground battle. The dead enemy were tallied with the aid of the giant searchlight on each Nighthawk aircraft.

The **"Blue Ghost"** ships, engaged a large enemy force near Ha Thanh 25 miles west of provincial capital Quang Ngai City.

On a night training mission when contact was established, some of the crew members of each ship had never seen night action.

The first night, a Nighthawk ship, commanded by Captain Larry E. Gallatin of Dayton, Ohio, took fire from two enemy on a sampan in the river.

Private First Class Gary S. Frakes, Fort Know [Knox], Ky., played the ship's searchlight on the small boat. Moments later, Specialist Four William R. Holden of Torrance, Calif., blasted them out of the water with minigun fire.

Believing his ship had been hit, Captain Gallatin returned to Quang Ngai to inspect the aircraft. Enroute, he requested a second two-ship team working further north to help work the area. After a brief ground inspection, Captain Gallatin turned his unscratched ship westward to rendezvous with Warrant Officer Joseph A. Petrucci, Fanwood, N.J.

Both specially equipped H-model Hueys and two additional standard H-model "chase ships" then rolled into the narrow valley and began a search pattern.

Within minutes, ground fire again shot up at the aircraft. Descending to low altitude, the ships deployed and offensive tactic developed by Captain Gallatin, who guided the Nighthawk project at **F Troop** from its beginnings.

The searchlights revealed large numbers of enemy with packs and weapons running around in the area.

"The seemed confused and disorganized," said WO Petrucci.

"We spotted some by their muzzle flashes," Captain Gallatin added, "We were constantly receiving fire."

Both ships flew through the night sky, their searchlights and minigun flashes lighting up fragments of the valley with violent red and white bursts of (continued on page 6) **'Nighthawks' pursue enemy** (continued from page 1) light. When both ships' miniguns expended, the pilots teamed up to provide each .50 caliber machinegun with illumination from the other ship's searchlight.

The .50 on each ship tore into enemy bunkers and fighting positions. When the heavy guns paused for reloading, free M-60 machineguns on each ship maintained a base of fire to keep the enemy from establishing fire superiority. As the .50 caliber guns resumed firing the free gunners fired in short bursts to provide additional suppressive fire to the flanks.

All the while, the two chase ships stood by at higher altitude, ready to assist if needed.

After an hour and a half of continued contact with the enemy force, the ships broke station with 16 enemy dead left in the area.

The next night, both teams returned to the same area, ready for trouble. They found it. This time, the enemy was ready with more automatic and small arms fire and fought from more and better positions in the same area.

Passing over the river valley, both ships took small arms fire. The minigunners returned fire immediately, killing one enemy in his ground position.

The two ships resumed tactics similar to the previous night's, working their

(Continued -1)

way downstream.

The enemy applying the previous night's experience, fired from strongly concealed positions.

Despite the well-prepared enemy, both ships were credited with an additional confirmed enemy dead in four hours.

During the action, both Nighthawks broke station once to refuel before returning to the Ha Thanh area.

After what might have been a heady victory, the pilots and crew members maintained a healthy respect for the enemy in the area.

In an interview the morning after the action, Captain Gallatin explained: "You can't underestimate him. If you do, you're finished."

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Division Recap

124 enemy killed
as action decreases

CHU LAI (AMERICAL - IO) -- Action decreased last week in Southern First Military Region as Americal soldiers killed 124 enemy. The week was highlighted by the uncovering of 9,000 pounds of enemy rice by the 11th Brigade's **1st Battalion, 20th Infantry.**

Iron Mountain - Omitted.....
Frederick Hill – Omitted.....
Geneva Park

In a day laager position southeast of Chu Lai, **Company C, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry,** engaged a group of VC at close distance. Four enemy soldiers were killed and one was captured. Also taken in the action were one AK-50 and four packs. The next day, **C Company** killed three VC while working in the same area. Captured were one AK-47, two magazines, two CHICOM grenades, three packs, and one 60mm mortar base plate.

In another action, **Company C** observed a group of VC in an [typo?]

The next day, **Company B, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry,** swept the area of the previous night's contact, and found one enemy soldier killed and one pistol belt. Later that day, the **"Regulars"** found five 60mm mortar rounds lying on a trail. The rounds were blown in place.

Later in the week, **Bravo Company** observed and engaged two VC carrying weapons and packs at a distance of 300 meters. One VC was killed in the action.

While in a night defensive perimeter in an area northwest of Chu Lai, **Delta Company, 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry,** engaged an enemy force of unknown size. Gunships from **F Troop, 8th Cavalry**, were called in support of the "Professionals." **Delta Company** killed four of the enemy soldiers while gunships killed two.

Company B, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry, engaged two VC with small arms fire at a distance of 30 meters in an area northwest of Quang Ngai. both of the enemy soldiers were killed. One AK-47 and one AK-50 were captured. Later that night, **Company B** killed two more VC as they approached their night laager site.

While on patrol southwest of Chu Lai, **Company A, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry,** engaged and killed two VC at close range. Two packs were taken from the enemy soldiers.

Company C, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry discovered a munitions cache in an area southwest of Chu Lai. The "Ready Rifles" found a hootch eight feet wide by ten feet long which contained one box of armor piercing rounds, 300 rifle rounds, 15 pounds of explosives, a home made bangalore torpedo, two satchel charges, and one RPG launcher. All the items were extracted to a nearby LZ.

Division Recap

Week's action nets
98 enemy soldiers

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) -- Action decreased during the past week as division soldiers killed 98 enemy. Infantrymen of the 11th Infantry Brigade continued to force the enemy to tighten their belts as they captured several thousand pounds of rice. In unusually light action, the 196th Infantry Brigade killed 16 enemy soldiers. The 198th Infantry Brigade also experienced light action with 20 enemy killed.

Iron Mountain - Omitted .....
Frederick Hill – Omitted .....
Geneva Park

While on patrol, **Company C, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry,** engaged one enemy soldier while sweeping an area of contact. Later the "Ready Rifles" received heavy small arms fire from a group of enemy soldiers in nearby hootches. Gunships from the **176th Assault Aviation Company** came on station, and expended their munitions in the area of contact. Results of the entire action were two enemy killed by Company C and one detained. Four enemy were killed by the gunships.

Later **Company C, 1st Bn., 52nd Inf.,** found two 500 pound bombs while on a routine patrol. The "Ready Rifles" also found a booby-trapped 81mm mortar round in the same general area. They blew the booby-trap in place. the next day a rallier turned himself in to **Company C,** He was evacuated to a nearby LZ.

Bravo Company, 1st Bn., 52nd Inf., found three hootches ten feet long, twenty feet wide, and eight feet high. Inside the bunkers the "Ready Rifles" found 15 bushels of dried corn and 1,000 pounds of unpolished rice.

Two NVA soldiers were killed as they approached the night defensive perimeter of **Delta Company, 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry,** southwest of Chu Lai. The **"Professionals"** found two AK-47 rifles, a two pound bag of polished rice and two green uniforms.

An aero rifle platoon from **F Troop, 8th Cavalry**, observed one VC evading into a bunker. The **"Blues"** pursued and captured the enemy soldier, who was later taken to a nearby LZ. The aero platoon then continued toward the bunker and received small arms fire. They returned fire killing two VC. A sweep of the area revealed one hootch, and one booby-trap. The booby trap was blown in place.

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They come in many shapes and sizes, but all provide mobility to the Americal

Photo Captions:

1) A Huey Cobra gunship from the **123rd Aviation Battalion** roars from its helipad in pursuit of the enemy. Choppers such as this fly missions near the division's Fire Support Base Bronco. (Photo by SP4 Lou Pearson) (Note: the Cobra has the **"Warlord" marking of B/123rd Avn Bn.**)

This light observation helicopter pilot may not be able to see the forest for the trees as he dips his craft down to tree level for a better view of the enemy. The chopper is from F Troop, 8th Cavalry. (Photo by 1LT Robert Pennington)

2) This light observation helicopter pilot may not be able to see the forest for the trees as he dips his craft down to tree level for a better view of the enemy. The chopper is from F Troop 8th Cavalry. (Photo by 1LT Robert Pennington) (Note: nose art is a "Blue Ghost" skull.)

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3) A gigantic Chinook (CH-47) carries a load of supplies to one of the division's firebases. The husky crafts transport supplies throughout the divisions area of operations daily. (Photo by SP5 A.C. Barnett)

4) Dozens of Huey helicopters resemble rush hour traffic on a stateside highway as the choppers get set to embark on a massive combat assault with troops from the 196th Infantry Brigade. (Photo by SP4 Robert Spangler)

5) The "Flying Crane" is an appropriate nickname for this CH-54 which easily carries a heavy truck to LZ Stinson. (Photo by SP4 Gerald Paulin, 523rd Sig. Bn.)

6) Much needed supplies are gently lowered to the Americal's new firebase LZ Melon by a Chinook. (Photo by SP4 Jim Logue) (Note: the **"Boxcar" markings identify this as a 178th ASHC helicopter**.)

Vol. 3 No. 40 CHU LAI, VIETNAM November 06, 1970

'Regulars' kill 4 VC from concealed positions

By SGT Louis Miller

LZ BAYONET (198th INF BDE IO) - Using surprise and well concealed daylight positions, men from the 198th Infantry Brigade killed four VC, captured one, and took one weapon and several munitions southeast of Chu Lai recently.

An element of **Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry,** resting in preparation for nighttime patrolling, had set up three separate laager positions at breaks in a hedgerow. Five feet to the front of the hedgerow was a trail, running east to west about four feet below the laager positions.

"It was late in the afternoon when we heard voices coming from the west end of the trail," recalled Private First Class Paul Cramor, Green Bay, Wisc. "The other positions were alerted and we just waited for the enemy to move closer."

Minutes later, a group of VC moved in front of the first position. The enemy group continued past the second position, all the time the "Regulars" holding their fire. When the VC pointman reached the third position, Charlie Company's machine-gunner opened up.

"It was too late for them to do anything," said Private First Class Richard Hooter, Natchitoches, La., the machine-gunner. "Their pointman stopped right in front of my position."

PFC Hooter brought down one VC while nearby riflemen brought down two more. Other VC, not yet in the kill zone, turned and attempted to evade, but ran right into the two positions manned by the "Regulars" -- the positions the VC had just walked past.

"By the time the enemy ran down the trail to our position, they were scattered," said PFC Cramer. "But two of them one with an AK-47, stayed on the trail and ran in front of my position, giving me a clear shot."

After Cramer fired, one enemy lay dead and another wounded. The wounded VC was soon evacuated to a Chu Lai hospital.

When the firing had stopped, the "Regulars" found several trails of blood running into the trial. The infantrymen followed them, but darkness forced them to call off the search.

Along with the four enemy killed and one captured, one AK-47, one hand grenade, and several blasting caps, detonating cord, and fuses were confiscated in the action.

Division recap

Kill 130, find huge rice cache

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - The tempo of fighting in the southern part of the First Military Region remained moderate as division soldiers accounted for 130 enemy killed. The 198th Brigade topped the action by killing 38 enemy, 17 in one skirmish, and by discovering a cache of more than 30,000 pounds of rice. The "Chargers" of the 196th Brigade surprised and killed 28 enemy in Operation Frederick Hill. Gunships from **F Troop, 8th Cavalry** in the 11th Brigade accounted for four NVA kills in action south?est of Quang Ngai City.

Geneva Park

The "Ready Rifles" of the **1-52nd Infantry**, teamed up with gunships from the **176th Aviation Company** to kill 17 Viet Cong and capture an enemy arms cache. Charlie Company, working south of Chu Lai, observed and engaged a large group of enemy soldiers. In the ensuing contact, Cobra gunships from the 176th were called on station and engaged the enemy, who evaded east into a cave complex in a heavily vegetated area.

The infantrymen, moved toward the complex after the gunships had expended, engaging the enemy as close as one meter. **Alpha Company**, reacting as a reaction force, was combat assaulted into the area and set up a blocking force. The next morning, Charlie Company swept the area and found 17 Viet Cong killed.

Found in the cave complex were an RPG launcher, 16 RPG rounds, a radio, an SKS rifle, a mine, a mortar tube and two mortar baseplates, seven mortar rounds, a machinegun, 11 Chicom hand grenades, two AK-47 magazine, and 25 pounds of rice. All items were extracted to a nearby firebase.

Alpha Company was responsible for finding the unusually large rice cache. Working south of Chu Lai, Alpha discovered more than 30,000 pounds of polished rice hidden in bins and metal containers and buried underground. An unusual rise on the surface of the ground brought the unit's attention to the area.

Because of the possibility of booby traps in the area, a mine sweeping team was called in. The soldiers made good use of the devices and used them to help locate the presence of the hidden barrels of rice.

In the same general area, an aero rifle platoon from **F Troop**, **8th Cavalry**, was inserted and found an additional 2,000 pounds of rice. **Alpha Company** prepared the rice for extraction to Son Tinh District for further redistribution to refugee centers and orphanages.

Frederick Hill

"**Blue Ghost**" gunships started the week with three kills from mini-gun fire during a Night Hawk mission. Later that day, **Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry**, encountered two VC during a sweep and clear mission northwest of Tam Ky. The element of surprise was instrumental in the deaths of the enemy soldiers.

Less than 10 minutes after they were airlifted into double canopy jungle northwest of Tam Ky, **Recon Platoon, 3d Battalion, 21st Infantry**, flushed out two VC. Both enemy were killed and a pack, containing personal items and medical supplies was confiscated.

The next day, **Recon Platoon, 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry**, killed two VC while on a sweep southwest of Tam Ky. Four Viet Cong met their demise at the hands of **Company B, 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry**, northwest of Tam Ky on the same day. Eight Chicom grenades and five pounds of rice were confiscated.

While on a search and clear mission southwest of Tam Ky during mid-week, **Recon, 1st-46th**, ran into two VC. Small arms fire from the "Professionals" killed one while the other fled southwest. The **"Legionnaires"** of the **2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry**, killed two VC and captured two Chicom grenades northwest of Tam Ky.

Iron Mountain – Omitted.....

Infantry, artillery, gunships team up to net six

By SGT Louis Miller

LZ BAYONET (198th INF BDE IO) - In an all night action, men from the 198th Infantry Brigade, teaming up with gunships and artillery, turned back an attack on their night defensive position and killed six enemy and destroyed a bunker complex northwest of Chu Lai.

Moving through a heavily vegetated area, **Delta Company, 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry**, came upon a group of well constructed bunkers on a small hill overlooking the rice paddies below. Members of the company carefully began checking the area for booby traps and signs of enemy activity.

Inside the structures, the **"Professionals"** found rice, other food items and clothing, and plenty of room for shelter from allied artillery attacks.

"The bunkers were capable of housing about twenty enemy soldiers during an artillery attack," said Captain Gary Watson, Elkhart, Iowa, company commander of Delta. "They could take a direct hit from a 105mm round without causing much damage."

The **"Professionals"** planted explosives in each of the bunkers and after detonating the devices, found that another charge was needed to destroy the bunkers.

After finally destroying the bunker complex, the company moved to the lower ground to set up their night defensive position. The infantrymen set up their perimeter about a hundred meters from a woodline, set up their mortars and adjusted their positions.

Then, about dark, movement was detected in the woodline. The mortar platoon was instructed to place several rounds in the area.

A short time later, Private First Class Larry Stevenson, Cordarville, Calif., and Private First Class Michael Kruse, Mosquite, Tex., noticed two enemy soldiers crawling toward their positions.

As one enemy tried to remove an emplaced claymore mine, PFC Stevenson detonated the mine with his triggering device, killing the enemy. At the same time, the other enemy got up and attempted to evade but PFC Kruse brought him down.

A few minutes later more movement was detected and mortars again provided explosive rounds and illumination. When the illumination rounds went up, the presence of two enemy soldiers was revealed a short distance from the perimeter. The enemy, realizing their positions attempted to evade but were killed by a barrage of small arms fire from Delta's position.

"They both rant into a clearing and they made easy targets," recalled Private First Class Richard McCall, Salem, S.C., a rifleman with the "Professionals."

During the remainder of the night, the enemy tried several more times to penetrate the perimeter of Delta Company. Captain Watson requested gunship support from F Troop, 8th Cavalry, and illumination from Charley Battery, 1st Battalion, 14th Artillery. The illumination lit up the area while the gunships pounded the enemy position with rockets and miniguns.

"Each time the gunships left station to reload and refuel, the enemy would come in closer to the perimeter and pick up the dead bodies," recalled First Lieutenant William Kotas, Brooklyn, N.Y., a platoon leader with Delta Company.

The gunships stayed on station with the **"Professionals"** the remainder of the night placing suppressive fire around the perimeter and soon began to take machinegun fire from the site of the destroyed bunker complex. The gunships returned fire on the enemy killing two and bringing the total to six enemy killed during the night-long battle.

Nighthawks fly by night

By PFC Ron Cryderman

CHU LAI (23rd INF DIV IO) - The Night Hawk team spots the campfire.

The helicopter makes a pass using the starlight scope to spot any enemy. On the second pass the spotlight comes on. Ten rounds come buzzing up from the campfire toward the chopper.

"We're receiving fire", says the crew chief. The aircraft commander gives the order to open fire from the left side of the ship. With a bright flash the minigun spits out bullets at a speed of four thousand rounds per minute.

No further fire is received from the ground and no further movement is sighted where the campfire once burned.

This is a common scene for the **Night Hawks** of the 23rd Infantry Division and can be expected at any time during their nightly seeps, seeking "unfriendly" movement.

Night Hawk teams in Chu Lai are part of the **Blue Ghost Aviation** section, **F Troop, 8th Cav,** and are literally a 'fly by night' organization.

The specially equipped UH-1 helicopters travel in specified areas throughout the 23rd Infantry Division beginning at dusk and spend five hours of flying time in search of enemy movement.

A Night Hawk team consists of two helicopters, a Night Hawk ship and a Chase ship. These teams enter a "box" or an area within certain coordinates to make their sweeps.

The Nigh Hawk team consists of two helicopters, a Nigh Hawk ship and a Chase ship. These teams enter a "box" or an area within certain coordinates to make their sweeps.

The Night Hawk ship carries 1,300 pounds of special equipment, bringing it's weight from 7,500 pounds up to 8,800 pounds. The equipment consists of a starlight scope and a fifty thousand candle-power spotlight, plus a minigun, a 50 caliber machine gun and an M-60 machinegun.

Traveling at an average speed of 50 miles per hour at an altitude of 500 feet, the Night Hawk ship works an area in circular patterns, scanning the ground with the starlight scope.

The Chase ship travels at an altitude of 1,500 feet and is used for rescue in the event that the Night Hawk ship goes down. It also watches for ground movement and assists in calling in artillery if needed.

Night Hawks came to the 23rd Infantry Division last January when four UH-1 helicopters were outfitted for the new operation. The first mission was flown in February. (**Note: I believe that Nighthawks operated prior to this date, in the same 123rd Avn Bn, if not F/8th Cav. I haven't done the research yet. L Hines. Some of the first attempts had .50 caliber guns which had problems because the recoil caused structural damage to the UH-1 models).**

At present five officers and 12 enlisted personnel are assigned to Night Hawk.

Chief Warrant Officer J. Petrucci, Fanwood, N.J., one of the founders of Night Hawk, feels that the operations have more than proved their value to the 23rd Infantry Division.

"Action for the Night Hawks has slowed down lately due to the monsoon, but in better weather these ships have proved to be a valuable asset". CW2 Petrucci asserted that 178 confirmed kills have been attributed to the Night Hawks since the beginning of their operations.

Iron Mountain

Bronco action was moderate this week as men of the 11th Infantry Brigade killed 26 enemy soldiers.

The **Night Hawks of the 123rd Aviation Battalion** started out the week as they received small arms fire while flying over the foothills west of Quang Ngai

(Continued -1)

City. Searching the area, they spotted, engaged and killed two VC.

Later in the day while reacting to a radar, the **'Night Hawks'** spotted two more VC in the lowlands west of Duc Pho. The results of the ensuing action were two dead VC.

Later in the week, a light observation helicopter from the battalion spotted a lone VC over the foothills southwest of Duc Pho. The LOH engaged and killed him.

In the same area, the **"Blues"**, an aerial rifle platoon of the battalion were inserted. The platoon rapidly engaged and killed two enemy soldiers.

Early in the week, while patrolling the lowlands southeast of Duc Pho, a recon element of the **4th Battalion, 21st Infantry** found one Viet Cong inside a tunnel. He was asked to come out but he refused. The tunnel was destroyed resulting in one VC killed.

The next day, reacting to a radar sighting, the men of **F Troop, 8th Cavalry** checked an area in the lowlands northwest of Duc Pho and spotted three VC. They engaged the enemy resulting in three Viet Cong dead.

During a patrol of the foothills west of Duc Pho, the **69th Rangers** engaged an unknown size enemy force resulting in three enemy dead.

While on a search and clear mission in the foothills northwest of Duc Pho, **Company B of the 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry** engaged one NVA. He was killed.

Elements of the **4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry**, working with the **70th Rangers, an ARVN unit**, observed a small size enemy force in the foothills northwest of Duc Pho. After receiving fire support from the **6th Battalion, 11th Artillery**, the infantrymen swept the area finding four VC killed in action. Also found was a shotgun, an AK-47 and 35 huts. After investigating the area, the huts were destroyed.

A light observation helicopter teamed up with the fire support from the **6th Battalion, 11th Artillery** to kill two NVA and one VC over the foothills west of Quang Ngai City.

Patrolling the foothills of Duc Pho, **G Company of the 75th Rangers**, a long range patrol unit engaged two enemy soldiers, killing both.

On the last day of the week, a gunship from the **174th Aviation Company** spotted and engaged a lone VC in the lowlands west of Duc Pho, killing him.

PENNSYLVANIA SQUARE

Contact was light in the Pennsylvania Square area of operations last week as the "Blackhawks" of the **1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry**
killed two enemy soldiers and captured 1.

Graphic Art: Drawing of **Nighthawk.** Credit to SP4 Joel Andrewjeski

Division nets 48 enemy

By SP4 David Goodrich

In relatively light action last week, the men of the Americal Division accounted for 48 enemy dead, while capturing a number of others.

IRON MOUNTAIN

While action was very light elsewhere, it was almost normal in the 11th Infantry Brigade area of operations during the week ended. The troopers of Iron Mountain accounted for 21 enemy kills, as well as capturing supplies.

While scanning the foothills west of Quang Ngai City at start of the week, a LOH from the **123rd Aviation Company** spotted and engaged a lone VC over the foothills southwest of Duc Pho. The enemy was killed.

In the same area that day, the "Blues", an aerial rifle platoon of the **123rd Aviation Company** were inserted. The platoon engaged and killed two enemy soldiers.

A gunship from the **174th Aviation Co.** killed a lone VC over the lowlands west of Duc Pho.

Patrolling the foothills southwest of Duc Pho, G Company, 75th Rangers engaged two enemy soldiers, killing both.

A couple of days later, **Company C, 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry** engaged and killed a VC while in a day laager position. Checking the area, they made contact again, killing another enemy and capturing a rifle.

Elements of **F Troop, 8th Cavalry (Air)**, spotted a VC along a roadside in the lowlands south of Duc Pho. He was killed and an automatic weapon was captured.

While patrolling the foothills southwest of Duc Pho, elements of **Charlie Company, 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry** observed and engaged an enemy soldier. He was killed and a pistol was captured.

Later in the same area, the company spotted, engaged and killed another Viet Cong, capturing his AK-47.

Three Viet Cong Chieu Hoi'd and turned themselves into the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry northeast of Duc Pho. All ralliers complained of inadequate food and a general apathy of Viet Cong goals.

An attempt to set a 250 pound booby trap was foiled when troops of **Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry** engaged the enemy at 150 meters, killing him.

A gunship of the **123rd Aviation Company** spotted and engaged three Viet Cong, while flying over the foothills west of Quang Ngai City. All three were killed.

Working in the lowlands south of Duc Pho yesterday, Company C of the 4th Battalion 21st Infantry found five hootches with connecting bunkers, containing a small variety of VC equipment. The infantrymen also unveiled three spider-holes nearby. After a thorough study of the area, the hootch area was destroyed.

Frederick Hill

The men of the 196th Infantry Brigade managed to kill 14 enemy soldiers during the week ended.

On patrol at the beginning of the week, **Bravo Company, 3rd Battalion,**

(Continued -1)

(Continued -1) Division nets 48 enemy; January 22, 1971

21st Infantry uncovered a cache containing 500 pounds of rice. About 200 meters up the trail, they came upon another 500 pounds. All the rice was extracted to LZ Center.

Holiday cease fires Limit week's battle action

Charlie Co. 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry killed a lone VC yesterday, spotted near a tree line, in an area north of Tam Ky.

That evening, **Company A, 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry** heard movement about 15 meters from their night defensive position, southwest of Tam Ky. They covered the area with M-16 fire, resulting in two NVA kills.

While on patrol southwest of Tam Ky, **Delta Company, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry** engaged five NVA with small arms fire. Two of the five were killed, and five packs were captured.

Charlie Company, 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry, while in their night defensive position killed an NVA, capturing an AK-47 and a pack, containing clothing and medical supplies.

A couple of days later, a lone VC was killed by men of **Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry** as he wandered into their day defensive position, south of Tam Ky.

While making a sweep of a structured area west of Tam Ky, **Company A, 3rd Battalion 21st Infantry** observed two VC to their front. They engaged with M-16 fire, killing one, Continuing the sweep, they discovered three graves containing VC killed by mortar fire. The kills were credited to a recon element of the battalion.

While on a visual recon mission yesterday, gunship **from F Troop, 8th Cavalry** observed seven NVA soldiers. One was killed, as the other managed to evade.

GENEVA PARK – Omitted .....

Division Recap

Light action nets 53

By SP4 Steven Elschlager

CHU LAI (23rd Inf. Div. IO) - Action in the 23rd Infantry Division area of operation was light last week with 53 enemy kills, several caches uncovered and over 60 enemy structures destroyed.

GENEVA PARK

Gunships and infantrymen from the 23rd Division's 198th Infantry Brigade combined to kill 30 enemy soldiers during the week, including a major action in which 15 Viet Cong were killed southeast of Chu Lai.

An aero rifle platoon from **Delta Troop**, **1st Squadron**, **1st Cavalry**, killed 15 Viet Cong in the major action of the week. The aero platoon combat assaulted into an area southeast of Chu Lai, and engaged a large number of enemy soldiers. The **"Blues"** killed 15 Viet Cong and wounded two in the extended action. Also captured in the action were four AK-47 rifles, a carbine rifle, a 9mm pistol, nine hand grenades, seven full AK-47 magazines and nine enemy packs. The wounded enemy soldiers were extracted to Chu Lai.

Infantrymen from the **1st Battalion**, **52nd Infantry**, with

(Continued on Page 6) **Light action in division AO accounts for 53**

(continued from page 1) the aid of gunships killed 11 Viet Cong south of Chu Lai. The **"Ready Rifles"** also destroyed several military structures and confiscated over 2,000 pounds of enemy rice.

The "Ready Rifles" of **Delta Company**, **1st Battalion**, **52nd Infantry**, engaged a group of enemy soldiers at a distance of 50 meters. Four enemy were killed and two AK-47 rifles, and a rucksack were captured in the action. Later, the infantrymen engaged another group of Viet Cong and killed one enemy soldier with small arms fire and wounded another.

Early in the week, **Delta Company** found a structure containing 200 pounds of unpolished rice, 65 pounds of corn, and four baskets of grain. Nearby, the "Ready Rifles" found a tunnel containing 20 rounds of ammunition, 100 pounds of rice, and four enemy packs. In the same area, Delta Company found a military structure that seven separate rooms. Each room had a fireplace and beds. In the attic, the **"Ready Rifles"** found an SKS rifle and an automatic rifle.

The next day, **Delta Company** found another military structure. Inside the **"Ready Rifles"** found a homemade rocket launcher and 2,000 pounds of rice. The rocket launcher and rice were destroyed. Later, **Delta Company** found 200 pounds of rice, 50 rounds of small arms ammunition.

Gunships from the **116th Aviation Company** observed and engaged three evading Viet Cong south of Chu Lai. the gunships killed two of the enemy soldiers. An element of Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry, was inserted into the area and killed another. Two automatic weapons and six Chicom hand grenades were captured in the action.

While on patrol, **Alpha Company**, **1st Battalion**, **52nd Infantry**, observed and engaged a group of Viet Cong killing one and wounding another in the action. Two carbine rifles and two magazines of ammunition were confiscated.

While in a night defensive perimeter, **Charlie Company**, **1st Battalion**, **52nd Infantry** detected movement 20 meters to the west of their position. The **"Ready Rifles"** engaged with small arms fire. At first light the infantrymen found one dead Viet Cong. Later in the week, **Charlie Company** engaged and killed one Viet Cong soldier, capturing an automatic rifle.

The "Regulars" of the **1st Battalion**, **6th Infantry**, confiscated several enemy weapons during the week, and received a large amount of enemy munitions from Vietnamese civilians southeast of Chu Lai.

Charlie Company, **1st Battalion**, **6th Infantry**, while in a day laager

(Continued -1)

position, received a large amount of enemy munitions from several Vietnamese children. The children turned over five mortar rounds, 90 rounds of rifle and machine gun ammunition, a hand grenade, an anti-tank weapon, and a three pound fragmentation device. The **"Regulars"** blew the munitions in place.

Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry detained two Vietnamese southeast of Chu Lai. Neither of the detainees had identification, and one was carrying a pack and the other was carrying 100 pounds of rice.

Later **Bravo Company** found a Viet Cong body that had been killed by artillery fire. The kill was credited to **Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 82nd Artillery.**

While on patrol, **Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry,** found an RPG round an empty AK-47 magazine, one gallon of gasoline, and two NVA ponchos lying under a tree. Nearby **Alpha Company** found two AK-47 rifles, three hand grenades and a pistol belt.

The **"Professionals"** of the **5th Battalion, 46th Infantry,** killed one Viet Cong and uncovered an enemy base camp during the week northwest of Chu Lai.

Alpha Company, 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry, found an enemy base camp which was in the construction stages. The **"Professionals"** found 20 carbine rifle rounds, two small bottles of gasoline, and three bunkers at the camp site. All of the items were destroyed, and artillery was processed in the area.

Early in the week, **Alpha Company** killed a Viet Cong as he neared their day laager site northwest of Chu Lai. Alpha Company also found and destroyed six military structures with bunkers.

Charlie Company, 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry found a military structure that contained a tunnel. Inside the tunnel the "Professionals" found an artillery round and a Chicom hand grenade. The structure and military items were destroyed.

In other action in the 198th Brigade's area of operation**, F Troop, 8th Cavalry** (Air), observed several camouflaged structures southwest of Chu Lai. The gunships received small arms fire from the area. The gunships engaged the enemy with minigun fire and killed one enemy soldier. **F Troop** also observed and destroyed 30 bunkers and 10 military structures with rocket fire during the day.

An **aero rifle platoon from F Troop, 8th Cavalry,** was inserted in an area southwest of Chu Lai and killed one enemy soldier.

IRON MOUNTAIN - Omitted .....

HAWK HILL - Omitted .....

123d Means Firepower

The 123rd Aviation Battalion was activated on December 8, 1967 from a nucleus formed by the old 161st Aviation Company. The **406 Transportation Corps Detachment** and the **449th Signal Detachment**, which had supported the 161st Aviation Company, were reassigned and attached to the 123rd Aviation Battalion in January 1968. During 1968, the 123rd Aviation Battalion compiled an impressive record. Company A supported the Americal's ground units by hauling 1,482 tons of cargo in over 3,736 sorties and in the process killed over twenty VC/NVA and medevaced over ninety-four persons. Company B learned their tactical lessons well, killing over seven hundred VC/NVA in 27,510 sorties.

On December 15, 1968, the 123rd Aviation Battalion was attached to the 16th Combat Aviation Group. January, 1969, two CH-47 units, the 132nd Assault Support Helicopter Company and the 178th Assault Helicopter, were attached to the battalion. A short period after this reorganization the 406th Transportation Corps Detachment and the 449th Signal Detachment were deactivated.

The 123rd Aviation Battalion has three air Cavalry units. The three units, **Company B**, **F Troop 8th Cavalry** and **D Troop 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry**, are used to support each of the three infantry brigades in the Americal Division. Assets from the 123rd Aviation Battalion have been involved in every major operation that the Americal Division has undertaken since January, 1968.

'Blue Ghosts on daily reconnaissance

By PFC Fred Abatemarco

QUANG TRI (23rd Inf. Div. IO) - Warrant Officer Mark Christian languidly adjusted his armor vest and made secondary checks of his controls before he eased his "Slick" (UH-1H helicopter off the helipad and headed northwest towards Route 9.

Christian would be flying the first leg of **F Troop, 8th Cavalry's** daily visual reconnaissance, which provides convoy support for all "friendlies" traveling on the dusty road that links Khe Sanh, Fire Support Base Shepherd, Landing Zone Vandergrift and Dong Ha in the northwest corner of South Vietnam.

The Light Observation Helicopter (LOH) commonly referred to by the aviators as the "little bird", had already taken off, and the two Cobra gunships that would complete the "Heavy Team" would be following closely behind Christian.

In the past, "Pink Teams"--One LOH, one Cobra and one Slick-had been used, but the versatility of the daily mission has been increased with the addition of another Cobra.

The sun had not even begun to approach the ferocity that it would reach on this day, when the team came on station. Visual and radio contact was quickly established between Christian and the "little bird" while the Cobras settled into their circular pattern, conspicuously avoiding the paths of the high flying "Slick" and the tree-top cruising LOH.

The day's work had begun.

The drone of Christian's chopper, interrupted occasionally by the sharp crackle of the "fox-mike" (FM) radio prevented dialogue on board and so the attention of the two door gunners, the Aerial Artillery Observer (A)) and the two members of the "Blues" (aero-rifle platoon) focused on the still light traffic traveling along Route 9.

Christian and his pilot, Captain Clyde Wilbur concentrated on the air traffic which was becoming thick with all types of aircraft.

Christian's first priority involved keeping the "little bird" in sight at all times as it searched out the six mile stretch of road for any signs of possible enemy activity. That is no easy task, as The low darting LOH readily camouflages itself against the thick jungle foliage when viewed from above.

In addition, the "Slick" had to be prepared to act as a recovery ship, a dust - off, and an all-purpose standby.

Christian was aware that enemy activity in the area had been increasing. Ambushes had occurred daily along Route 9, producing American casualties and hindering the pull-out operations from Khe Sanh. The LOH was hunting out these ambushes in the hills and ridgelines adjacent to the road, and the sleek Cobras were poised to destroy them as quickly as possible. Christian and his crew could not count on such a neat schedule of activities, however.

Beads of perspiration appeared around the edges of Christian's helmet as the sun kept air temperature at 85 degrees, even at 3,000 feet.

The LOH did spot a number of enemy bunkers and fighting positions hidden in the canopied hills, however, and First Lieutenant Christopher Marasco, the AO, marked the positions as the LOH expended CS (Tear Gas) and white phosphorous grenades on them.

The destroyed positions might have been as much as two years old, but the intelligence would nonetheless be fed through the normal channels for the reference of ground and artillery units working in the area.

Towards mid-afternoon, Christian brought his chopper back to Quang Tri. The uneventful morning had been a pleasant change from the months of heavy contact that the "**Blue Ghosts**" experienced throughout Lam Son 719.

Visual reconnaissance as 'Dust Off'

By PFC Fred Abatemarco

QUANG TRI (23rd. Inf. Div. IO) - At 1300 hours Warrant Officer Randy Palmer strapped into the aircraft commander's seat, ready to finish the day's mission. **F Troop, 8th Cavalry** had been responsible for daily reconnaissance missions ever since they had come under the operational control of the 11th Infantry Brigade for Lam Son 719.

Palmer, a quick-moving, restless young aviator, was eager to get high in the air, away from the relentless heat and gritty red laterite dust on the ground. A quick stop to refuel, and he was on station with the "Lttle Bird" (a light observation helicopter or LOH) in sight within 15 minutes.

Before long, Palmer startled the lolling crew by announcing that it was time to play "State Trooper." Flip as his words may have been, serious attention was given to Palmer's inference-a back-up of vehicles for about a mile on a winding stretch of Route 9.

The LOH pilot was able to establish the trouble as a disabled truck that would have to be pushed off the road. Meanwhile, **F Troop's** team tried to provide as much security as possible for this very vulnerable situation.

The two Cobra gunships on the mission adjusted their flying pattern so that they would alternately cover the maximum number of possible enemy positions for the maximum amount of time.

"Little Bird" started an intensive search of the area in close proximity to the road. But Palmer's UH-1H crew could only sit and wait, not knowing what they might be called upon to do. They had to be ready for anything. The suspenseful moments before the convoy began moving freely were filled with the sound of Palmer's voice in constant communication with those involved in the brief crisis.

To some he might seem ineffectual, but that is based on appearance only. Palmer was in control of every phase of his team's activities on this afternoon and his terse, decisive leadership would be tested later in the day.

Once the road was cleared and the traffic began rolling the helicopters settled into their routine patterns. But they were not destined to remain that way very long.

The radio barked a call for assistance for an element of the 11th Infantry Brigade which had run into an undetermined size force of enemy soldiers a few hundred meters off of Route 9. Tightening his flight pattern and holding his altitude, Palmer moved his "Slick" directly over the ridgeline where the contact had been made.

(Continued -1)

From there, he was able to observe "Little Bird" moving out of range making room for the more lethal Cobra gunship to descend and spew their deadly rockets.

Palmer called off the attack when he received a call requesting a medical evacuation of a wounded soldier. The Dust-off bird was still a few minutes away, and might possibly have to stop to refuel before it could reach the area. Those few minutes could be the difference between life and death for the injured GI.

Palmer radioed that he would be coming down for the dust-off.

While his crew prepared itself for possible enemy contact, and the pilot relayed the necessary information to the 18th Surgical Hospital in Quang Tri, Palmer searched for a suitable landing zone. Finding none, he was left with no alternative but to cut one himself.

The whirling rotors of the "Slick" sliced sharply at the jungle covering as the chopper rapidly descended. Seconds after the skids touched down on the dense jungle floor, four "Grunts" rushed forward carrying another infantryman.

Palmer then lifted off as quickly as he had landed and sped away with the wounded soldier on board.

Flying low-level at a speed in excess of 100 knots, Palmer was able to deliver the GI to medical aid in less than 20 minutes from the time the distress call was received. It was a meritorious job to say the least, but one which neither Palmer nor the rest of the crew took any bows for.

In the course of that day the visual reconnaissance "Slick" had operated as artillery spotter, convoy, security, recovery stand-by and dust-off.

Before leaving the Hospital helipad, Palmer radioed "Little Bird." the scorching sun had not yet settled behind the mountains of the Laotian border to the west and until it did, the **"Blue Ghost" of F Troop, 8th Cavalry** would continue to fly.

Recon halts an ambush by PFC Larry Rich

DA NANG (196th Inf. Bde. IO) - If fast reactions spell the difference between life and death on the battlefield, then the men of the **Reconnaissance Platoon, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry,** 196th Infantry Brigade, will live up to their motto, "We Who Do Not Die".

Having killed an enemy soldier the previous day, the platoon was careful to expose itself as little as possible as they made a recent sweep west of LZ Hawk Hill.

Specialist Four Art Lerma (San Antonio, Texas) was walking point for a small patrol, when he noticed a path bordering and passing through a hedgerow. But the pointman made a new trail. After cutting through the hedgerow and pushing through a patch of elephant grass, the Texan found himself standing behind some enemy soldiers. They had set up an ambush along the regular trail.

Disregarding his own safety, SP4 Lerma stood fully exposed and fired into the enemy force. He stopped only to change 30-round magazines on his M-16.

Hearing the sounds of the fire-fight, First Lieutenant James F. Dowling (Honolulu, Hawaii), platoon leader, radioed for air support and led a group of men from their position to support the embattled squad.

Within minutes, helicopter[s] from **F Troop, 8th Cavalry**, 16th Aviation Squadron [Group] arrived at the scene. The helicopter flight, consisting of two gunships, a light observation helicopter (LOH), and a UH-1H Helicopter (slick) containing a five man reactionary force, began searching the area for the fleeing enemy.

Spotting a well-hidden trail, the LOH pilot radioed the recon unit. The helicopter flew in a tight circle over the trail to mark the location for the ground troops.

The fact the trail was being used by the retreating troops was soon evident. The doorgunner's bursts of suppressive fire were answered with return fire. Damaged by the enemy bullets, the chopper was forced to land.

The slick immediately landed the "Blue Ghost" reactionary force in a clearing near the downed aircraft. As the men attempted to reach the craft, they came under hostile fire.

The recon force requested the slick to pick up a group of men for insertion into the same area as the disabled helicopter and besieged reactionary force. While waiting for clearance, Lt. Dowling attempted to lead his men into the area by foot.

Coming under fire the men of Echo Recon pulled back to determine another approach. Suddenly the "Blue Ghost" chopper radioed them to prepare for pick-up; the slick was going to transport them to the battle area.

Scrambling aboard the craft, Lt. Dowling and the rescue force were taken where the reactionary force had originally landed. Within minutes they were giving support fire for the **"Blue Ghost"** troops.

Splitting his force, Lt. Dowling and two of his men maneuvered to the downed LOH. "I've never met two men happier to see anyone in my life," the platoon leader said. "The pilot and gunner were in a bad spot, and for a while it looked like the first people to get to them would be the enemy."

The small rescue force soon rejoined the recon and "Blue Ghost" ground forces. The combined firepower of the soldiers and gunships forced the enemy to retreat.

The entire fire-fight had lasted only a few minutes, but during that thumb the recon unit had served in many capacities from patrol to attack force, to rescue squad. In an ever changing war, the men "who do not die" had proven their adaptability.

Recon platoon lives up to motto, 'we who do not die'

By PFC Larry Rich

DA NANG, (196th Inf. Bde. IO) -- If fast reactions spell the difference between life and death on the battlefield, then the men of the **Reconnaissance Platoon, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry Brigade**, will live up to their motto, "We Who Do Not Die."

Having killed an enemy soldier the previous day, the platoon was careful to expose itself as little as possible as they made a recent sweep west of LZ Hawk Hill.

Specialist Four Art Lerma (San Antonio, Tex.) was walking point for a small patrol, when he noticed a path bordering and passing through a hedgerow. But the pointman made a new trail. After cutting through the hedgerow and pushing through a patch of elephant grass, the Texan found himself standing behind some enemy soldiers. They had set up an ambush along the regular trail.

Disregarding his own safety, Lerma stood fully exposed and fired into the enemy force. He stopped only to change 30-round magazines in his M-16.

Hearing the sounds of the firefight, First Lieutenant James F. Dowling (Honolulu, Hawaii), platoon leader, radioed for air support and led a group of men from their position to support the embattled squad.

Within minutes, helicopters from **F Troop, 8th Cavalry**, 16th Aviation Squadron **Blue Ghost**), arrived at the scene. The helicopter flight consisting of two gunships, a light observation helicopter (LOH), and a UH1H helicopter (slick) containing a five man reactionary force, began searching the area for the fleeing enemy.

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The fact the trail was being used by the retreating enemy troops was soon evident. The doorgunner's bursts of suppressive fire were answered with return fire. Damaged by the enemy bullets, the chopper was forced to land.

The slick immediately landed the "Blue Ghost" reactionary force in a clearing near the downed aircraft. As the men attempted to reach the craft they came under hostile fire.

The recon force requested the slick to pick up a group of men for insertion into the same area as the disabled helicopter and besieged reactionary force. While waiting for clearance., Downey attempted to lead his men into the area by foot.

Coming under fire, the men of **Echo Recon** pulled back to determine another approach. Suddenly, the "**Blue Ghost**" chopper radioed them to prepare for pick-up; the slick was going to transport them to the battle area.

Scrambling aboard the craft, Downey and the rescue force were quickly taken to where the reactionary force had originally landed. Within minutes they were giving support fire for the Blue Ghost troops.

Splitting his force, Downey and two of his men maneuvered to the downed LOH. "I've never met two men happier to see anyone in my life," the platoon leader said. "The pilot and gunner were in a bad spot, and for awhile it looked like the first people to get to them would be the enemy."

The small rescue force soon rejoined the recon and "**Blue Ghost**" ground forces. The combined firepower of the soldiers and gunships forced the enemy to retreat.

The entire firefight had lasted only a few minutes, but during that time the **recon** unit had served in many capacities, from patrol, to attack force, to rescue squad. In an ever changing war, the men "**who do not die**" had proven their adaptability.

196th Brigade reports 24 kills in Action

DA NANG (196th Inf. Bde. IO) - The "Chargers" of the 196th Infantry Brigade accounted for 24 enemy deaths, and uncovered several enemy caches in moderate action.

F Troop, 8th Cavalry, while on an air cavalry mission early this week, inserted the **Blues** into an area west of Da Nang. The Blues swept the area and observed two VC soldiers evading northwest. They engaged the enemy with small arms fire, killing both enemy soldiers. Two rucksacks containing miscellaneous clothing, 12 rice knives and a small amount of medical supplies were captured in the action. The captured supplies were extracted to Da Nang.

Later the same day, while working in an area southwest of Da Nang, **Company A, 3d Battalion, 21st Infantry**, engaged three VC soldiers with small arms fire. As a result, one enemy soldier was killed as the others evaded west.

F Troop, 17th Cavalry, while working the 116th PFs (Popular Forces), observed four to five VC soldiers approximately 350 meters west of their position. They engaged the enemy with small arms fire and processed artillery on the enemy's location. The PFs then swept the area and found three VC soldiers killed in the action, and detained another. The detainee was taken to Da Nang for questioning.

The **reconnaissance element of 3rd Bn., 21st Inf.**, while on patrol southwest of Da Nang, came across a structure next to a cave. The cave was searched and the **"Gimlets"** found 50 pounds of rice, one AK-50, 150 rounds of AK-47 ammunition, three RPG boosters, three RPG tail assemblies, miscellaneous clothing and eight Chicom grenades. The AK-50 was extracted to a nearby LZ and the rest destroyed.

While on patrol west of Da Nang, **F Troop, 17th Cav.** found two 122mm rockets and 190 pounds of rice. The rice was inedible and was destroyed along with the rockets.

B Troop, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry, while in their night defensive position early this week, received five RPG rounds and observed four VC soldiers evading southwest. **"Blue Ghost"** was on station and spotted an unknown size enemy force. "Blue Ghost" engaged the enemy, killing two as the other evaded.

Company B, 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry, while patrolling west of Da Nang this week, found two caves containing 680 pounds of rice. The rice was extracted to Da Nang.

A LOH from **F Troop, 8th Cavalry**, while on a VR (visual reconnaissance) mission received small arms fire from a structure. Gunships, which were flying with the LOH, then engaged and destroyed the structure. The VR ship later observed another structure and engaged and destroyed it. The **Blues** were inserted and swept the area, finding a cave containing 500 to 600 pounds of rice. Due to the technical situation, the rice was unable to be extracted and was destroyed.

While checking an artillery impact area this week, **Company C, 3d Bn., 21st Inf.** found one AK-47 rifle with two magazines containing 60 rounds and five rucksacks containing two ammunition pouches, four magazines with 80 rounds, one Chicom grenade, one 9mm pistol belt with clip, two canteens, one mess kit, an unknown amount of NVA money, 30 pounds of

(Continued -1)

rice and one civilian ID card. The entire find was extracted to a nearby LZ.

Company C, 3rd Bn., 21st Inf., while patrolling an area west of Da Nang, spotted six enemy soldiers moving to their front. They engaged the enemy with small arms fire, killing three as the other evaded northwest.

While on patrol this week the 116th RFs (Regional Forces) found a tunnel that had collapsed because of artillery fire. Upon searching the tunnel, the RFs uncovered the bodies of 12 VC soldiers. The kills were credited to Alpha Battery, 3rd Battalion, 15th Artillery, for fire missions.

Bravo Troop, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry, while patrolling an area west of Da Nag, found 300 pounds of marijuana hidden under a parachute. The find was destroyed.

Company B, 1st Bn., 46th Inf., while on patrol west of Da Nang, found one enemy structure containing 1000 pounds of rice stored in sandbags. The rice was extracted to Da Nang.

Later in the same area, **Company D, 1st Bn., 46th Inf.**, while on a search and clear mission, discovered two cache sites containing 100 pounds of rice. Five hundred pounds of the rice was inedible and was destroyed, while the remaining 500 pounds was extracted to Da Nang.

While in their day defensive position this week, Company G, 75th Rangers, had a mechanical ambush detonate. Upon checking the area, they found one dead VC soldier and recovered one AK-47 rifle.

F Troop, 8th Cav., while on an air cavalry mission later this week, inserted the **Blues** into an area west of Da Nang. The **Blues** swept the area and captured an enemy soldier hiding in a cave. A search of the cave uncovered one SKS, one 9mm pistol, four rucksacks, one AK-47 magazine, 15 rounds of AK ammunition, three sets of NVA fatigues, nine batteries, a metal box containing 21 radio tubes, 200 feet of detonator wire, miscellaneous medical supplies, assorted food stuff and various cooking utensils. The enemy soldier and all the supplies were extracted to Da Nang.

Weekly re-cap

196th, 198th Bdes kill 16 enemy soldiers

196th kills 6

DA NANG, (196th Inf. Bde. IO) - In light action this week the 196th Infantry Brigade soldiers killed six enemy soldiers and destroyed several booby-traps.

Early this week **Company A, 3rd Bn., 21st Inf.**, while on patrol southwest of Da Nang, found one anti-tank mine, and destroyed it in place.

While on an air cavalry mission this week, **F Troop, 8th Cavalry,** received a few rounds of small arms fire. Their LOH observed one NVA soldier evading northwest and called in gunships. **Gunships** then engaged the area, killing the lone enemy soldier.

Red Baron 40, while flying a visual reconnaissance (VR) mission this week, observed two VC soldiers evading into a woodline and another enemy soldier running towards a bunker. Artillery was called in, resulting in one VC soldier killed and the destroying of three structures and three bunkers.

Company B, 3rd Bn., 21st Inf., while on a search and clear mission this week, engaged and killed two VC soldiers with small arms fire. Captured in the action were four hand grenades, one rifle, two pistol belts, six fully loaded magazines and one poncho. The captured items were extracted to a nearby LZ.

While working an area west of Da Nang this week, **C Troop, 1st Squadron, 1st Cav.**, found one enemy structure and one bunker. C Troop engaged the structure with an M-79, causing a secondary explosion which destroyed the bunker and structure. (Continued on page 2)

The reconnaissance element of **1st Bn., 46th Inf.**, while in their night defensive position west of Da Nang, had a mechanical ambush detonate. As a result one NVA soldier was killed and one AK-50 with two magazines, a rucksack and two Chicom grenades were captured in the action.

C Troop, 1st Squadron, 1st Cav., while working an area west of Da Nang, found five anti-personnel mines among a group of structures. The mines were destroyed in place.

While working an area west of Da Nang this week, **Company C, 4th Bn., 31st Inf.**, found a booby-trap consisting of a Chicom grenade with a trip wire. The booby-trap was blown in place.

An artillery round with a trip wire was found by **Company C, 4th Bn., 31st Inf.**, while they were on a search and clear mission west of Da Nang. The **"Polar Bears"** destroyed the booby-trap in place.

Keeper 24, a resupply bird for 1st Squadron, 1st Cav., spotted one enemy soldier evading west and engaged with machine gun fire. As a result, the soldier was killed and one 9mm pistol, seven rounds of 9mm ammunition, one pistol belt and one hand grenade were captured in the action and extracted to a nearby LZ.

196th, 198th see moderate – light action

196th Bde kills 23

DA NANG (196th Inf. Bde. IO) –

In moderate action recently the 196th Infantry Brigade "Chargers" killed 23 enemy soldiers and found over 4500 pounds of rice.

B Troop, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry, while in their night defensive position west of Da Nang, has a mechanical ambush detonate. The following morning Troop B searched the area and found two VC soldiers killed.

Later the same day **B Troop** spotted five enemy soldiers moving north and engaged them with small arms fire. As a result, three VC soldiers were killed as the others evaded. Captured in the action was one AK-47 rifle and ten rounds of AK-47 ammunition.

The following day, while checking a bunker complex, **B Troop** observed one VC soldier evading into one of the bunkers. The enemy soldier was engaged with small arms fire and grenades. As a result, the enemy was killed.

Late in the day, **B Troop** observed seven VC soldiers and engaged them with organic weapons. Red Baron 40 was flying in the area and adjusted artillery on the enemy's location. As a result two enemy soldiers were killed. One of the kills was credited to **Battery A, 3d Battalion, 82d Artillery,** and the other kill was credited to Battery **A, 3d Battalion, 16th Artillery.**

Radar from an LZ near Da Nang detected five persons moving southwest. **F Troop, 8th Cavalry,** while on a **night-hawk** mission, checked the area and spotted four enemy soldiers, F Troop engaged the enemy, killing all four.

While working an area west of Da Nang this week, **F Troop, 17th Cavalry,** had a mechanical ambush detonate. A search of the area revealed that three enemy soldiers were killed and one wounded. The wounded soldier was extracted to 95th Evacuation Hospital for treatment.

Captured in the action were three AK-47 rifles one RPG (rocket propelled grenade launcher), two RPG rounds six Chicom grenades, one anti-tank weapon and three AK-47 magazines with 140 rounds of ammunition. The weapons were extracted to a nearby LZ and the munitions were destroyed.

Red Baron 32, an **artillery observation helicopter,** while working in an area west of Da Nang, observed two VC soldiers hiding in a bunker, and called in artillery. As a result, both enemy soldiers were killed. One of the kills was credited to **Battery A, 3d Bn., 82d Arty.,** and the other as credited to Battery A, 3d Bn., 16th Arty.

Company **A, 3d Battalion, 21st Infantry,** while moving to their pick-up zone, observed and engaged one NVA soldier with small arms fire. As a result the enemy soldier was killed and 700 pounds of rice, three Chicom grenades, five rucksacks and one pistol belt were captured. Due to the tactical situation, the rice and grenades were destroyed. The rucksacks and pistol belts were extracted with the element.

The Integrated Observation System on a hill near Da Nang spotted seven VC soldiers with packs and weapons. Artillery was called in on the enemy's location, resulting in five VC soldiers killed. The kills were credited to **battery A, 3d Bn.,** ~~[83d~~ sic] **82d Arty.**

While on a search and clear mission, **Troop C, 1st Sqd., 1st Cav.** found three enemy structures. Upon checking the structures C Troop uncovered 900 pounds of rice in a bamboo container and also found a basket containing another 500 pounds of rice.

About 50 meters southwest of the structures they found 2500 pounds of rice hidden in a gully. All 3900 pounds of rice were extracted to the orphanage at Que Son.

'Chargers' count 16 kills recently

DA NANG, (196th Inf. Bde. IO) - The "Chargers" of the 196th Infantry Brigade accounted for 16 enemy kills recently as they operated west of the Da Nang area.

The week started with small amounts of ammunition being found by **Company's B and C from the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry, C Troop, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry,** destroyed two booby traps, while **A Troop, 1st Sqd., 1st Cav.,** located and destroyed a land mine before it could cause damage to an allied vehicle.

F Troop, 8th Cavalry, started the action when it spotted four VC soldiers while flying support for the **1st Bn., 46th Inf.** All four VC soldiers fell before the firepower of a LOH and a gunship combination. Another **F Troop** LOH observed five to six enemy troops. The LOH's M-60 accounted for two NVA soldiers KIAs and gunships added still two more kills to the score. The **Blues of F Troop, 8th Cav.,** engaged and killed one NVA soldier in ground action southwest of Da Nang.

Seven NVA soldiers walked into an area being patrolled by **Company B, 1st Bn., 46th Inf.** This mistake resulted in five NVA soldiers killed and two wounded. The men of **Company B** captured seven rucksacks, one AK-47, one K-54 pistol, 250 rounds of small arms ammo, six Chicom grenades, 60 pounds of rice, one RPG (Rocket Propelled Grenade) training device and one Chicom radio.

C Troop, 1st Sqd, 1st Cav., found a probable enemy hospital area west of Da Nang containing 20 NVA uniforms, 300 pounds of salt and a table that could be used as a surgical table.

While on patrol west of Da Nang, **C Troop, 1st Sqd, 1st Cav.,** found three enemy structures containing a total of 200 pounds of rice. The rice was extracted to be turned over to Vietnamese authorities.

A Troop, 1st Sqd., 1st Cav., killed a VC soldier who tried to evade into a bunker. The enemy soldier was clad in black pajamas and carried a hand grenade.

Company D, 2nd Bn., 1st Inf., finished its week by a cordon and search operation west of Da Nang. They found 600 pounds of corn buried in the ground and detained six military aged women who did not have ID cards.

$1400 collected
for Carson Scout

DA NANG (196th Inf. Bde. IO) -- Nguyen Quan, a Kit Carson Scout, was devoted to his job, a damn good man", according to Sergeant First Class Charles Davis (Uniontown, Pa.) and the rest of the men of the Aero Rifle "Blues" Platoon, **F Troop, 8th Cavalry.**

Quan had worked with the Blues for about three months and had made about 25 insertions. He had found a couple boobytraps and was responsible for finding and capturing high-level enemy signal documents and signal operation instructions.

He helped the guys in the **Blues Platoon** with work details and participated in alerts, but he didn't have to.

He lived with the members of the platoon-rarely taking a day off, according to Sergeant Thomas Hopper (Staybon, Ore.).

On Aug. 14, Quan was badly injured by the explosion of an anti-personnel mine while he and the **Blues** were on their way to a PZ (pick-up zone) after an insertion. He lost both his legs.

Quan's American friends felt a great sense of loss, and they jointly decided to do something for Quan.

The members of the platoon decided to present Quan with a gift of money raised by members of **F Troop**. The campaign was soon expanded to include the entire **123d Aviation Battalion.**

The efforts of the platoon gained $1400 for Quan. The money was presented by Captain Thomas M. Hayes (Annedale, Md.) on behalf of the Blues.

[Historian Note: The $1,400 in 1971 would be equivalent to $28,000 in 2022.]

A m e r i c a l h e a d q u a r t e r s E T S' s

By MSG Bill Pickett

CHU LAI (Special) - "Four year ago the Americal Division was born in battle ... in one of the most violently contested areas of Vietnam. Today we look back with satisfaction at the complete accomplishment of our mission."

With these words Major General Frederick J. Kroesen, 23d Infantry Division (Americal) commander, set the stage for the **standdown** of the division headquarters, the last in the division to case its colors.

The division awards ceremony Nov. 11 at Chu Lai climaxed four years of battle for the Americal Division, at one time the largest division in the Army, with the largest Tactical Area of Interest in Vietnam. More than 100,000 men served with the division in the southern portion of Military Region I during that time, helping to drive the enemy out of the populated coastal plain and mountain settlements and training Regional Popular Forces.

"Those who have served honorably with this division have earned a self-satisfaction and pride that comes from serving with the best, and attaining the most difficult goals," the general noted.

He did not sidestep the fact that members of the division share collectively an unfortunate reputation,"... caused by the few in our numbers who make mistakes, some tragic, some careless, some notorious."

"But," he added, "we do share also the credit for an unexcelled record and uncounted thousands of acts of valor, acts of compassion and a significant contribution to the attainment of the objectives of the United States in this war."

Participating in the ceremony were infantrymen from the three brigades of the division: the 11th, 196th and 198th; artillerymen representing the Americal Division Artillery; aviation personnel of the 16th Combat Aviation Group; and men of many skills from the Division Support Command. Also represented was the **1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry; 26th Engineer Battalion and the 523d Signal Battalion.**

General Creighton W. Abrams, CG, U.S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, was the reviewing officer. Sharing the reviewing stand with General Abrams and General Kroesen were Lieutenant General Hoang Xuan Lam, CG I Corps and Military Region I; Lieutenant General William J. McCaffery, deputy CG, U.S. Army, Vietnam; Lieutenant General Welborn G. Dolvin, CG, XXIV Corps; and Major General Nguyen Van Toan, CG 2d ARVN Infantry Division.

Brigadier General Bertram K. Gorwitz, assistant division commander, was Commander of Troops.

During the ceremony Americal soldiers were presented U.S. and Vietnamese decorations. They were representative of the many members of the division who have been cited for gallantry during their tours with the Americal.

Since the unit was activated in 1967, nine Americal soldiers have earned the Medal of Honor, and the Division was decorated with its second Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Palm.

Capping the colorful ceremony witnessed by several hundred spectators, General Kroesen, assisted by General Toan, unveiled a monument dedicated to soldiers of the Americal Division "...who joined forces with soldiers of the 2d ARVN Infantry Division to battle a common enemy during the years 1967 to 1971."

A part of the inscription on the bronze plaque mounted on the cement monument read: "This monument stands as a memorial to the sacrifices made by members of the Americal Division during this struggle, and it endures as a symbol of hope for the ultimate achievement of self-determination for all the people of Vietnam."

With the dedication of the memorial the standdown ceremony for the Americal Division was ended.

STANDDOWN PRESS CONFERENCE--Some 25 newsmen interview Major General Frederick J. Kroesen, CG 23d Infantry Division (Americal), following standown ceremonies for Headquarters of the Americal Nov. 11. (U.S. ARMY PHOTO)

Photo Caption- STANDDOWN PRESS CONFERENCE--Some 25 newsmen interview Major General Frederick J. Kroesen, CG 23d Infantry Division (Americal), following standown ceremonies for Headquarters of the Americal Nov. 11. (U.S. ARMY PHOTO)

This section will contain excepts related to Troop F, 8th Cavalry found in various Operation Reports and Lessons Learned reports from the Americal Division and Aviation units.

HEADQUARTERS, 14TH COMBAT AVIATION BATTALION
APO San Francisco 96374
SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period 31 January 1968 (RCS_CS FOR 65)

Section I: Significant Organizational Activities

1. (C) General

a. The mission of the 14th CAB is to provide timely direct and general aviation support to the elements of the Americal Division and selected units within I Corps Tactical Zone.

b. Major organizational changes during this quarter were:

(1) **The 161st Aviation Company was redesignated A Company 123d Aviation Battalion and released from assignment to 14th Combat Aviation Battalion and assigned to the Americal Division effective 15 January 1968 per General order #300 Hq USARPAC, dtd 2 December 1967.**

(2) **Troop C, 7 Squadron, 17th Air Cavalry** was attached to 14th Combat Aviation Battalion and OPCON to the Americal Division effective 3 December 1967 per General Order #30, Hq 17th Aviation Group, dated 30 November 1967.

c. Aircraft assets and their location at the close of this reporting period are as follows:

UNIT	NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT	HEADQUARTERS LOCATION
HHD, 14TH CAB 14th Sec Plt 348th Avn Det 534th Med Det	1 U6A	Chu Lai, RVN (BT 572 035)
71st Avn Co 94th Sig Det 151st TC Det	18 UH1D, 7 UH-1C	Chu Lai, RVN (BT 541 064)
174th Avn Co 409th TC Det 452nd Sig Det 756th Med Det	17 UH-1D, 8 UH-1C	Duc Pho, RVN (BS 812 382)
176th Avn Co 411th TC Det 454th Sig Det	17 UH-1D, 8 UH-1C	Chu Lai. RVN (BT 527 116)
178th Avn Co 400 TC Det	14 CH-47A, 1 UH-1C,	Chu Lai, RVN (BT 547 057)
Trp C, 7th Sqdn, **17th Air Cav**	5 UH-1H, 10 UH-1C 10 OH-6A	Chu Lai, RVN (BT 527 116)

d. Transportation and Signal Detachments continue to remain attached to each Aviation Company to facilitate aircraft and avionics maintenance support.

e. Medical support assets have been divided to afford aviation medical support at both Chu Lai and Duc Pho.

HEADQUARTERS, 14TH COMBAT AVIATION BATTALION
APO San Francisco 96374
SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period 31 January 1968 (RCS_CS FOR 65)

f. Command.

(1) The 14th Combat Aviation Battalion was commanded by **LTC Carroll C. Isaacs,** OF 100 091, Armor.

(2) Major Robert D. Fitzgerald, 05 930 052, Infantry, assumed command of the 71st Aviation Company on 18 January 1968.

(3) The 174th Aviation Company was commanded by Major Thomas W. Wheat Jr., 04 009 596, Artillery.

(4) Major Paul E. Jackson, 04 025 832, Artillery, assumed command of the 176th Aviation Company on 3 November 1967.

(5) Major Ernest M. Wood Jr., 04 010 688, Artillery, assumed command of the 178th Aviation Company on 19 December 1967.

(6) **Troop C, 7th Sqdn, 17th Air Cavalry** was commanded by Major James D. Marett, 04 023 646, Armor.

SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 16th Combat Aviation Group for Period Ending 30 April, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1) (U)

Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development
DA (ACSFOR, DA)
Washington DC, 20310

1. (C) SECTION I, OPERATIONS: SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES

a. (C) GENERAL

(1) The quarter commenced with the 16th Group's two battalions, the 14th Combat Aviation Battalion and the 212th Combat Support Battalion heavily engaged in providing aviation support to suppress the enemy's Tet Offensive in the I Corps Tactical Zone. The heaviest fighting was concentrated in and near the City of Hue, which was one of the main objectives of the VC and NVA forces. The gunships of the 212th Combat Support Aviation Battalion were extensively instrumental in providing support to the ground forces during this battle.

(2) In addition to the many extra flying hours required, each unit was required to increase its internal security to protect their assets against enemy ground and stand off fire attacks. Additionally, concurrent effort was applied to improving the defensive posture and alert procedures of all units.

(3) A warning order attaching the 308th Combat Aviation Battalion was received on 9 March 1968. The order called for the 308th Battalion to be attached to the 16th Combat Aviation Group effective 15 March 68, with operational control invested to the 101st Airborne Division. Attachment became effective as the units passed North of 14 degrees 30 minutes North latitude. The 308th Combat Aviation Battalion completed its move from the III Corps area to the vicinity of Hue Phu Bai in the I Corps area and was declared fully operational on 12 April 1968.

(4) **C Troop 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry was redesignated F Troop, 8th Cavalry on 1 April 68. With the change of designation, the unit became organic to the Americal Division.**

(5) Corps Aviation Company (Provisional) was assigned to the 16th CAG on 12 March 1968.. It was further attached to the 212th CSAB on 14 March 1968. The unit is stationed at Hue Phu Bai with the mission to provide aviation support for the headquarters element of the Provisional Corps Viet Nam.

[Historian Note: The 123rd Combat Aviation Battalion was not part of the 16th Combat Aviation Group at this time. However, it had control of F/8th Cavalry which was operating along side the Warlords at Ky Ha.]

(3) **Operation Burlington Trail** began at 0815H April 1968. It is an operation to open the road from Tam Ky to Tien Phouc, neutralize base area 117, locate and destroy NVA/VC forces in the area, and extend GVN control in the area. The operation is being conducted in conjunction with the 6th ARVN REGT of the 2d ARVN Division, elements of the CIDG forces from Tien Phouc Special Forces Camp and the 3d Trp of the 4th ARVN Cav Sqdn. The 1st Sqdn, 1st Cav, 1-6th Inf (-) and elements of the 1-46th Inf are the Americal forces participating. The road was opened to 2 1/2 ton vehicle traffic going from Tam Ky to Tien Phouc. On 18 April 1968 the road was officially opened when a 2d ARVN Div, 50 vehicle convoy, moved from Tam Ky to Tien Phouc and returned, closing at 1810H. Ground action has been light to moderate in the operation. On 19 April 1968 at 1610H vic of BT209140, B-1-1 Cav, **F Trp-8th Cav**, and C-1-6th Inf engaged an estimated VC platoon. Results of the engagement were 25 VC KIA (C), and 5 IWC. There has been frequent mortaring of friendly units in night defensive positions. Results of Operation Burlington Trail during the reporting period were:

FRND		ENEMY	
15	KHA	226	VC KIA(C)
86	WHA(E)	6	NVA KIA(C)
38	WHA(M)	61	IWC

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1968. (RCS-CSFOR-65) (RI) (U).

Americal Division Troop List (As of 1 Apr 68)

1. HQ, AMERICAL DIVISION

HHC, Americal Div
1st Sqdn, 1st Cav
26th Engr Bn
123d Avn Bn
- 406th TC Det
- 449th Sig Det
- **F Troop 8th Cav**

523d Sig Bn
23d MP Co
258th Pers Svc Co (Attached)
Co E, 51st Inf (LRP)
63d Inf Plat (Combat Tracker Team)
3d Mil Hist Det
Americal Combat Center (PROV)
- 408th RR Det
- 415th RR Det
- 601st RR Det

14th Avn Bn (OPCON)
- 71st Aslt Hel Co (OPCON)
- 174th Aslt Hel Co (OPCON)
- 176th Aslt Hel Co (OPCON)
- 178th Aslt Hel Co (OPCON)

Americal CA Co, PROV (OPCON)
- 4th Plat, CA Co (OPCON)
- 6th Plat, CA CO (OPCON)
- 9th Plat., CA CO (OPCON)

O/L6, Det 31, 5th Weather Sqdn (USAF) OPCON)
Tactical Air Control Party, Americal (OPCON)
39th Engr Bn (Area Support)

AVDF-GC **7 August 1968**

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1968 (RCS-CSFOR-65) (RI) (U)

.....

3. Aviation.

b. (C) Personnel.

(1) The 570th Transportation Detachment arrived 28 June 1968, with 53-EM, 1-WO and equipment. This unit will replace the 40th Transportation Detachment which is scheduled to depart 3 August 1968. The 570th will be attached to **F Troop, 8th Cavalry** pending receipt of assignment orders.

(2) The 415th Signal Detachment arrived 20 June 1968 with four (4) EM, one (1) WO and equipment and will be attached to **F Troop, 8th Cavalry** pending assignment orders.

(3) The following lists the consolidated battalion strength (**F Troop, 8th Cav** and attached units not included)

AUTHORIZED/MTOE			AUTHORIZED/AMCAL GO			ASSIGNED 31JUL68		
OFF	WO	EM	OFF	WO	EM	OFF	WO	EM
39	59	350	41	59	390	35	49	413

(4) The following lists the strength of **F Troop, 8th Cavalry and attached units:**

AUTHORIZED/MTOE			ASSIGNED 31 July 1968		
OFF	WO	EM	OFF	WO	EM
13	35	189	14	29	208

.....

(e) **F Troop, 8th Cavalry** continues under operational control of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry.

(6) The following training facilities were constructed at the Americal Combat Center during the reporting period:

3. Aviation.

a. General: The 14th CAB remained OPCON to the Americal Division, providing aviation Direct Support. A Co, 123d Avn Bn continued in General Support of the Division. B Co, 123d Avn Bn (Aeroscouts) continued in General Support of the Division. Their concept of employment was to assign them to perform reconnaissance, screening, and BDA for subordinate units on a mission basis. **F/8th Cav** was attached to 1/1 Cav for all purposes on 2 Sep 68.

[Below is a total including both the 14th and 123rd CABs]

b. Accomplishments:

	Aug	Sep	Oct	Total
Hrs Flown	16,269	15,374	14,047	45,690
Sorties	59,936	54,650	59,593	174,179
Medevacs	174	80	83	337
Tons Cargo	15,078	12,818	11,947	39,843
Pax Carried	99,188	95,001	107,376	301,565
Ordnance Expended				
7.62	1,726,899	1,745,185	1,237,430	4,709,511
40MM	26,837	23,270	12,465	62,572
2.75 FFAR	10,794	10,091	6,567	27,452

Combat Losses:

Aircraft Hit	32
Aircraft Shot Down	0
WHA	5
KHA	0

AMERICAL DIVISION TROOP LIST (as of 1 Nov 68)

1. **HQ AMERICAL DIVISION**
   - **HHC, Americal Division**
   - **1st Sqdn, 1st Cav**
   - **F Troop, 8th Cav**
   - **415th Sig Det**
   - **570th TC Det**
   - **26th Engr Bn**
   - **123d Avn Bn**
   - **449th Sig Det**
   - **406 TC Det**
   - **523d Sig Bn**
   - **23d MP Co**
   - **3d Mil Hist Det**

(b) **Chu Lai TAOR:** Americal Division forces conducted combat operations in the Chu Lai TAOR from 1 February 69 to 18 March 69 reporting light contact with enemy forces. 1-6th Inf operated in the northern and central sectors of the TAOR securing lines of communications and bridge sites supporting Ly Tin District Headquarters, and conducted small unit patrols and ambushes to interdict mortar/rocket attacks by elements of the 78th VCMF (Rocket) Bn against Chu Lai Base. Starting on 23 February 69, with the commencement of the post-TET offensive and lasting for approximately one month, Chu Lai received eleven attacks by indirect fire. Only the attack on 23 March 69, when 6 A-4 fighters were destroyed, resulted in any major damage to the base and airfield. Operations by 1-6th Inf were credited with minimizing the effects of the attacks for constant patrolling, supported by elements of **F Troop, 8th Cav** forced enemy elements to operate from hastily prepared positions and precluded any exploitation of the attacks by enemy forces. In the southern Chu Lai TAOR, 4-21st Inf with elements of the 6th ARVN Regt conducted a pre-emptive operation in the Horseshoe (area north of the Song Tra Khuc River C/M BS2076) to deny 81st VCLF Battalion elements the use of the area as a base from which to launch attacks against Quang Ngai City. Beginning at the end of January 69, a series of coordinated combat patrols were conducted by the Americal/2d ARVN Division Task Force: 4-21st Inf, conducting reconnaissance in force and detailed search operations, swept from the north towards blocking positions held by 6th ARVN Regt forces. On 5 February 69, 4-21 Inf, supported by C/1 82d Arty, engaged and killed 26 VC operating north of the ARVN blocking positions. On 11 February 69, operations were terminated having removed the immediate danger of an attack on Quang Ngai. Contacts in the Chu Lai TAOR remained light during and after the post-TET offensive as enemy forces tended to limit their activities to attacks by indirect fire on US/FVN/ARVN installations. On 18 March 69, operations were concluded in the Chu Lai TAOR and its area incorporated into **Operation Geneva Park.** Results of operations in the Chu Lai TAOR for the reporting period areas follows:

Friendly	Enemy
38 US KIA	289 VC KIA(C)
220 US WIA	18 DET
	78 IWC
	31 CSWC

2. HEADQUARTERS AMERICAL DIVISION

HHC, Americal Division

1st Sqdn, 1st Cav
F Troop, 8th Cav
415th Sig Det
570th TC Det

26th Engr Bn
160th Engr Det

523d Sig Bn

23d MP Co

3d Mil Hist Det

USAMID (PROV)
52d MI Det
569th MI Det
635th MI Det
636th MI Det

328th RR Det

XO: LTC ARTHUR J. JUNOT, 083629 thru 9 Jul 69.
LTC NORMAN P. JACOBS, 0514-20-3963 10 Jul 69 to present.
S1: MAJ LESLIE B. CARMAN, 0457-32-6285
S2: CPT JORJ C. HEAD, 05218635 thru 18 May 69.
CPT JOHN NOWOSADKO Jr., 0042-34-7868 19 May to present.
S3: LTC CHARLES A KLOPP, 071820 thru 15 Jun 69.
LTC NORMAN P. JACOBS, 0514-20-3963 16 Jun thru 9 Jul 69.
LTC RAYMOND V. BROWN, 0446-42-0246 17 Jul 69 to present.
S4: MAJ GEORGE P. JOHANKECHT, 074734 thru 7 May 69.
MAJ CHARLES W. RUCP, 0512-24-3634 1 Jun 69 to present.
Group Surgeon: MAJ T. DAVID CREER, 0460-70-0969
Safety Officer: MAJ WILLIAM PRICE, 05310807 thru 17 May 69.
MAJ DONALD P. DETIVEAUX, 0435-54-0930 18 May 69
to present.
Asst Div Avn Off: LTC DALE W. HURST, 096989 thru 3 May 69.
LTC LELAND J. LINMAN, 0525-44-0027 4 May 69 to present.
(b) Unit Commanders:
14th CAB: LTC ROBERT E. WILSON, 071307 thru 30 Jun 69.
LTC JERRY I. TEAGUE, 0428-18-7451 30 Jun 69 to present.
123rd Avn Bn: LTC RAYMOND V. BROWN, 0446-42-0246 thru 17 Jul 69.

(b) Unit Commanders:
14th CAB: LTC ROBERT E. WILSON, thru 30 Jun 69.
LTC JERRY I. TEAGUE, 30 Jun 69 to present.
123rd Avn Bn: LTC RAYMOND V. BROWN, thru 17 Jul 69.
LTC RICHARD K. DIETSCH, 18 Jul 69 to present.
335th Trans Co: MAJ WALTER E. BASS, present.

(4) Current Organization:

(a) Organization Chart and Station List at Incl 1.

(b) On 15 May 69, **F Troop 8th Cavalry** was attached to the 123rd Aviation Battalion by Americal Division G.O. 3390, TC-D15, dated 13 May 69.

..... (d) Aircraft status at end of reporting period - Inclosure 3.

(e) Results of hostile rocket, mortar or ground attacks:
During this quarter the 16th CAG experienced twenty-five mortar and rocket attacks. These attacks resulted in one WIA and three aircraft destroyed and one hanger destroyed.

(f) The 1st Bde, 101st Airborne Division was placed in OPCON of the Americal Division on 15 May 1969. Four aviation companies of the 101st Airborne Division were in direct support of the 1st Bde. 16th CAG provided these aviation companies with the logistical support to include aircraft parking, airfield facilities, billet areas and mess.

(g) The attachment of **F Troop, 8th Cavalry** to the 123rd Aviation Battalion has greatly increased the reconnaissance capability of 16th CAG. **F/8 Cav** coupled with the Aero Scout Company provide daily visual reconnaissance for the three infantry brigades. **D Troop, 1-1 Cavalry provides additional visual reconnaissance in the Americal OZ, predominantly in support of 1-1 Cavalry.**

AVDF-GCLO **10 August 1969**

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1969.

b. Quang Ngai.

(1) The relatively low level of activity which prevailed through the last weeks in April continued during the first week and one-half of May. Incidents were characterized by scattered harassing attacks by fire and inactive BA 120 identified the unknown regimental size force in that area as the 21st NVA Regt, 2d NVA Div. Further information revealed that the 21st NVA Regt had the objective of attacking and occupying the area around LZ Stinson. PW's and documents have stated that due to the losses of the 81st LF Bn. the battalion was downgraded to a company with approximately 100 men. Enemy units began moving to their staging areas as the final preparations for the renewed offensive were being completed. The 2d MF Regt HQ and the 93d MF Bn, 2d MF Regt, moved from inactive BA 123 to inactive BA 124. The 97th MF Bn moved from south central Nghia Hanh (D) to an area on the Ba To/Duc Pho (D) border and the 95th MF Bn, 2d MF Regt moved from an area south of LZ San Juan Hill on the Ba To/Duc Pho (D) border just south of the 97th MF Bn. The 22 NVA Regt, 3d NVA Div moved out of BA 121 with the 7th Bn relocating in western Nghia Hanh (D), the HQ and 8th NVA Bn locating on the Nghia Hanh (D)/Mo Duc (D) border and the 9th NVA Bn locating in eastern Tu Nghia (D). In addition to the 22d NVA Regt, several of the battalions subordinate to the Quang Ngai (P) forces moved toward Quang Ngai City further indicating that Quang Ngai City was to be a major target during the coming offensive. A PW from the 9th NVA Bn, 22d NVA Regt stated that the 9th NVA Bn had been conducting reconnaissance of the area southeast of Quang Ngai City since 11 Mar 1969, and that the battalion had the objective of attacking the city by 19 May 1969 (Ho Chi Minh's birthday). Early in the morning of 12 May 1969, the enemy launched well coordinated attacks by fire against all major LZ's, District HQ's and some population centers. Also on 12 May 1969, LZ Snoopy and LZ Buff received light ground attacks which were repelled, resulting in 23 VC KIA and 25 VC KIA respectively. On 11 and 13 May 1969, a total of 65 NVA bodies were discovered by 1/4th ARVN Bn as a result of BDA conducted for an Arclight strike via BS 6145 and BS 6147. On 21 May 1969, the 3/16th ARVN Bn engaged and estimated 2 VC Companies, thought to be elements of the 48th LF Bn, resulting in 15 VC KIA. The attacks by fire and sporadic contacts continued from 12 throughout 24 May 1969 accounting for a total of 331 VC/NVA KIA, 557-575 rounds of 60/82mm mortar fire directed against Allied installations and 13 rounds of 140mm rocket fire directed against LZ Bronco. During the last week of May 1969 (25-31 May 1969), enemy initiated activity decreased, characterized by attacks by fire and scattered contact resulting in 135 VC/NVA KIA. On 31 May 1969 elements of the 11th Inf Bde and E/1st Cav engaged an UNSEF vic BS 810 420 resulting in 28 NVA KIA. Also on 31 May 1969 elements of the 198th Inf Bde and **F/8th Cav** engaged and killed 20 VC vic BS 5780 in a series of small contacts. Documents captured by the 11th Inf Bde stated that the 7th NVA Bn, 22d NVA Regt, 3d NVA Division will remain north of the Song Tra Cau and support the 2d MF Regt which is targeted against the 11 Inf Bde. Throughout the month of May, a total of 597 VC/NVA were killed by Americal forces. Allied installations and NDP's received a total of approximately 637-657 rounds of 60/82mm mortar fire.

(b) **Operation Geneva Park:** Operation Geneva Park continued throughout the reporting period concentrating on the security of major lines of communication and the destruction of enemy forces attempting to attack Quang Ngai City and/or the Chu Lai Base Complex. 1-6 Inf was utilized for security measures in the Rocket Belt vicinity Chu Lai Base, targeting elements of 409th and 78th VCMF Rocket Bns. Saturation patrolling and extensive night-time ambush operations combined with a heavy concentration of pre-planned H and I fires and utilization of sensor devices severely inhibited enemy attempts to shell the base complex. A total of 7 attacks by indirect fire were launched against Chu Lai during the reporting period resulting in extremely light damage and very few casualties. During the period 8 through 19 July, 1-6 reinforced by D/3-21 Inf and B/5-46 Inf, initiated a preemptive operation in the B Cong Mountains to the west of the Chu Lai Rocket Belt. This operation was designed to destroy suspected VCLF troop concentrations, base camps and staging areas. Contact wit h enemy forces remained very light as the enemy exfiltrated the area avoiding combat. On 9 July, 1-6 uncovered a large enemy base camp and hospital complex located vicinity BS339969. The area contained several large huts, pens for livestock and an elaborate piped in water system. The complex was destroyed. Following the conclusion of this operation, 1-6 returned to its normal FCA (Fire Control Area) and continued defensive security operations north and west of Chu Lai. 5-46 Infantry, while conducting operation Russell Beach, continued extensive combat operations in the vicinity of Binh Son District Headquarters supporting pacification operations and securing lines of communication. From 27 June to 5 July 69, 5-46 Inf utilizing 3 maneuver companies conducted operations in the Nui Lnoi Mountains exploiting and Arc Light Strike. On 29 July, B5-46 discovered and NVA hospital complex located vicinity BS401803. Twelve NVA KIA were found, 4 wounded NVA were captured and a large stock of miscellaneous medical supplies was captured and evacuated. Continuing their systematic combat patrols, B company operating vic BS401801 discovered 66 enemy graves containing 50 NVA KIA and 16 VC KIA. Following the conclusion of this operation, 5-46 Inf increased it's support of pacification operations and made preparations for the initiation of Operation Nantucket Beach. 1-52 Inf conducted extensive reconnaissance in force operations and detailed searches in the southern portion of the Geneva Park OZ north of the Song Tra Khuc River. These operations were designed to interdict enemy avenues of approach to Quang Ngai City and to secure the area for accelerated pacification operations. A number of sharp contacts were made with enemy forces who were unable to make any in-roads in the area. On 31 May 699, B/1-52 Inf and **F Trp 8th Cav** (air) conducted a series of Eagle Flight Operations. These flights were designed to disrupt small groups of VCMF/NVA forces attempting to infiltrate the Triangle area south of LZ Stinson. One platoon from B/1-52 Inf and F Trp 8th Cav (Air) conducted a number of rapid seeps throughout the area from BS4876 to BS5779 killing 43 VC/NVA in one day of operation. The effectiveness of this operation in terms of demoralizing the enemy and rapidly decreasing infiltration efforts in the area has led to the planning of similar such operations in the future. Beginning on July and continuing until the end of the reporting period, 1-52 Inf in conjunction with 26th Engr Bn and ARVN Engrs conducted land clearing operations north of the Song Tra Khuc River (C/M BS5776). The purpose of this operation was to remove mines and unexploded ordnance from the area, destroy enemy bunker complexes and restore the area to effective use by the GVN controlled population. By the end of the reporting period, the equivalent of 2 grid squares of land had been effectively cleared and made available for civilian use. Results of operations in the Geneva Park OZ during the reporting period area as follows:

FRND	ENEMY
79 US KIA	358 VC KIA(C)
424 US WIA(E)	157 NVA KIA
34 US WIA(M)	327 DET
	1 PW/VC
	5 PS/NVA
	13 CH/VC
	2 CH/VC
	127 CIV DEF
	171 IN CIV
	64 IWC
	15 CSWC

4. 16TH COMBAT AVIATION GROUP

HHC, 16th CAG (Cbt)
14th Combat Avn Bn
71st Avn Co (Aslt Hel)
174th Avn Co (Aslt Hel)
176th Avn Co (Aslt Hel)
534th Med Det
756th Med Det
14th Security Plt

123d Avn Bn (Cbt) (Inf Div)
132d Avn Co (Aslt Spt Hel)
178th Avn Co (Aslt Spt Hel)
E Co, 723d Maint Bn
F Troop, 8th Cav
415th Sig Det
570th Trans Det

335th Trans Co

(3) Civilian Strength

	DAC		VN		3RD NAT		CONTRACTOR	
	AUT	OH	AUTH	OH	AUTH	OH	AUTH	OH
16th CAG	2	2	102	92	0	0	84	87

(4) Discipline

	CO GP ART 15	FG ART 15	SP C-M	GEN C-M
Aug	26	3	3	0
Sep	38	5	8	0
Oct	58	8	12	1

(5) Administration

(a) Routine administrative procedures were carried on with no difficulties. Nine investigations were reviewed for content and forwarded to the Staff Judge Advocate for legal sufficiency prior to the final letter report to USARV. Twenty three Special Court Martials were convened and four more have been referred to trial.

(b) Due to personnel changes, a reallocation of the work load was put into effect with favorable results. The administrative office was broken down into the following sub-areas to provide more aid to the subordinate units: Courts and Boards, Investigations, AG (Awards, R&R's, Casualty Report, Line of Duty Determination, Special Correspondence and Weekly Bulletin), PIO and ASD (Files, Publications, Forms, Distribution and Message Center).

(6) Morale: An active Group Area Improvement Program has greatly enhanced the morale within the 16th CAG.

c. Intelligence and Counterintelligence

(1) There were five possible security compromises during the quarter. Four of these compromises concerned SOI items while one was other COMSEC material. One of the possible compromises was due to enemy action.

..... (f) Examples of significant actions during the reporting period are as follows:

4 On **9 August 1969** **F/8th Cav Infantry Platoon** was inserted to reinforce a LRRP team which had located an enemy basecamp of considerable size. The Infantry remained on the ground throughout the night and was extracted the following day after a search was made of the basecamp and a cave found near the camp.

5 On **19 August 1969** **F/8th Cav Infantry Platoon** was inserted OPCON to the 4/31st Inf Bn, 196th Inf Bde and remained in that status for a period of eight (8) days throughout the contact in the Hiep Duc Valley. The Infantry men demonstrated their abilities in a variety of defensive and offensive actions and provided the 4/31st a reliable backup force for the maneuver companies. They reacted in an exemplary manner and were commended by the Battalion Commander.

6 On **20 August 1969** **F/8th Cav gunships** firing in close support of friendly units in heavy contact were credited with destroying two (2) .51 cal anti-aircraft positions and 66 NVA KIA were discovered during the ensuing sweep of the area in which the guns engaged enemy targets.

(2) During the reporting period 182 aircraft of the 16th CAG were hit by enemy ground fire. An analysis of these hits by altitude (in feet) is reflected below:

ALT	O/G	T/O	LNDG	ENROUTE	TGT ATTACK	TOTAL BY ALT
0-100	11	14	24	31	11	91
100-200		2	6	1	4	13
200-300		2		1	2	5
300-400		3	2	3		8
400-500		1	2	1	1	5
500-600		3	3	2	2	10
600-700		1			1	2
700-800		1			1	2
800-900		1		1	3	5
900-1000					2	2
1000-1100			2	4	1	7
1100-1200				2	1	3
1200-1300			1	1		2
1300-1400						0
1400-1500				1		1
1500-1600		3	1	4	2	10
1600-1700				1		1
1700-1800						0
1800-1900		1		3		4
1900-2000					1	1
Over 2000		1	1	8		10
TOTAL	11	33	42	64	32	182

(3) Summary of antiaircraft activities by type of fire:

	.30	.50	AIRBURST	MORTAR	TOTAL
Shot At	186	29	2	3	220
Hit	118	22	5	5	150
Downed	18	12	2		32
TOTAL	332	63	9	8	402

(4) The weather had no significant effect on operations during the first half of the quarter. During the second half, operations were handicapped by the beginning of the monsoon season and low cloud cover.

d. Plans, Operations, and Training

(1) Plans:

(a) The 16th CAG continues to provide Army Aviation support to the Americal Division.

(b) The Aero Scout concept will continue to be the primary method of employment for B Company, 123d Avn Bn. With the attachment of D Troop, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry to the 123d Avn Bn on 1 October 1969, the Battalion in essence becomes an Air Cavalry Squadron. The Battalion will remain in general support of the Division and direct support of the Brigades on a mission basis. A Company provides general support lift aircraft for the Division. B Company, 123d Avn Bn will normally support the 11th Inf Bde; D Troop, 1st Cavalry on the 198th Inf Bde; and **F Troop, 8th Cavalry** the 196th Inf Bde.

(c) The assignment of the 132nd and 178th Assault Support Helicopter Companies to the 14th CAB on 1 October 1969, increased the responsiveness of these aircraft to follow up combat assault requirements. They are frequently used to rapidly build up troop concentrations in LZs after they LZ has been secured and the enemy situation permits the use of CH-47 helicopters.

(d) The 71st AHC, 174th AHC and the 176th AHC will continue to support the 196th Inf Bde, 11th Inf Bde and 198th Inf Bde, respectively.

(e) The 132nd and 178th Assault Support Helicopter Companies assigned to the 14th CAB will remain in general support of the Division.

(f) The 14th CAB has been given the responsibility to operate a refuel point at Tien Phuoc, BT1114. Basic construction is completed and the point is expected to be operational during the second week of November 1969.

(g) A briefing team was formed to provide instruction on external load activities and CH-47 operations to all units within the Americal Division. It is too early to evaluate the results, however, there should be a notable improvement in the quality and efficiency of sling load operations.

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d. Organization

(1) **Maintenance Support of Separate Air Cav Troops.**

(a) Observation: Separate Air Cav Troops have a need for organic DS support maintenance.

(b) Evaluation: A separate Air Cavalry Troop is subject to be moved and employed anywhere at anytime. Presently D Troop, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry is attached to the 123d Avn Bn, however, they could be moved to another organization at a moments notice. The troop does not have a DS maintenance capability and such a move would adversely affect aircraft availability and mission accomplishment.

(c) Recommendation: That D Troop be given its own organic DS maintenance detachment to improve its current maintenance posture and to provide for flexibility of employment. Justification for this and the soundness of such an action can be readily seen by comparing D Troop maintenance posture and flexibility with that of **F Troop, 8th Cavalry**, which has a DS detachment attached.

(2) Operations by AO:

(a) Operation Frederick Hill: Operation Frederick Hill, conducted by the 196th Infantry Brigade in conjunction with the 5th ARVN Regiment continued throughout the reporting period with contact varying from moderate to heavy through the first half of September, and declined to light and sporadic during the remainder of the reporting period. The reporting period opened with elements of 2-1 Infantry and F Troop 17th Cavalry concluding operations on Northern Barrier Island while Regional and Popular forces with elements from the US Marine Corps established blocking positions. Contact with the enemy remained extremely light as the deployment of allied forces into the area caused the enemy to exfiltrate the area avoiding contact. Several staging and harvest areas were destroyed and the northern portion of Barrier Island was neutralized as the operation concluded on 16 August. A two month lull in enemy activity ceased on the evening of 11 August 1969 as the enemy launched a series of coordinated attacks upon US forces, installations and GVN population centers. The focal point of the offensive was in the Frederick Hill AO. Several of the Fire Support Bases and sapper attacks. US casualties were moderate to heavy as they successfully repelled the ground probes and sapper attacks; inflicting heavy casualties upon the enemy. On the evening of 11 August 1969 D/3-21 Infantry vicinity AT973100 received small arms fire followed by a ground probe. They successfully repelled the ground probe employing organic weapons, artillery and gunships resulting in 5 US WIA(E), 50 NVA KIA, 5 NVA CIA, 5 IWC and 7 CSWC. At 0230H the same morning, the GVN population center of Tam Ky received six B-40 rockets and six 82MM mortar rounds scattered throughout the city resulting in 1 PF KIA, 5 civilians WIA, 1 VC KIA and 1 IWC. A half hour later, C/1-1 Cavalry and A/3-16 Artillery, while defending FSB Hawk Hill (BT231315), came under heavy mortar fire as they received approximately 100 rounds followed by a sapper attack that penetrated the perimeter before the attack was repelled by organic weapons fire, artillery and gunships. Results of the encounter were 13 NVA KIA, 4 IWC and 2 CSWC with 7 US KIA, 51 US WIA(E). At 0400H, **F Troop 8th Cavalry (Air)** vicinity BT228402 engaged and killed 15 NVA. On 13 August 1969 at 0847H, 3-21 Infantry while securing FSB Center (BT052253) received six 82mm mortar rounds resulting in 5 US WIA(E). During the following four day lull in enemy activity, the 1st Marine Division assumed the Quang Nam Province portion of the Americal Division TAOI, establishing a new northern boundary. By 18 August 1969, the first reactive operation of the period was initiated by elements of the 196th Infantry Brigade and the 5th ARVN Regiment as they engaged an NVA Regimental size force in the largest battle during the reporting period. This battle continued to the end of the month (Reference paragraph B(1)). From 1 to September, only scattered enemy contact was made. During the same time period, elements of 2-1 Infantry, 9th Engineers (USMC) and F Troop 17th Cavalry and Regional forces from Tam Ky conducted a land clearing operation northwest of Tam Ky (vic BT2524) targeting VCLF/VCI. Allied forces met little resistance as they moved into the area. Contact throughout this operation was scattered and light. On 16 September at 1100H, D/3-21 Infantry vicinity BT082206 engaged 10 NVA and killed 6 with negative friendly casualties. At 0001H on 8 September, a three day cease fire was initiated during which time all elements went into a defensive posture. The day following the end of the cease fire, the enemy launched an attack at 0210H on FSB Siberia (AT901232) and Hiep Duc which initiated the second reactive

(Continued -1)

operation within the Americal Division TAOI (reference paragraph B(2)) in which B/4-31 Infantry, Popular and Regional Forces and 2/5 ARVN Battalion, still operating around Hiep Duc, engaged and killed 29 NVA while suffering only light casualties. On 16 September at 1330H, the 71st Aviation Company, flying in support of the 196th Infantry Brigade, engaged 120 VC vicinity BT280380 killing 12 VC. At 1735H on 17 September, A/3-82 Artillery vicinity BT262371 engaged 100 VC and killed 12. On 22 September at 0945H, B/3-21 Infantry combat air assaulted into a hot landing zone (BT043227). They engaged and killed 15 NVA and captured 1 crew-served weapon. Three UH-1 helicopters were shot down as they left the landing zone. Friendly casualties were 5 US KIA and 15 US WIA(E). At 1725H, 176th Aviation near the same area, engaged and killed 10 NVA. Light and sporadic enemy contact continued through the end of September. The monsoon season started at the beginning of October. Continued rainfall throughout the month, with heavy downpours during the first half of the month and scattered showers for the remainder of the month, resulted in limited combat operations. The enemy activity which continued through the end of the reporting period. Only three significant enemy contacts were recorded during the month of October. On 7 October 1868 at 1852H, A/4-31 Infantry vicinity AT940273 received twenty 82mm mortar rounds resulting in 1 US KIA and 6 US WIA(E). On 21 October, C/3-21 Infantry at 0800H engaged an unknown size NVA force vicinity BT090327 resulting in 5 NVA KIA and 2 US WIA(E). On 27 October at 1415H vicinity BT220149, D/2-1 Infantry detonated a booby trapped 105mm artillery round killing 4 US personnel, 7 US were wounded (evac). The reporting period closed with no further significant enemy contacts. Results of operations during the reporting period in the Frederick Hill AO are as follows:

FRND		ENEMY	
112	US KIA	417	VC KIA
598	US WIA(E)	1039	NVA KIA
123	US WIA(M)	215	DET
		4	PW/VC
		5	PW/NVA
		16	CH/VC
		43	CIV DEF
		141	IN CIV
		140	IWC
		35	CSWC

.....

3. (U) Organization

a. Effective 1 October the 132d Aviation Company and the 178th Aviation Company were detached from the 123d Aviation Battalion and attached to the 14th Aviation Battalion.

b. Effective 1 October D Troop, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry was attached to the 123d Aviation Battalion. This attachment gives the 123d Aviation Battalion three air cavalry units. The concept of operation will be to employ the same unit in support of Brigade; Company B, 123d Aviation will support 11th Infantry Brigade, **F Troop, 8th Cavalry** will support 196th Infantry Brigade, and D Troop, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry will support 198th Infantry Brigade.

(b) A special project of updating all the company TOEs within the 16th Avn Gp (Cbt) was completed. Coordination was made with the Americal Division G3, and the Adjutant General, Machine Branch, and Personnel Management sections to ensure all MTOE changes were made and properly entered on machine cards. This will ensure that personnel management section is receiving the correct authorizations and that these authorizations will be in consonance with those listed at the company, battalion and Group.

(c) MTOE 55-457E for the 335th Transportation Company has yet to be implemented. Upon receipt of implementation instructions, the MTOE will be put into effect.

(d) The number of Lear Siegler Incorporated personnel authorized remained at 60 during the reporting period. This is a reduction of 18 from the 78 authorized during last reporting period. The reduced number of personnel has not affected the unit due to a reduction in the maintenance work load.

(6) Morale.

(a) The morale of the unit continues to remain high. A sense of professional pride and accomplishment prevails throughout the unit. This is a direct result of the spirit instilled in the men by their supervisors and their knowledge that they are producing work of an exemplary standard.

(b) With the Group Area Improvement Program progressing steadily, many new additions have been made which have enhanced troop morale.

c. Intelligence and Counterintelligence.

(1) There were three possible security compromises during the quarter. One of the possible compromises was due to enemy action.

(2) During the reporting period 130 aircraft of the 16th Aviation Group (Cbt) were hit by enemy ground fire. An analysis of these hits by altitude (in feet) is reflected below:

ALT (FEET)	O/G	T/O	LNDG	ENROUTE	TGT ATTACK	TOTAL BY ALT	
0-100	3	17	27	13	9	69	
100-200		4	3	1	1	9	
200-300		2	1		3	6	
300-400		1	2		2	5	
400-500			2	1	1	4	
500-600				1	2	3	
600-700				1	1	2	
700-800		1		1	3	5	
800-900				1	1	2	
900-1000				1	2	3	
1000-1100				2		2	
1100-1200		1			1	2	
1200-1300					1		1
1300-1400					1	1	
1400-1500				5		5	
1500-1600				2		2	
1600-1700				1		1	
1700-1800						0	
1800-1900						0	
1900-2000				6		6	
Over 2000				2		2	
TOTAL	3	26	35	39	27	130	

(3) Summary of antiaircraft activities by type of fire:

	.30	.50	AIRBURST	OTHER/UNK	TOTAL
Shot At	227	29		3	259
Hit	90	7		10	107
Downed/REC	13	5			18
Downed/Lost	3			2	5
TOTAL	333	41	0	15	130

(4) Throughout the reporting period the northeast monsoon and low cloud cover handicapped operations.

d. Plans, Operations, and Training

(1) Plans:

(a) The 16th Avn Gp (Cbt) continues to provide Army aviation support to the Americal Division.

(b) The 123d Avn Bn (Cbt) in essence has become an air cavalry squadron. The battalion will remain in general support of the Americal Division, and in direct support of the brigades on a mission basis. B Company, will normally support the 11th Infantry Brigade; D Troop, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry the 198th Infantry Brigade; and **F Troop, 8th Cavalry** the 196th Infantry Brigade.

AVDF-ABSC
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(c) Development of the **Night Hawk (NH)** system. The NH system consists of an XM27 subsystem (Minigun) mounted on a firing stand and a Xenon light parallel mounted with a Night Observation Device (NOD). The system is employed by acquiring a target, which is illuminated by the infra red mode on the Xenon light by viewing the target in the NOD. The target is then illuminated with the white light while the gunner engages the target with the XM27. The following is a sequence of actions taken in the development of the system.

1 On 1 November 1969, a 16th Avn Gp (Cbt) representative attended a symposium on the NH system at II Field Force Headquarters at Long Binh.

2 On 5 November 1969, the 16th Avn Gp (Cbt) Commanding Officer was briefed on the NH system. As a result of this briefing the 123d Aviation Battalion was tasked with the mission of determining the feasibility of employing the NH system in the Americal Division TAOR.

3 On 22 November 1969, the Division Commander, was briefed on the NH system and approved the development of the NH system.

4 F Troop, 8th Cavalry of the 123d Aviation Battalion was tasked to operate the NH system.

5 During December 1969 and January 1970, assets were pooled in the Americal Division to produce one NH system. The target date for completion of the first system is 4 February 1970.

(d) B Company, 123d Avn Bn (Cbt), has made significant revisions in its technique of employment. The Company has begun utilizing the Xm-27 mini-gun kit on the OH-6A aircraft. This allows a team to be employed with one AH-1G and one minigun equipped LOH for fire support. Also included in the team are a low-flying recon LOH and a flexible number of UH-1H aircraft with Infantry. The advantages of this organization are numerous. The flexibility of this team allow the unit to increase its aircraft availability since valuable blade time on the AH-1G is saved which reduces maintenance time. Tactically, the minigun equipped LOH in effect, is an additional type aircraft in the unit's stable. The XM-27 equipped LOH allows instantaneous firepower to be directed at the enemy from a vantage point much close to the enemy than the larger AH-1Gs. The low recon LOH is better covered. The AH-1G remains the primary mode of firepower for the unit.

(e) On 25 January 1970, the 16th Avn Gp (Cbt) received nine XM-59 systems. The tentative plan is to evaluate the employment of the XM-59 system from the UH-1H aircraft. The added firepower of a .50 caliber weapon at a high altitude may be another asset to the unit's growing flexibility.

(f) The 71st AHC, 174th AHC, and the 176th AHC continue to support the 196th Inf Bde, 11th Inf Bde, and 198th Inf Bde respectively.

(g) The 132nd and 178th Assault Support Helicopter Companies remain in general support of the Division.

(h) The 14th Avn Bn (Cbt) stands ready to support the Division on any of several contingency plans with up to 12 UH-1H lift ships, six UH-1C gunships and four CH-47 helicopters. The required reaction time varies from one to twelve hours depending upon the type reaction force required.

(e) Examples of significant actions during the reporting period are as follows:

1 1 December, **F Troop, 8th Cavalry**, was scrambled to extract a Division LRRP team that was surrounded and in heavy contact in the vicinity of BT041965. Just as the team arrived on station, the NVA force, estimated at 50 in number, attempted to rush the LRRP's position. The gunships engaged with VT rockets killing 12 and dispersing the rest. The LRRPs were then successfully extracted.

3 14 December, while on a screening mission for 2/1st Infantry and F/17 Armored Cavalry in the northern portion of the AO, an **F/8th Cav LOH** spotted six NVA with weapons evading from the cavalry. The LOH immediately killed one, and when the remaining NVA engaged the LOH, the gunships engaged and killed the remaining enemy with rockets and minigun. The same pattern continued for the rest of the day with the ground cavalry flushing the targets and **F/8th Cav** engaging them. Seventeen NVA KIA were accounted for in this manner.

(9) On 25 Jan, CLDC (Chu Lai Defense Command) received 8 122mm rockets. Counter-battery from hills 76 and 270, was fired and C/1-6 Inf, engaged the enemy vic BT453022 resulting in 3 VC KIA and 3 IWC. Documents taken from one of the KIA identified the 78th MF Rocket Bn as the unit in contact. Also on 25 Jan the 39th ARVN Rangers engaged an UNSEF vic BT198502 resulting in 43 VC K??, 1 VC, 2 IW, and 55 ChiCom H/Grenades CIA. B/1-46 Inf, vic BT271021, found and destroyed 15 RPG rounds, 400 ChiCom H/Grenades, 700 ChiCom H/Grenade charges, 100 feet of fuze, 20 electric blasting caps, 6 RPG propellent sticks and evacuated 1 IW and 1 US protective mask on 26 Jan. On the 27th, CIDG from Tien Phuoc engaged an estimated platoon believed to be from the 72d LF Bn, vic BT133013, resulting in 2 NVA KIA, 1 NVA, 2 IW, 12 82mmm mortar rounds, and 2 packs CIA. LZ Young received 4 82mm mortar rounds, with NCD. B/3-21 Inf, vic BT091259, on 29 Jan, engaged an estimated 45 NVA, probably from the 2d Bn, 3d Regt, resulting in 6 NVA KIA, 1 NVA, 1 IW, 9 packs, and 450 lbs of rice CIA. On 30 Jan, B/1-1 Cav, vic BT219169, received 6 RPG rounds and SA fire from an unidentified UNSEF. Fire was returned resulting in 5 VC KIA and minor US casualties. **F/8th Cav** and 71st Avn, in support of 4-5 ARVN, vic BT2047, engaged an UNSEF resulting in 18 NVA KIA. 4-5 ARVN, that contact, accounted for 7 NVA KIA, 2 VC KIA, 3 NVA, 9 VC, 6 IW, 1 compass and documents CIA and 2 Hoi Chanhs. During January, Americal Forces accounted for 414 VC/NVA KIA. Enemy units expended 163 mixed mortar and rocket rounds against US installations and NDP's.

AVDF-HL **10 May 1970**

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c. Operations by AO:

(1) Operation Frederick Hill, conducted by the 196th Infantry Brigade in close cooperation and coordination with the 5th ARVN Regiment, continued throughout the reporting period, concentrating on combat operations to increase the level of security of the pacification operations near the coastal area. Contact varied from light and sporadic during the first two months to moderate during the last month. The reporting period opened with the 196th Infantry Brigade conducting 2 preemptive operations with the 5th and 6th ARVN Regiments to further secure the population centers of Que Son and Thang Binh. The ARVN forces deployed units into two areas in the vicinity of BT1845 and BT1032 while the Americal Division supplemented those ARVN forces with one infantry company and one cavalry troop. The operation terminated with only light and sporadic contact reported except for one major contact by the ARVN units. Only a few significant contacts were made during the month of November. At 1525 hours on the 9th of November, C/2-1st Infantry, while on a search and clear mission, engaged and killed 5 VC in a brief skirmish. Several days later a command and control helicopter flying over the 196th, ARVN operation west of Thang Binh received a heavy volume of small arms fire plus some RPG rounds and crashed, killing 2 and wounding 5 of the 9 occupants. On 22 November, B/3-21st Infantry, engaged an unknown size VC force, killing 6 in a short but fierce battle and suffering 5 killed and 6 wounded. On the last day of the month D Troop, 1-1st Air Cavalry engaged an estimated company of VC in the vicinity of BS041965 killing 12 of the enemy. The only significant contact during the month of December involved F Troop, 8th Air Cavalry, as they engaged and killed 6 VC in a brief skirmish in the vicinity of BT1230. The month of January 1970 began with moderate fighting in the area west of Tam Ky and then dwindled to light and sporadic as the reporting period came to a close. On the 4th of January at 1405 hours in the vicinity of BT097328 B/3-21st Infantry, engaged and killed 6 VC in a brief battle. Two days later a two day battle began in the area west of Tam Ky (reference paragraph b(2)). On the 9th and 10th of January, F Troop, 8th Air Cavalry, engaged an unknown size force west of Tam Ky and killed 14. On 11 January, Recon Platoon, 3-21st Infantry, at 0215 hours ambushed an estimated platoon of NVA in the vicinity of BT077276 killing 8 NVA and capturing one individual weapon. Two Americal soldiers were killed and two were wounded. At 1020 hours on the same day, C/3-21st Infantry, about 4 kilometers south east of their recon platoon, engaged 12 NVA in a brief battle, killing 5 and capturing one individual weapon. On 12 January, at 0945 hours, C/2-1st Infantry, in the vicinity of BT210224, engaged a VC squad and killed 5. At 1500 hours on the same day in the same location as the contact on the 6th and 7th of January, two teams of cavalry and infantry engaged an unknown size NVA force in a two hour battle. Thirty-nine NVA were killed and 6 individual and 5 crew-served weapons were captured. Two Americal soldiers were killed and 11 wounded. The remainder of the month passed with only three other significant contacts. F Troop, 8th Air Cavalry, at 1150 hours on 21 January, engaged and killed 6 VC in the area west of Tam Ky. On 30 January, **F Troop, 8th Cavalry** and 71st Aviation Company, flying in support of a 5th ARVN Regiment made contact north of Thang Binh, killing 8 and 10 NVA respectively. At 1205 hours on the same day, B Troop, 1-1st Cavalry engaged an UNSEF in a three hour long battle which resulted in 5 VC KIA and 6 US WIA(E). Results of operations during the reporting period for the Frederick Hill area of operation are as follows:

FRND	ENEMY
57 US KIA	497 VC KIA
315 US WIA(E)	317 NVA KIA
67 US WIA(M)	273 DET
	3 PW/VC
	5 PW/NVA
	32 CH/VC
	0 CH/NVA
	145 CIV DEF
	83 IN CIV
	163 IWC
	19 CSWC

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b. Monitoring of the Combined Unit Pacification Program (CUPP). formerly known as the Infantry Company Intensive Pacification Program (ICIPP), continued. Reports were submitted to III MAF as required.

3. (U) Organization

a. Effective 16 October, the Metro Section 2d Battalion (Airmobile) 11th Artillery attached to the Americal Division was further attached to HHB, 6th Battalion, 11th Artillery.

b. Effective 11 December 1969, the 635th Military Intelligence Detachment (Provisional) was reorganized as the 635th Military Intelligence Company (Divisional).

c. **Effective December 1969, the 415th Signal Detachment and 570th Transportation Detachment attached to F Troop 8th Cavalry were inactivated. Personnel and equipment from these detachments have been absorbed by F Troop, 8th Cavalry.**

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(4) Current Organization:

(a) Organizational Chart and Station List at Inclosure 1.

(b) USAPAC General Order 19, dated 27 January 1970, reorganized **F Troop 8th Cavalry**. The unit absorbed the positions created by the inactivation of the 415th Signal Detachment and the 570th Transportation Detachment in accordance with USAPAC General Order 833, dated 11 December 1969. The 415th Signal Detachment submitted its final morning report on 3 March 1970. The 570 Transportation Detachment submitted its final morning report on 6 March 1970.

(6) Administration - No comment.

(7) Morale.

(a) At the end of the monsoon season morale of the units reached new heights. Maximum use is made of the out-of-country rest and recuperation program as well as the recreational facilities in the units.

(b) The conscientious work of the men has resulted in a marked improvement of the unit areas throughout the group.

c. Intelligence and Counterintelligence.

(2) During the reporting period 148 aircraft of the 16th Aviation Group (Combat) were hit by enemy ground fire. An analysis of these hits by altitude (in feet) is reflected below:

ALT (FEET)	O/G	T/O	LNDG	ENROUTE	TGT ATTACK	TOTAL BY ALT
0-100	9	17	25	12	7	70
100-200			2	3	1	6
200-300			1	1	1	3
300-400			1	1	2	4
400-500			1	7	5	13
500-600					1	1
600-700				3	5	8
700-800				3	5	8
800-900				4		4
900-1000				6	2	8
1000-1100				1		1
1100-1200				2		2
1200-1300						
1300-1400				1		1
1400-1500				5		5
1500-1600				2		2
1600-1700				1		1
1700-1800				4		4
1800-1900						
1900-2000				3		3
Over 2000				4		4
TOTAL	9	17	30	63	29	148

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(3) Summary of antiaircraft activities by type of fire:

	.30	.50	AIRBURST	MORTAR	TOTAL	
Shot At	264	25	1	7	297	
Hit	103	5	1	4	113	
Downed/Recovered	25	1			26	
Downed/Lost	7	2			9	
TOTAL	399	33	2	11	445	(Total AA incidents)

(4) During the first half of the reporting period, operations were somewhat hampered by the monsoon season and the resulting low cloud cover. The weather had no significant effect on operations during the last half of the reporting period.

d. Plans, Operations, and Training

(1) Plans:

(a) The 16th Avn Gp (Cbt) continues to provide Army aviation support to the Americal Division.

(b) In order to provide the Americal Division with an additional visual reconnaissance capability the 16th Avn Gp (Cbt) formed a provisional VR team for each brigade in addition to the normal air cavalry support. The team is comprised on one LOH with crew from the air cavalry unit supporting the brigade and two UH-1C gunships from the assault helicopter company supporting that brigade. The provisional team missions have a lower priority than normal assault gunship missions and depend on the availability of gunships due to combat assaults and contact missions. The teams are employed in the low coastal regions and the relatively uncontested areas due to the vulnerability of the crews if forced down by mechanical trouble or enemy ground fire. The provisional VR team therefore releases the air cavalry troops for employment in areas of greater tactical concern.

(c) The **123d Aviation Battalion** in essence, is operating as an Air Cavalry Squadron. The battalion will remain in general support of the Division and direct support of the Brigades on a mission basis. In the past, "B" Company, 123d Aviation Battalion normally supported the 11th Infantry Brigade, D Troop 1-1 Cavalry the 198th Infantry Brigade and **F Troop 8th Cavalry** the 196th Infantry Brigade; however, with the newly adopted tactical reconnaissance concept, the units will work more often under Division control throughout the TAOR. "A" Company will remain in general support of the Division.

(d) During December 1969 and January 1970, the 123d Avn Bn was tasked to determine the feasibility of and organize the Night Hawk system. The first system was completed on 5 February 1970 followed by the second system on 9 February 1970. A third system is under fabrication and a fourth system will be transferred from USARV in the near future.

(e) The 123d Avn Bn is scheduled to receive eleven XM-35 20 millimeter gun systems in the near future. One system is currently in use and has proved to be of tremendous value against antiaircraft emplacements and fortified positions. As division operations move west into the TAOR, it is predicted that the XM-35 will be in greater demand and will definitely aid the flexibility of the air cavalry units and enhance their mission accomplishment.

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(d) No damage was done to any of the units of the 16th Avn Gp (Cbt) during the rocket attack on 30 April 1970.

(e) Examples of significant actions during the reporting period are as follows:

1 3 February: While participating in a joint Vietnamese-American eagle flight, **F Troop, 8th Cavalry** combat assaulted the ground forces into a location occupied by an 82mm mortar crew who were preparing to fire on a friendly LZ. The entire enemy crew of twelve were killed and the mortar with all accessories and two AK-47 rifles were captured.

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5 25 February: A combined force of Vietnamese and **F Troop 8th Cavalry** infantrymen was lifted into the "Rice Bowl" west of New Hau Duc to check out a reported NVA hospital which later had been determined to have been abandoned only a few hours earlier. Large quantities of medical supplies and Japanese made plasma? were captured and evacuated for redistribution among friendly Vietnamese.

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4. 16TH COMBAT AVIATION GROUP

HHC, 16th CAG (Cbt)
14th Combat Avn Bn
71st Avn Co
132d Avn Co (Aslt Spt Hel)
174th Avn Co (Aslt Spt Hel)
176th Avn Co (Aslt Spt Hel)
178th Avn Co (Aslt Spt Hel)
534th Med Det
756th Med Det
14th Security Plat

123d Avn Bn (Cbt) (Inf Div)
Troop D, 1st Sqdn, 1st Cav
Co E, 723rd Maint Bn
Troop F, 8th Cav

335th Trans Co

(4) The group is below strength of qualified aircraft technical inspectors. Known losses projected through the end of the next quarter will make this situation more critical if replacements are not furnished.

(5) Discipline

	CO Gd ART 15	FLD Gd ART 15	SP C M	BCD SP C M	GEN C M
MAY	60	20	2	0	1
JUNE	38	10	0	2	1
JULY	48	11	4	0	0

(6) Administration - No comment.

(7) Morale.

(a) Morale remains high in all units. Maximum use of out-of-country R & R program is being stressed.

(b) There have been several cases of drug abuse. During June a special class on drug abuse was presented to all Battalion Commanders, Company Commanders, Command Sergeant Major and First Sergeants by a representative from the Americal CID, the Americal Staff Judge Advocate, the 16th Aviation Group (Combat) Surgeon and Chaplain.

c. Intelligence and Counterintelligence.

(1) There was one possible security compromise during the reporting period. One mission sheet was lost, and not recovered, during a flight over enemy controlled territory.

(2) During the reporting period 185 aircraft of the 16th Aviation Group (Combat) were hit by enemy ground fire. An analysis of these hits by altitude (in feet) is reflected below:

ALT (FEET)	O/G	T/O	LNDG	ENROUTE	TGT ATTACK	TOTAL BY ALT
0-99	15	20	27	5	9	76
100-199		1	6	1	4	12
200-299			2	2	3	7
300-399			2	3	1	6
400-499				12	3	15
500-599				2	5	7
600-699			1	3	2	7
700-799				3	2	5
800-899			1	3	3	7
900-999				2		2
1000-1099				7	2	9
1100-1199						0
1200-1299				4	2	6
1300-1399				2		2
1400-1499				8		2
1500-1599				8		8
1600-1699						0
1700-1799				2		2
1800-1899				1		1
1900-1999				6		6
Over 2000				6		6
TOTAL	15	21	39	74	36	185

(3) Summary of antiaircraft activities by type of fire:

	.30	.51	AIRBURST	Other/ Unknown	TOTAL
Shot At	256	30	1	8	295
Hit	119	13		6	138

	.30	.51	AIRBURST	Other/ Unknown	TOTAL
Downed/Recovered	25	7		2	34
Downed/Lost	5	4		4	13
TOTAL (Total AA incidents)	405	54	1	20	480

(4) Weather had no significant effect on operations during the reporting period.

d. Plans, Operations, and Training

(1) Plans:

(a) The 16th Avn Gp (Cbt) continues to provide Army aviation support to the Americal Division.

(b) The 123d Aviation Battalion in essence, is operation as an Air Cavalry Squadron. The battalion will remain in general support of the Division and direct support of the Brigades on a mission basis. In the past "B" Company, 123d Aviation Battalion normally supported the 11th Infantry Brigade, D Troop 1-1 Cavalry, the 198th Infantry Brigade and **F Troop, 8th Cavalry** the 196th Infantry Brigade. However with the adoption (of) the tactical reconnaissance concept, the units have worked more often under Division Control throughout the TAOR as required. "A" Company, 123d Aviation Battalion will remain in general support of the division.

(b) Americal Operations supported.

OPERATION	SUPPORTED UNIT	DATES
Nantucket Beach	198th Inf Bde	23 Jul 69, continuing
Frederick Hill	196th Inf Bde	18 Mar 69, continuing
Geneva Park	198th Inf Bde	18 Mar 69, continuing
Iron Mountain	11th Inf Bde	18 May 69, continuing
Elk Canyon	196th Inf Bde and 2d Div (ARVN)	12 Jul 70, continuing

(c) Aircraft status at end of reporting period is at Inclosure 3.

(d) During the reporting period the elements of the 16th Aviation Group (Combat) experienced six indirect fire attacks as part of general attacks by fire on Chu Lai Base. Results are as follows:

DATE	**TYPE**	**TIME**	**DAMAGE**	**UNIT**
4 May 70	Rocket	06:00	2 buildings damaged	14th Avn Bn (Cbt)
5 May 70	Rocket	06:00	7 US WIA (minor)	14th Avn Bn (Cbt)
6 May 70	Rocket	06:00	1 building damaged	14th Avn Bn (Cbt)
8 May 70	Rocket	17:30	NONE	
21 May 70	Rocket	02:00	1 building damaged	14th Avn Bn (Cbt)
14 Jun 70	Rocket	21:10	1 US WIA (minor)	14th Avn Bn (Cbt)
			1 conex destroyed	14th Avn Bn (Cbt)
			1 vehicle damaged	14th Avn Bn (Cbt)

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(e) Examples of significant actions during the reporting period are as follows:

1 1 May: AH-1G's of the 123d Aviation Battalion while providing close air support and dustoff escort for units in the Hiep Duc area were credited with 28 VC/NVA killed, one .51 Cal machinegun, and one recoilless rifle and several AK-47's destroyed. ***[From the Americal Division S2/S3 report for 1MAY70: 196th Bde, vic AT9124 at 010600H-011930H May 70. Totals of contact: 94xVC/NVA KIA, 4xARVN KIA, 14xARVN WIA, 9xAK-47 CIA, 1xM2 Cbn CIA, 1xM-1 CIA, 1x.75mm RR CIA, 1x50 cal MG CIA. 44xKIA credited to 5th ARVN, 46xKIA credited to 71st AHC, 4xKIA credited to F/8th]***

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4 11 May: The Aero-Rifle Platoon of **F Troop, 8th Cavalry, 123d Aviation Battalion** was inserted approximately ten kilometers west of Hawk Hill. The gunships observed a force of twenty VC/NVA evading from the Aero-Rifle Platoon. The Aero-Rifle Platoon received moderate fire and grenades, and was reinforced by a platoon of the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry. The combined force swept the area and reported one VC/NVA killed.

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7 9 June: The Night Hawk aircraft of **F Troop, 8th Cavalry** was diverted to an ARVN compound north of Hawk Hill which had been overrun by NVA. Nigh Hawk engaged in close proximity to friendly positions resulting in 7 VC/NVA killed.

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10 27 June: Gunships of **F Troop, 8th Cavalry**, 123d Aviation Battalion, were called upon to support an element of the 5th ARVN Regiment which was in contact. The gunships engaged targets in the vicinity BT 168186 resulting in 5 VC/NVA killed and two individual weapons captured.

15 14 July: Night Hawk from **F Troop, 8th Cavalry** 123d Aviation Battalion, conducted VR operations in support of Elk Canyon resulting in six VC/NVA engaged and killed.

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D. Operations.

1. (C) Operations Summary:

a. General: Americal Division Forces continued to conduct combat operations throughout the Division Tactical Area of Interest during the period 1 May 1970 to 31 July 1970, with contact ranging from light to heavy in Operation Frederick Hill and light throughout the rest of the Americal Division's AO. The main area of enemy activity was in the Frederick Hill area of operations. Operation Frederick Hill, Geneva Park, Nantucket Beach, and Iron Mountain continued throughout the period. In addition, Operations Pennsylvania Square and Elk Canyon were initiated. All operations were conducted in conjunction and close coordination with the 2d ARVN Division.

b. Major Engagements: During the three month reporting period, Americal forces were included in two major engagements with enemy forces. One was reactive in nature and took place in the Hiep Duc area of Operation Frederick Hill during May 1970. Americal and 2d ARVN Division forces combined to drive back a large scale enemy attack on the government's pacification program and inflict heavy casualties on the enemy forces. The second was pre-emptive in nature and was conducted in the Nghia Hanh area of Operation Iron Mountain from 11 May to 14 May 1970 to thwart a planned enemy attack on the Nghia Hanh resettlement center.

c. Operations by AO:

(1) **Operation Frederick Hill**, conducted by the 196th Infantry Brigade in close cooperation and coordination with the 5th ARVN Regiment, continued throughout the reporting period. Emphasis was on combat operations to increase the level of security of pacification operation near the coastal area and the destruction of Main Force and NVA units in the western portion of the combined TAOR. Contact was heavy at the beginning of the May 1970, but action lessened towards the end of the month and remained light thereafter. The enemy opened an offensive in the Hiep Duc area with a ground attack against C/4-31st Inf, in the vicinity of AT933227, early on the morning of 1 May. The enemy lost 5 NVA KIA and one individual weapon at a cost of 1 US WIA(E) and 2 US WIA(M). Throughout the rest of the day the enemy conducted attacks by fire against various American units. D/1-1st Cav suffered 5 US WIA(E) at BT253190, D/4-31st Inf had 14 US WIA(E) at AT910268, and A/3-21st Inf lost 19 US WIA(E) in the vicinity of AT896250. Americal Aviation struck back that evening as **F/8th Cav** killed 46 NVA from an unknown sized enemy force in the vicinity of AT9124. Gunships from the 71st Avn Co added 4 more NVA KIA in the same area. The action continued on 2 May, with an enemy attack on A/3-21st Inf and R/4-31st Inf at AT896250. A/3-21st Inf and 9 US WIA(E) and R?/4-31st Inf lost 4 US WIA(E). D/4-31st Inf received fire at AT912263 and lost 6 US WIA(E). 123d Avn engaged an unknown sized enemy force at AT912246 and killed 15 NVA. B/4-31 lost 3 US KIA and 2 US WIA(E) in a fire fight at AT892235. The next day **F/8 Cav** found 5 NVA KIA at AT940228. B/1-1 Cav had 3 US WIA(E) in an engagement that cost the VC 6 KIA, 1 IWC and 2 CSWC. D/1-1 Cav killed 14 NVA from a force of unknown size at AT928258. On 4 May B/1-46 Inf detonated an 81mm mortar round boobytrap resulting in 16 US WIA(E) at BT250107. On 6 May C/4-31 Inf, searching in the vicinity of AT895253, found 22 NVA KIA from previous fighting. The next day LZ Siberia received enemy mortar fire resulting in 2 US KIA and 12 US WIA(E) from C/3-82d Arty. On 8 May the artillery struck back as A/3-82 Arty caught an NVA Company in the open and killed 25 of the enemy before they could scatter. The enemy replied with a mortar attack on B/4-31 Inf in which there were 5 US WIA(E) and 1 US WIA(M). Two days later, F/17 Cav was attacked and a total of 15 RPG rounds in the vicinity of BT298333. Results of the engagement were 14 NVA KIA and 9 IWC with no friendly casualties. Later that afternoon the NVA launched a heavy mortar attack on A/4-31 Inf at AT868239. US losses were 5 WIA(E) and 5 WIA(M). The NVA lost 3 KIA in the abortive ground probe that followed. US artillery struck back on 11

(Continued -1)

(Continued -1)

May as A/3-82 engaged 25 to 30 NVA at BT231074, killing 9 NVA and capturing 2 individual weapons without loss to themselves. On 14 May C/1-1 Cav suffered 5 US WIA(E) in a fire fight at AT923250. Enemy losses were unknown at the time, but the next day A Company found 6 NVA KBA at the same location. On 16 May F/17 Cav engaged 20 to 30 NVA in the vicinity of BT094362. Results were 8 NVA KIA, 5 detainees and 4 IWC, with no US casualties. On 17 May B/2-1 Inf killed 5 NVA in ambush at BT084323. Boobytraps continued to take their toll as A/3-21 Inf had 6 US WIA(E) on 18 May at BT095225. Action flared on 20 May as C/1-1 Cav killed 3 VC and captured 1 individual weapon at AT947262. US casualties were 5 US WIA(E). That afternoon C/1-1 Cav and elements from D/1-46 Inf came under heavy enemy fire and sustained 4 US KIA and 12 US WIA(E) at AT942270. A/1-1 Cav with elements from D/1-46 Inf reacted, killing 10 NVA and capturing 1 individual weapon in the same area. There were no further US casualties. Two days later R/2-1 engaged 15 VC at BT298146 and killed 7 of the enemy and captured 2 individual weapons without friendly loss. Two days after that B/1-46 found 15 enemy individual weapons at BT276107. On 25 May C/3-21 Inf had 7 US WIA(E) and 1 US MIA in an engagement at AT958229. Enemy losses were unknown. A short time later at BT033209 R/3-21 Inf engaged an unknown sized enemy force at AT903222, killing 8 NVA while suffering 1 US KIA and 3 US WIA(E). In a 7 hour engagement at AT987278, D/1-46 lost 2 US KIA, 1 US MIA, 1 US WIA(E) and 1 US WIA(M). Enemy losses were again unknown. On 27 May D/3-21 Inf received mortar and heavy small arms fire at AT955228 and suffered 2 US KIA, 4 US MIA and 7 US WIA(E). A/1-1 Cav lost 3 US KIA and 4 US WIA to small arms fire and RPG rounds at AT973273. On 28 May B/3-16 Arty pounded 2 VC companies in the vicinity of BT011126, killing 20 of the enemy. On 29 May E? and D/3-21 Inf found the bodies of 5 US MIA at AT955230. At almost the same location, AT955229, C/3-21 Inf found a like number of NVA KIA. A/3-82 Arty killed 5 VC from a 15 to 20 man enemy force at BT135328. US fire power closed out the month's significant contacts on 30 May. C/3-82 Arty engaged an NVA platoon at AT900246 and killed 5 of the enemy, B/3-16 added 8 VC KBA at AT989989, and the 71st Avn Co killed 5 VC from a 20 to 30 man force at BT119261. On 2 June F/17 Cav detonated a 155mm round boobytrap with 2 US WIA(E) and 3 US WIA(M) at BT 255159. B/2-1 Inf lost 1 KIA and 8 WIA at BT198181 from another boobytrapped 155mm round. R/2-1 Inf caught a mixed NVA-VC force in an ambush that same night and killed 5 NVA and 2 VC at BT131272. The next evening C/3-16 Arty on LZ Siberia had 9 US WIA(E) and 3 US WIA(M) as the result of an enemy mortar attack. A short time later B/3-21 Inf engaged an unknown sized enemy force at AT976220 and killed 4 NVA. B/3-82 Arty fired in support of the infantrymen and killed 6 more NVA. Early on the morning of 4 June A/4-31 at AT963217 had 9 US WIA(E) in an enemy mortar and hand grenade attack. One enemy crewserved weapon was captured. A/3-82 Arty engaged a suspected enemy location at BT241221 and killed 15 VC. B/3-21 Inf suffered 5 US WIA(E) in a fire fight at AT970230. On 5 June B/2-1 Inf eliminated a 4 man NVA patrol at BT164174 at a cost of 1 US WIA(E). One individual weapons was captured. On 6 June A/4-31 was engaged by an unknown sized enemy force at AT963254. Results of the four hour conflict were 1 NVA KIA, 3 US MIA, and 5 US WIA(E). At the same time, D/4-31 Inf was engaged in a sharp fire fight a short distance away at AT967749. Enemy losses were unknown; US losses were 1 KIA and 3 WIA(E). The next day B/3-21 Inf suffered 1 US MIA and 6 US WIA(E) in a day long battle in the vicinity of AT972221. Enemy losses were 6 NVA KIA. Riflemen from 1-46 Inf on an observation post engaged 10 NVA at BT236114. Results were 7 NVA KIA. A few minutes later they engaged and killed 1 VC at BT236117. C/3-82 Arty eliminated a 7 man VC detachment at AT894220. Later that day A/1-46 suffered 7 US WIA(E) at AT934240 in an engagement with an unknown sized enemy force. Enemy losses were unknown. On 8 June LZ West received recoilless rifle fire. US casualties from E/4-31 Inf were 5 WIA(E) and 3 WIA(M). Mortar crews from E/2-1 engaged 8 VC at BT175355, killing 7. B/1-46 Inf killed 6 NVA at AT953225 and captured 5 individual weapons. Friendly casualties were 4 NVA KIA, 2 US KIA and 7 US WIA(E). B/3-16 Arty caught an enemy force at BT 111266, resulting in 10 VC KBA. Artillery continued to pound the enemy the next day as A/3-82 Arty killed six VC at BT185347 and 5 more at BT 187347 in two early morning fire missions. B/3-82 Arty continued the action,

(Continued -2)

adding 6 VC KBA at BT245370. An enemy attack on C/1-46 Inf at AT958243 left 2 US KIA and 8 WIA(E). Enemy losses were 5 NVA KIA. The enemy attacked again that evening, this time mortaring C Company at AT954245. US losses were 1 US KIA and 5 US WIA(E). Air Force aircraft added their fire power in an air strike at BT170304. The Forward Air Controller, Helix 02, counted 6 VC killed in the attack. On 11 June
A/3-21 Inf found 8 NVA KBA from a previous mission fired by B/3-82 Arty at AT972227. That night the enemy struck at C/3-21 Inf ???? recoilless rifles at AT987221. Results were 1 US KIA and 4 US WIA(E). B/1-46 Inf engaged an unknown sized enemy force early on 12 June in the vicinity of AT965246. Results of this morning long contact were 1 US KIA, 15 US WIA(E), 33 NVA KIA, 5 IWC and 1 CSWC. C/1-46 Inf accounted for 4 more VC KIA at AT960252. The enemy retaliated that afternoon with 9 US WIA(E) in a mortar attack on C Company at AT959249. 14th Avn Bn gunships flying in support killed 10 NVA from a 40 man enemy force in the same vicinity. A few hours later C/1-46 lost 5 more US WIA(E) in another mortar attack at AT955243. F/17 Cav engaged 6 or 7 VC at BT200204, killing 4 and detaining 2 others. An unknown type of booty trap cost the cavalrymen 5 US WIA(E) later that day at BT253178. D/2-1 Inf engaged an enemy force at BT102238 and killed 6 VC without a loss. On 13 June C/3-21 Inf had 1 US KIA and 16 US WIA(E) in an attack by fire at AT980223. The next day C/3-82 Arty caught an enemy force at AT954253 and killed 6 NVA. On 16 June D/2-1 lost 5 US WIA(E) to a boobytrap at BT147227. C/3-82 Arty continued to punish the enemy, killing 5 NVA in an artillery preparation for 1/6 ARVN near AT951240. On 17 June C/1-1 Cav had 5 US WIA(E) from a large mine at BT236210. A similar incident cost A/1-1 Cav 5 US WIA(E) and A/2-1 Inf 1 US WIA(E) at BT210245. D/2-1 Inf was able to kill 5 VC of the 6 VC engaged at BT149048. On 19 June 3-1 Inf was moved by C-130 aircraft from Quang Ngai to Tam Ky and by CH-47 helicopters from Tam Ky to Tien Phuoc to reinforce 196th Inf Bde elements. The next day C/3-1 Inf seized hill 482 (AT875175) for the establishment of a fire support base for B/1-14 Arty. The rest of the battalion made a combat assault into the vicinity of AT857125. On 23 June E/2-1 Inf killed 6 VC from an unknown sized enemy force they engaged at BT182488. Two days later B/3-1 Inf found a cache of 5 individual weapons at AT836130. The company received small arms fire while in the area and suffered 4 US WIA(E). On 26 June D/1-1 Cav inserted the aero rifle platoon at AT962017. One UH-1H helicopter received ground fire and crashed. Casualties were 22 US WIA(E) and 1 US MIA who was later recovered with minor injuries. In the same incident **F/8 Cav** lost 1 US WIA(E) and a UH-1H. The next day F/8 Cav engaged an unknown sized enemy force at BT168183 and killed 5 NVA. Action continued at a slower pace through the month of July. On 1 July B/3-1 Inf engaged an unknown sized enemy force at AT853089. The enemy escaped with only 1 NVA KIA but left 5 individual weapons behind. On 2 July 3-1 Inf returned to the 11th Bde and the Iron Mountain area of operation. On 6 July C/1-46 Inf engaged and killed 3 NVA at AS935989. 2 individual weapons were captured while 7 US soldiers suffered minor injuries. A short time later B/1-46 Inf killed 5 NVA and captured 3 individual weapons at AS942988. The next day B/1-46 Inf received 5 Hoi Chanhs in the vicinity of AS961998. More of the enemy surrendered two days later to C/4-31 Inf as seven Hoi Chanhs rallied with 2 individual weapons near AT970131 and six more rallied at AT991113. On 12 July C/3-21 Inf tripped 2 boobytrapped 82mm mortar rounds in the vicinity of BT162179. Total US losses in the twin incidents were 4 US KIA and 12 US WIA(E). Late the next night **F/8 Cav** nighthawk killed 6 VC in 2
engagements at ZC208150. On 14 July R/3-21 Inf engaged an unknown sized enemy force at BT138228, with 1 VC KIA, 4 NVA KIA, and 2 IWC. The next evening B/3-21 In received small arms fire and M-79 fire at BT148289, resulting in 8 US WIA(M). On 26 July A/1-46 Inf engaged an unknown sized enemy force in a day long contact at AT900958. US casualties were 4 US MIA and 8 US WIA(E). The bodies of the missing were recovered the next day with their weapons. Enemy losses were unknown. The next day R/1-46 Inf found 6 individual weapons at AS924992. In an incident starting on 20 July in an area east of FSB Center, vicinity

(Continued -3)

BT104284, gunships from the 116th Avn Co observed 10-15 NVA, resulting in 3 NVA KIA. A short time later, B/3-82 Arty fired on the same area, resulting in 2 NVA KIA. Total enemy losses for the operation were reported as 9 NVA KIA. Results for Operation Frederick Hill for the reporting period were:

FRND	ENEMY
47 KIA	1166 KIA
587 WIA(E)	1 DET
91 WIA(M)	20 PW/VC
	6 PW/NVA
	13 RTNEE/VC
	2 RTNEE/NVA
	188 CIV DEF
	107 IN CIV
	270 IWC
	20 CSWC

AVDF-HL 10 August 1970
SUBJECT: Operational Report -- Lessons Learned, Americal Division, Period Ending 31 July 1970, (RCS-CSFOR-65) (R2) (U)

C. Intelligence

1. (C) Intelligence Summary

a. Quang Tin (P)

(1) During the first week of May, the level of enemy activity in Quang Tin (P) continued to increase over that of April. LZ Siberia, LZ West, Tien Phuoc, Chu Lai and Tam Ky received several attacks by fire. The focal point of this increase in activity being the Hiep Duc area. In this area, the enemy had forces equivalent to two regiments plus support elements of the 2d NVA Division. The second week of May saw a decrease in the level of enemy activity, especially in the Hiep Duc area. The Chu Lai and Tam Ky areas continued to receive light attacks by fire. The focal point of enemy activity switched to the Tien Phuoc CIDG/USSF Camp area. LZ West, LZ Siberia, Chu Lai Base and Tam Ky continued to receive attacks by fire. The 409th MF Sapper Bn was identified in an attack on Que Son (D) HQ but the majority of the battalion remained in the Chu Lai Front. The last week in May saw a significant decrease in enemy activity. The enemy continued to maintain pressure on the Hiep Duc area with both LZ Siberia and LZ West receiving attacks by fire. The enemy also conducted insignificant attacks by fire on Tam Ky and Chu Lai.

(2) On May 1, **F/8** engaged an UNSEF vic AT 9124 resulting in 46 NVA KIA. 1/5 ARVN, vic AT 9124, engaged an UNSEF resulting in 44 NVA KIA, 11 IWC and 2 CSWC. Also on 1 May, LZ West received 4 separate attacks consisting of 9 82mm mortar round (2 with CS agent). On 2 May, 1/5 ARVN, vic AT 912246, found 15 NVA killed by AW fire. In the same area, vic AT911249, 1/5 ARVN engaged an estimated 80 NVA, resulting in 18 NVA KIA, 14 IWC and 60 ChiCom H/Grens and 2000 rounds of SA Ammunition destroyed. On 3 May, LZ Siberia received 5 separate attacks totalling 13 82mm mortar rounds and 3 unknown type RR rounds. That same day, 3/5 (from 1st Bn, 3d NVA Regt). D/1-1 Cav, vic AT 990250, engaged an UNSEF resulting in 14 NVA KIA. 4 May was characterized by attacks by fire: LZ West received a total of 14 82mm mortar rounds s; LZ Siberia received 10 82mm rounds and 5 unknown type RR rounds; 1/5 ARVN, vic AT 916244, received 15-20 rounds of 82mm mortar fire; the Chu Lai base received 57 122mm rockets. On 5 May, 60 VC/NVA attacked and over-ran Duong Uoi OP, vic BT 148122. Chu Lai Combat Base received 24 122mm rockets.

(5) Significant incidents include:

(a) On 2 August, the Quang Ngai Training Center, BS 604721, received 20 rounds of 82mm mortar, 2 rounds of 122mm rockets and a ground attack from an unidentified UNSEF. Results were three Vietnamese trainees killed, eight Vietnamese trainees wounded, and 15 VC killed.

F/8 Cav engaged an UNSEF from BS531649 to BS305618 north of the river, killing 26 NVA, and engaged an UNSEF from BS230643 to BS305615 south of the river, killing 7 NVA on 10 August.

AVDF-HL 15 May 1971

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, 23d Infantry Division (Americal), Period Ending 30 April 1971, RCS CSFOR - 65 (R3) (U)

C. Operations.

1. Major Engagements: During the six month reporting period Division forces were involved in only one major engagement with enemy forces. The majority of the operations were pre-emptive in nature to offset enemy initiated actions against pacified areas. The most significant ground contact was an enemy initiated attack by small arms, rocket and mortar fire followed by a ground sapper penetration of the perimeter barrier at Fire Support Base Maryanne at about 0155H, 28 March 1971. As a result of the brief but fierce engagement 12 NVA/VC were killed. United States losses were reported as 30 killed and 82 wounded. One 155mm howitzer was destroyed and one 155mm howitzer was damaged. The saturation employment of satchel charges by the enemy caused extensive damage to the command bunker, communications bunker, fighting positions and individual sleeping bunkers.

2. Operations by AO:

(a) **Operations FREDERICK HILL,** conducted by the 196th Infantry Brigade in close cooperation and coordination with the 5th ARVN Regiment, continued combat operations to increase the overall effectiveness of the pacification operations near the coastal areas and the destruction of Main Force and NVA units operating in the western portion of the combined TAOR until 010600H March 1971 at which time the Operation was terminated. Contact ranged from light to moderate throughout the period 1 November 1970 to 1 March 1971. At about 1332H on 2 Nov, B/1-46 Inf engaged an unknown size enemy force in the vicinity of AT941010 resulting in 4 NVA KIA and 3 IWC. 2 US were WIA (E). On the 3d of November at 1425H FAC called in an air strike at AT845216 resulting in 5 NVA KBA. Recon platoon, 2-1 Inf detonated an M26 booby trap on 6 November in the vicinity of BT055397 resulting in 3 US WIA(E). At 1000H on the 6th of Nov, C/1-46 found (7) graves at BS021989, bodies were KBA. In Operation HOANG DIEU, vic BT031397, on 8 Nov, Recon platoon 2-1 Inf received a ground attack resulting in 7 US WIA(E). Fire was returned with artillery and small arms with unknown results. D/1-46 engaged an unknown size enemy force on the 10th of Nov at BT228112 resulting in 3 NVA KIA and 2 IWC. There were no major contacts reported in the Frederick Hill AO until 180830H, when a patrol from D/1-46 Inf detonated an unknown type booby trap resulting in 5 US WIA(E) and 1 US WIA(M) (BT223124). At 1630H on the same day B/3-21 Inf engaged 5 NVA vic BT182133 resulting in 1 NVA KIA, 1 IWC and 5 US WIA(E). A/4-31 found 1 82mm mortar tube with base plate, 3 7.62mm light machineguns and 1 RPG launcher vic AT809280. The day of 25 November proved very successful for C/1-46. While on a patrolling mission they found a weapons cache consisting of 28 individual weapons and 6 crew served weapons vic BT189134. Late in the afternoon of the 26th of November D/1-1 Cav had a LOH receive small arms fire from 5-10 NVA. The unit then engaged the area vic BT182079 resulting in 5 NVA KIA. In light and scattered contacts on 27 November, 196th Brigade reported 1 NVA KIA with 1 IWC. Friendly casualties were 6 US WIA(E) and 1 US WIA(M), all from the detonation of booby trapped ammunition. In a report submitted at 280945H November from field location vic BT194130 C/1-46 Inf found 3 VC KBA and 1 75mm recoilless rifle. In a series of small unit engagements on 30 November in the Frederick Hill AO, 7 NVA soldiers were KIA with 1 US WIA(E). During the first six days of December light activity prevailed throughout the AO. Totals for this

period were 17 VC killed, 8 NVA killed, 7 individual and 1 crew served weapons captured, 3 US WIA(E) and 1 US WIA(M). Elements of B/2-1 Infantry encountered an unknown size enemy force in the vicinity of BT174193 on 11 December. Results of this contact were 1 NVA KIA, 1 NVA WIA and 4 IWC. There were no US casualties. Scattered contacts on the 12th and 13th of December in the Frederick Hill area resulted in 11 VC KIA and 14 US WIA with 13 IWC. Light and scattered skirmishes prevailed on 19 December. There were no significant contacts during this period. At 231600H December, A/1-46 detonated a booby trap (BT165177) resulting in 1 US KIA and 4 US WIA(E). In the vicinity of AT804296 at 241105H December, elements of D/2-1 engaged an unknown size enemy force and sustained 4 US WIA(E) with enemy casualties unknown. All friendly elements in the AO ceased offensive operations at 241800H December 1970 in compliance with Christmas Truce Period directives. At 251801H December 1970 units resumed offensive operations. While supporting ground operations on 29 December 1970, 116th Avn engaged the enemy in two separate contacts at BT169190 resulting in 8 NVA KIA. At AT928171, **F/8th Cavalry** engaged 7 NVA resulting in 1 NVA KIA. Elements of A/4-31 detonated an unknown type booby trap on 31 December resulting in 1 US KIA and 10 US WIA(E). At 311800H December 1970 Division elements assumed a defensive posture for the New Years Truce Period. Defensive patrolling and defensive ambushes were employed. Division units resumed offensive operation at 011801H January 1971. On 1 January 1971 the 196th Brigade soldiers engaged 4 VC resulting 4 VC KIA and 2 IWC. There was light and scattered action throughout the AO until 7 January 1971 when B/2-1 was engaged with a command detonated mine in the vicinity of AT924373 with 4 US WIA(E). R/2-1, patrolling in the vicinity of BT124087 on 9 January 1971, was ambushed by 10 NVA. The results of the fire fight were 5 NVA KIA, 4 IWC and 4 US WIA(E). At 1245H C/1-46 engaged 5 NVA (BT134075). Results of this action were 5 NVA KIA, 6 IWC and no friendly casualties. Again at 1830H C/1-46 operating at BT130083 engaged 5 NVA. The results of the action in the AO during 1-9 January 1971 were 37 NVA/VC KIA, 22 IWC with friendly casualties of 5 US WIA(E). On the 11th and 12th of January C/2-1 in 4 contacts in the vicinity of AT9137 reported 4 NVA/VC KIA and 2 IWC, while suffering casualties of 2 US KIA. C/1-46, on the 13th and 14th, in 4 contacts in the vicinity of BT1707, netted 4 NVA/KIA, detained four and captured two weapons. On 15 January, C/3-16 Artillery, firing from Hau Duc, netted 10 VC KBA in the vicinity of BS129988. Action was light until 18 January when a USAF air strike resulted in 5 NVA KIA at ZC1733203. A patrol from D/3-21 detonated a booby trapped hand grenade on 19 January in the vicinity of BT033213 resulting in 4 US WIA(E). There was light contact on the 20th. Total results for the period 11-20 January were 30 VC and 18 NVA KIA with 9 IWC, US casualties were 2 US KIA and 10 US WIA(E). During the last ten days of January reports from the units ranged from "no contact" to very light contacts. Total results for this period area as follows: 21 NVA/VC KIA; 9 IWC; 1 US KIA; 20 US WIA(E) and 1 US WIA(M). The first day of February proved fruitful for C/1-46 while operating in the vicinity of AS890958, finding a weapons cache consisting of 222 IWC and 18 CSWC. In a sizable contact on 9 February, A/3-21 Infantry engaged a 10 man VC patrol vicinity of BT069291 resulting in 3 VC KIA, 4 IWC, while suffering 2 US WIA(E). Operating in the area of AS913946 on the morning of 11 February, D/1-46 Infantry was ambushed by and UNSEF which resulted in 2 US KIA, 4 US WIA(E); 3 US WIA(M). Later on the same day, C/1-46 Inf uncovered another cache

of weapons at AS906934, resulting in 50 IWC. At about 121645H February C/1-46 was engaged by an UNSEF vicinity AS900936, resulting in 2 US KIA; 7 US WIA(E) and 1 US WIA(M). Enemy casualties were unknown. Results for the period 1 through 14 February were: 52 NVA/VC KIA; 292 IWC; 18 CSWC; 17 US KIA; 30 US WIA(E) and 10 US WIA(m). The detonation of two booby traps on 16 February by elements of A/3-21 while operating in the vicinity of AT945242 resulted in 9 US WIA(E). On 20 February in the early afternoon A/3-21 was engaged by hand grenades and small arms fire in the vicinity AT993289 while on a search and clear operation. US casualties were 1 KIA; 8 WIA(E) and 1 US WIA(M). Enemy casualties were unknown. D/1-46 Infantry while operating at AS588951 on the same day detonated an unknown type booby trap causing 3 US KIA and 2 US WIA(E). Light and scattered contacts were reported throughout the AO from 21 through 28 February. Results of all actions during the period 15 through 28 February were: 81 NVA/VC KIA; 20 IWC: 4 US KIA; 35 US WIA(E); 10 US WIA(M). Operation FREDERICK HILL was initiated effective 18001H March 1969 and was terminated effective 010600H March 1971. The results of **Operation FREDERICK HILL** for the reporting period are:

US		ENEMY	
33	KIA	519	KIA (CONF)
234	WIA(E)	0	KIA (PROB)
20	WIA(M)	2352	DET
0	MIA	40	PW/VC
		14	PW/NVA
		11	RTNEE/VC
		4	RTNEE/NVA
		170	CIV DEF
		64	IN CIV
		529	IWC
		35	CSWC

Cumulative results of Operation FREDERICK HILL are:

US		ENEMY	
572	KIA	7514	KIA (CONF)
3251	WIA(E)	0	KIA (PROB)
659	WIA(M)	2352	DET
2	MIA	93	PW/VC
		40	PW/NVA
		99	RTNEE/VC
		12	RTNEE/NVA
		1075	CIV DEF
		1112	IN CIV
		1848	IWC
		192	CSWC

b. The 635th MI Co was attached to the 23d Inf Div Spt Cmd effective 20 December 1970.

c. The 116th Avn Co (AHC) was attached to the 23d Inf Div effective 1 Jan 71 and further attached to the 14th Cbt Avn Bn effective 1 Jan 71.

d. Btry D, 1st Bn 82d Arty was attached to 3d Bn, 18th Arty effective 23 Jan 71.

e. Co C, 23d S&T Bn (PROV) was activated effective 26 Jan 71.

f. Trp F, 17th Cav was relieved from attachment to Hq and Hq Trp, 1st Sqdn, 1st Cav and attached to Hq and Hq Co, 196th Inf Bde effective 26 Jan 71.

g. The 116th Avn Co (AHC), 176th Avn Co (AHC) and 178th Avn Co (AHSC) were relieved from attachment to 14th Cbt Avn Bn and attached to 123d Avn Bn effective 29 Jan 71. Effective the same date, **Trp F, 8th Cav** was relieved from attachment to **123d Avn Bn** and attached to **14th Cbt Avn Bn**.

The Bi-Weekly Newsletter of the 16TH COMBAT AVIATION GROUP was called "THE FALCON". The cover had hand drawn titles and insignias representing the Americal Division, the 123rd Combat Aviation Battalion, the 14th Aviation Battalion, and the 16th Combat Aviation Group. The title was **"THE FALCON" "ABOVE I CORPS"** Text was typed (perhaps on mimeograph paper). THE FALCON" is a publication of the 16th Combat Aviation Group. Only a few issues have been located.

VOL II NO 5 16TH COMBAT AVIATION GROUP, CHU LAI RVN MARCH 4, 1969

"A" Co. DEFEAT ENEMY ----CHU LAI, RVN, "A" Company-IO

Twenty-nine enemy were killed, six enemy soldiers including an NVA battalion commander captured, and numerous weapons and packs plus a .51 caliber anti-aircraft weapon were confiscated as a result of quick action by the 123rd Aviation Battalion's "A" Company "Pelicans," on Feb. 23rd about one mile west of Tam Ky.

An UH-1D Huey "slick" commanded by 2nd Platoon's Warrant Officer Walter Seger, Warren, Mich., was flying a visual reconnaissance mission in support of the Americal Division's 1st Squadron of the 1st Cavalry when he discovered a large mass of enemy soldiers being flushed from a tree line a short distance from the advancing calvarymen.

"Enemy troops were moving down the opposite side of the hill, just out of range of the Cav," stated WO Seger, "they all appeared to have weapons, back packs, and were well camouflaged. They had tree twigs attached to their helmets and back packs; they ran in a crouching, doubled-over position, so there appeared to be 35 or 40 tumbleweeds blowing in many directions over the side of the hill.

The chopper made its first pass through the center of the disorganized mass killing several enemy troops and continued circling the hill. By that time having gained some semblance of order , the Communists tried to work their way down the hill to a forested area.

"They didn't have a chance of getting away, "pointed out Specialist Four Terry Bennet, Veneta, Ore., crewchief of the "Pelican" chopper.

"The NVA had to cross an open rice paddy to get to the trees, but our M-60 machine gun fire made it impossible."

The helicopter made several passes around the hill until SP4 Bennet had expended all of his ammunition; then the helicopter was turned around so gunner SP5 Randy Parks, Seattle, Wash. on the opposite side of the craft from Bennet, had a clear lane of fire. As SP5 Parks began to get low on ammunition pilot WO1 Garry Raymond, Mt. Clements, Mich., took control of the aircraft while chopper commander Seger called Cobra gunships of **"F" Troop, 8th Cavalry** to finish the operation.

Firing as they retreated, the enemy tried to hide in some hootches at the top of a hill.

The "A" Company "slick" took several hits as the action continued.

"We could feel the ship shudder as the rounds hit, "said SP4 Bennet, "they were firing armor-piercing .30 caliber shells and it appeared as if thousands of rounds were directed at us. I took one round through the sleeve of my jacket and Mr. Raymond's neck was grazed as a bullet went through the roof.

"After we expended our machine gun ammo we continued to fire with our M-16 rifle until the **Cobras** arrived."

Crewchief Bennet continued, "Then I dropped smoke grenades marking the hootches containing the NVA and the Cobras completed devastated them with rockets."

When the Cobras finished, 1st Cavalry armored personnel carriers assaulted the hill, and completed the job.

[Historian Note: Terry Bennet was credited with 7 kills and Randy Parks with 2 kills. Bennet later trained to be a pilot and returned to Vietnam as a helicopter pilot.]

Sources available, but not acted on:

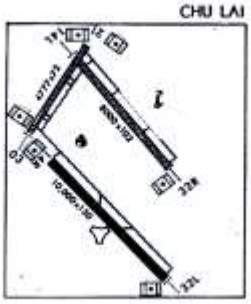
Available information of interest:

1) The Pilot's guidebook. There are guidebooks for 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970 and 1973 available from the ADVA historian. These have descriptions of bases that were capable of supporting the Caribou fixed wing cargo planes or greater. Each base is described and usually there is a photo of the base. Interesting comments are found, like "do not use the approach on the west or you will receive enemy fire".

67

216 VA1-194

CHU LAI



*CHU LAI, VIETM BT537062 15°25'N 108°42'E
MC 25 BL4, 5, 8 80(AM-2) 14L/32R 102' wide (SWL-27, PSI-400) (VVCI)
H100(CON) 14R/32L 150' wide
48(AM-2) 03/21 72' wide (SWL-27, PSI-400)

JASU - NC-5, NC-10A, GTC-85
FUEL - A-1, J4, SP, Presair, O-156, LOX
A-GEAR -

Rwy 14L	M-2(B) (1500')	M-2(B) (1500')	Rwy 32R
Rwy 14R	M-21(B) (3500')	M-21(B) (3500')	Rwy 32L
Rwy 03	M-21(B) (700')	M-21(B) (700')	Rwy 21

AERODROME REMARKS - US controllers on duty 24 hrs dly. No trans maint avail. Ltd tran prkg. Catapult installed on Rwy 03/21. OLS available all runways. No ATC flight planning or filing available. VFR Jet tfc report 5 mile initial at 3000' for all runways, descending to 1500' overhead break to 1000' downwind. VFR Conv tfc report 5 miles East for downwind entry. C-130 and larger aircraft operate from West runway only. Recommend four engine aircraft taxi with outboard engines off. Extensive construction West runway and all taxiways. Extensive vehicular traffic on taxiways. All acft flying in Chu Lai Control Zone will display external lights IAW OPNAV Inst 3710.7c 1 Nov 1965. SEE VIETNAM SPECIAL NOTICE.

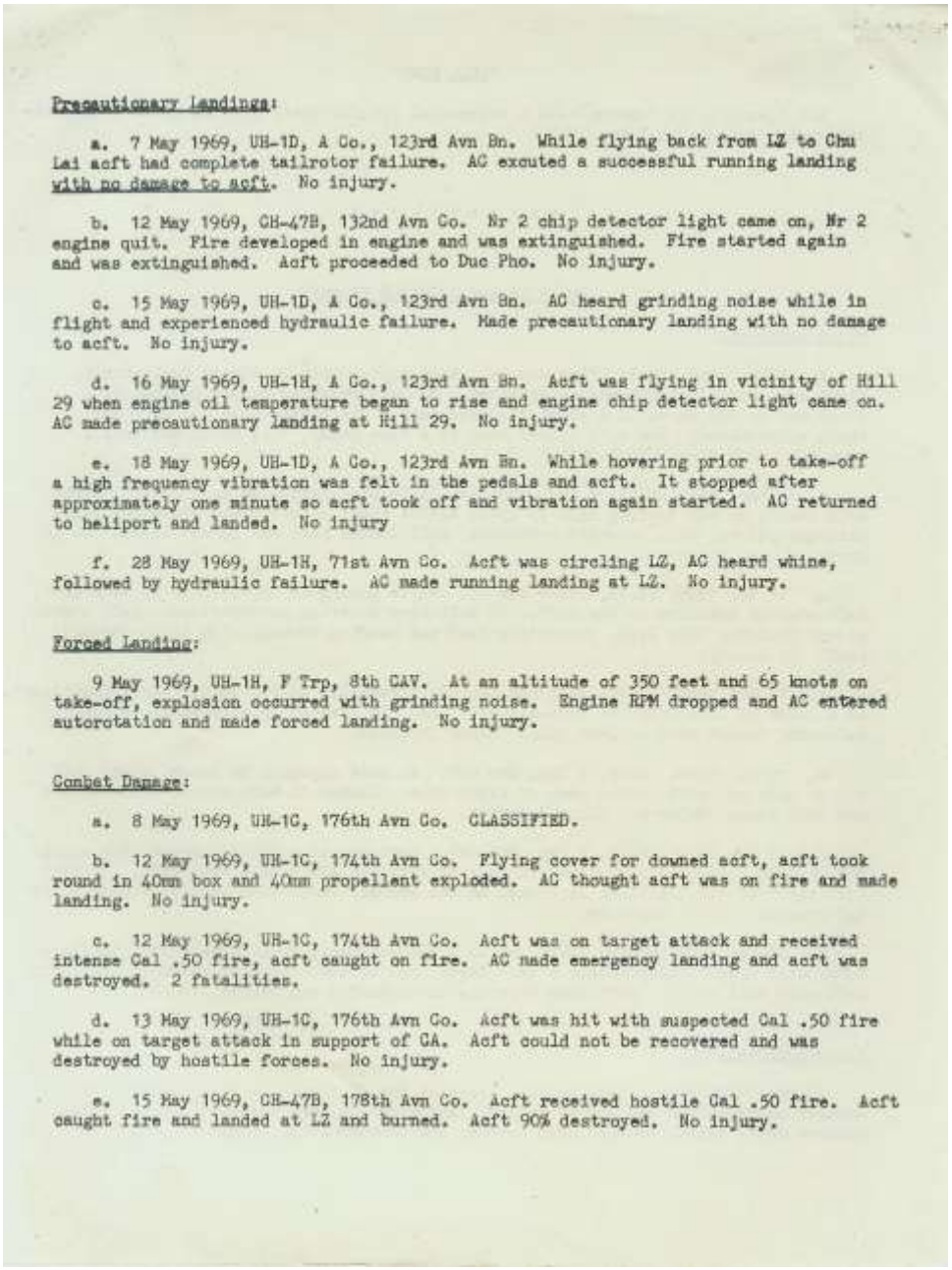
COMMUNICATIONS (SFA)
A/G (N) VOICE: CALL OUTCRY CHU LAI - 6723® 310®
®APP CON - 321.0 118.3 (U) ®DEP CON - 316.0
TOWER - 340.2 360.2 118.3 (E) GND CON- 360.2
ALCE ® - 281.8 140.4 8134 USB 4677 USB 10140 USB

RADIO AIDS TO NAVIGATION
(H)TACAN® CHU Chan 50 At Field

RADAR ® - Call APP CON - 321.0 316.0 260.5 230.6 329.4 375.2 118.3 (E)
ASR Rwy 14R/32L Ceil 500 VIS Day 1 Ngt 1 Min Alt 525
PAR Rwy 14R/32L Ceil 200 VIS Day ½ Ngt ½ Min Alt 225 Glide Slope 3°
RADIO/NAV REMARKS - ® IFF/SIF avail. Circle to E, mountainous terrain to W. ® 2200-1000Z. © 1000-2200Z. ® Unusable below 9000' 155-215 rad, below 20,000' 215-240 rad, below 12,000' 240-310 rad. ® Airlift acft ctc 15 min prior to landing.

CHU LAI
VA1-194

2) The Americal Division Safety Newsletter. Only one example is available. It covers the quarterly period ending in June 1969. It lists incidents by date and unit with a short description.



Precautionary Landings:

a. 7 May 1969, UH-1D, A Co., 123rd Avn Bn. While flying back from LZ to Chu Lai acft had complete tailrotor failure. AC excuted a successful running landing with no damage to acft. No injury.

b. 12 May 1969, CH-47B, 132nd Avn Co. Nr 2 chip detector light came on, Nr 2 engine quit. Fire developed in engine and was extinguished. Fire started again and was extinguished. Acft proceeded to Duc Pho. No injury.

c. 15 May 1969, UH-1D, A Co., 123rd Avn Bn. AC heard grinding noise while in flight and experienced hydraulic failure. Made precautionary landing with no damage to acft. No injury.

d. 16 May 1969, UH-1H, A Co., 123rd Avn Bn. Acft was flying in vicinity of Hill 29 when engine oil temperature began to rise and engine chip detector light came on. AC made precautionary landing at Hill 29. No injury.

e. 18 May 1969, UH-1D, A Co., 123rd Avn Bn. While hovering prior to take-off a high frequency vibration was felt in the pedals and acft. It stopped after approximately one minute so acft took off and vibration again started. AC returned to heliport and landed. No injury

f. 28 May 1969, UH-1H, 71st Avn Co. Acft was circling LZ, AC heard whine, followed by hydraulic failure. AC made running landing at LZ. No injury.

Forced Landing:

9 May 1969, UH-1H, F Trp, 8th CAV. At an altitude of 350 feet and 65 knots on take-off, explosion occurred with grinding noise. Engine RPM dropped and AC entered autorotation and made forced landing. No injury.

Combat Damage:

a. 8 May 1969, UH-1C, 176th Avn Co. CLASSIFIED.

b. 12 May 1969, UH-1C, 174th Avn Co. Flying cover for downed acft, acft took round in 40mm box and 40mm propellant exploded. AC thought acft was on fire and made landing. No injury.

c. 12 May 1969, UH-1C, 174th Avn Co. Acft was on target attack and received intense Cal .50 fire, acft caught on fire. AC made emergency landing and acft was destroyed. 2 fatalities.

d. 13 May 1969, UH-1C, 176th Avn Co. Acft was hit with suspected Cal .50 fire while on target attack in support of CA. Acft could not be recovered and was destroyed by hostile forces. No injury.

e. 15 May 1969, CH-47B, 178th Avn Co. Acft received hostile Cal .50 fire. Acft caught fire and landed at LZ and burned. Acft 90% destroyed. No injury.

3) Home videos: clicking on this link currently will play a Blueghost home video:
https://www.pinterest.com/pin/193091902754754266

4) Maps. Maps of the area from Chu Lai to LZ Charlie Brown have been pieced together. A map of the Kham Duc, Da Nang area, Nhi Ha, Lam Son 719, Hiep Duc Valley, Chu Lai areas and any place the Americal Division units served are available. Maps could be made for any location in Vietnam, Laos, or Cambodia if a grid coordinate or with the name of a FSB or landing zone can be provided. Major LZs have been marked and then the maps have been printed. The color maps have been provided to hundreds of veterans at this point. The maps are usually done in a size that is around 35" inches in width so they fit in a mailing tube. Custom maps are often done to show the location of incidents. These are done on a local printer at a "13 x 19" size.

5) Some 21"x21" size **3D maps** of Vietnam have been done for the Americal Division Veterans' Association. Set up work has been done so that reasonably priced copies can be made. The ones that might be of most interest to the 174th AHC are San Juan Hill, LZ Cork, and Kham Duc. Also, LZ Mary Ann, Hiep Duc Valley, LZ Professional-East, LZ West have been done. A copy might be made for under $150.00. A map can literally be made of any location in the world. The maps are great if the AO has steep terrain, but are not much of an improvement over 2D maps if the terrain is flat.
3D Maps have been loaned or given to support reunions and we are looking to place some maps in military museums.

6. A yearbook was created for the men of the 16th Combat Aviation Group in 1970. In the yearbook is a section for the 123rd Aviation Battalion which includes some information regarding Troop **F, 8th Cavalry**. (This history did not include anything past the publish date in 1970.)

123rd COMBAT AVIATION BATTALION HISTORY

(From 16th CAG 1970 yearbook)

The 123rd Aviation Battalion was activated on 8 December 1967 from a nucleus formed by the old 161st Aviation Company. The 406th TC Detachment and the 449th Signal Detachment, which had supported the 161st Aviation Company, were reassigned and attached to the 123rd Aviation Battalion in January 1968. The original makeup of the battalion had consisted of Headquarters Company, A Company, and B Company. Company B was organized from the Armed Helicopter Platoon of the former 161st Aviation Company and later given a provisional mission as Aero Scouts. During 1968, the 123d Aviation Battalion compiled an impressive record. Company A supported the Americal Division's ground units by hauling 1482 tons of cargo in over 3,736 sorties and in the process killed over twenty (20) VC/NVA and medevaced over ninety-four (94) persons. Company B learned their tactical lessons well, killing over seven hundred (700) VC/NVA in 77,510 sorties. On 15 December 1968, the 123d Aviation Battalion was attached to the 16th Combat Aviation Group.

The year 1969 marked a significant change in both the make-up and the mission of the Battalion. In January 1969 two CH-47 units, the 132d Assault Support Helicopter Company and the 178th Assault Support Helicopter Company, were attached to the Battalion.

A short period after this reorganization the 406th TC and the 449th Signal Detachment were deactivated. E Company 723d Maintenance Battalion, which was formed from the assets of the 406th TC Detachment and the 449th Signal Detachment, was attached to the Battalion to provide the Battalion with direct Maintenance support.

The addition of **F Troop, 8th Cavalry** in May 1969, gave the Battalion a total of two Air Cavalry units. In October 1969, the 132d ASHC and the 178th ASHC were detached from the 123d Aviation Battalion and attached to the 14th Combat Aviation Battalion.

The additions of D Troop, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry in October 1969, gave the 123d Aviation Battalion a third Air Cavalry unit. The three Air Cavalry units, B Company, **F Troop, 8th Cavalry** and D Troop 1/1st Cavalry, are used to support each of the three infantry brigades in the Americal Division. Assets from the 123d Aviation Battalion have been involved in every major operation that the Americal has undertaken since January 1968. The Battalion's mission was defined to extend by aerial means the reconnaissance and security of the Americal Division with three Air Cavalry units and to provide command and control aircraft for the General Officers, Special Staff and all Senior Commanders of the Americal Division.

Under its present make-up the 123d Aviation Battalion (Combat) consisting of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Company A, Company B, Company E, 723d Maintenance Battalion, **F Troop, 8th Cavalry** and D Troop 1/1st Cavalry has proved to be a most effective unit.

This history was printed in the Blue Ghost yearbook for 1969. History past the publish date would not be available here.

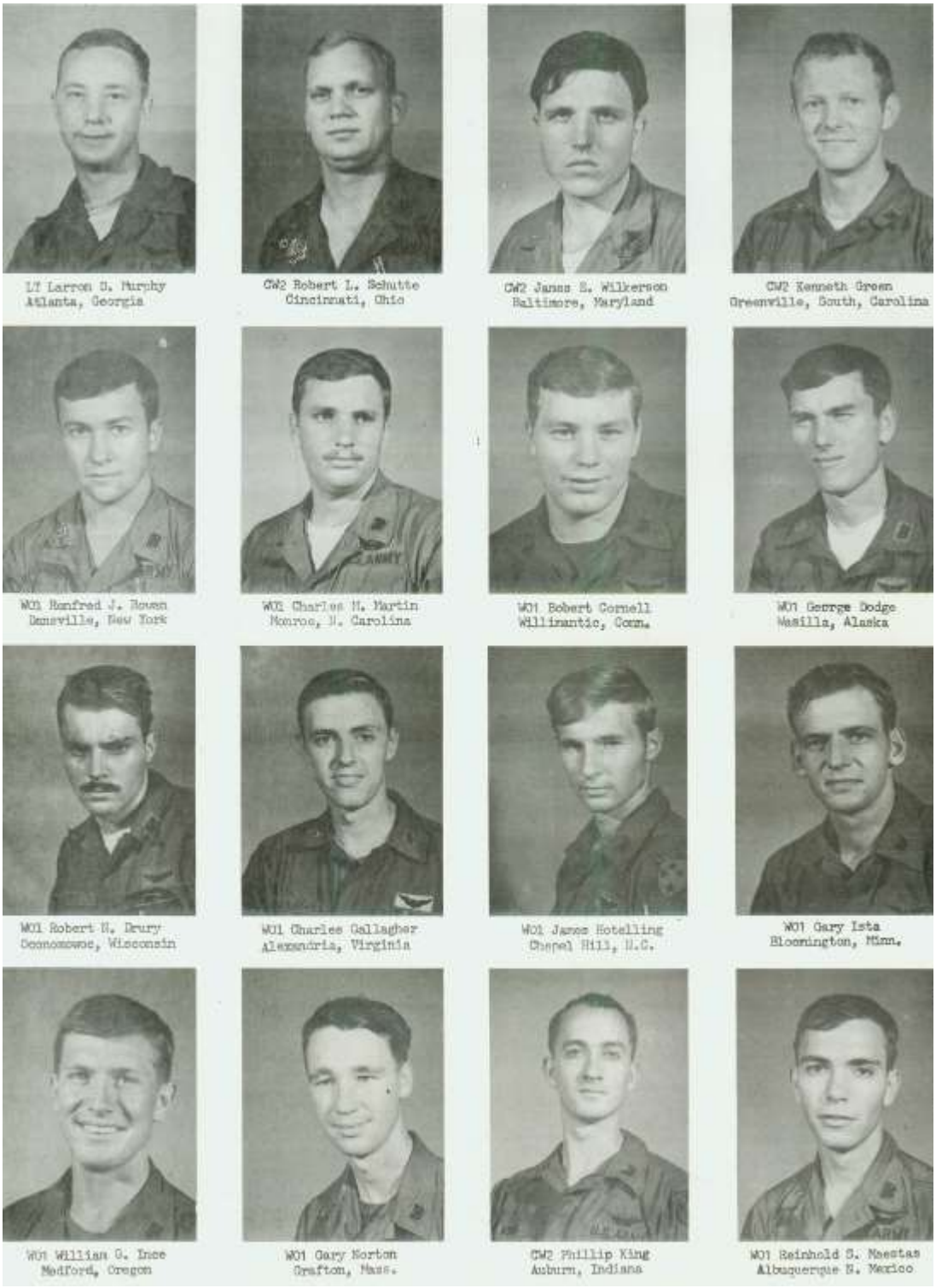
F TROOP - 8th CAV. - 123d
UNIT - HISTORY

F Troop 8th Cavalry, Blue Ghost, was originally activated at Fort Knox, Kentucky in February 1967 and was designated **C Troop 17th Air Cavalry.** The unit arrived in the Republic of Vietnam in October 1967 at Qui Nhon and from there went to Pleiku. After being at Pleiku for two months, C Troop was relocated to Chu Lai and later designated F Troop 8th Cavalry.

F Troop is organized to operate normally in teams composed of aero-scout (LOH's), aero-weapons (Cobra's), and aero-rifle (Huey's) helicopters. The primary mission of the Huey's is transporting infantry that is organic to the unit. The capabilities and characteristics of all these elements are designed to complement each other. The flexibility in the organization of the Troop permits rapid organization and deployment of teams specifically tailored to complete the mission.

The primary mission of **Blue Ghost** is to extend the reconnaissance and security capabilities of the ground unit supported. The Troop is employed in close conjunction with the ground units so that the capabilities of ground and air elements will complement each other.

General Creighton Abrams awarded the Presidential Unit Citation to the Blue Ghost on 9 March. The citation was given for their participation in actions in conjunction with the 1st Sp., 1st Armored Cav. against the enemy around Hoi An and Tam Ky during the period January 1 to March 31, 1968. During that time, two units killed 1,046 North Vietnamese Army and Viet-Cong soldiers while suffering only 11 Americans killed.



Above is a sample of the type of individual photos that may be found in the yearbooks. There are photos of helicopters and men in action and working on the flight line in these yearbooks.

The 1967 1/1st Cavalry Regiment booklet has photos and an onion skin map of the 12 major battle sites the 1/1st Cav had participated in (with Blue Ghost Air Cav) since joining the Americal Division. These are two pages from the booklet that had photos of Blue Ghost helicopters followed by the map:

Blue Ghost screens the flanks

Contact!

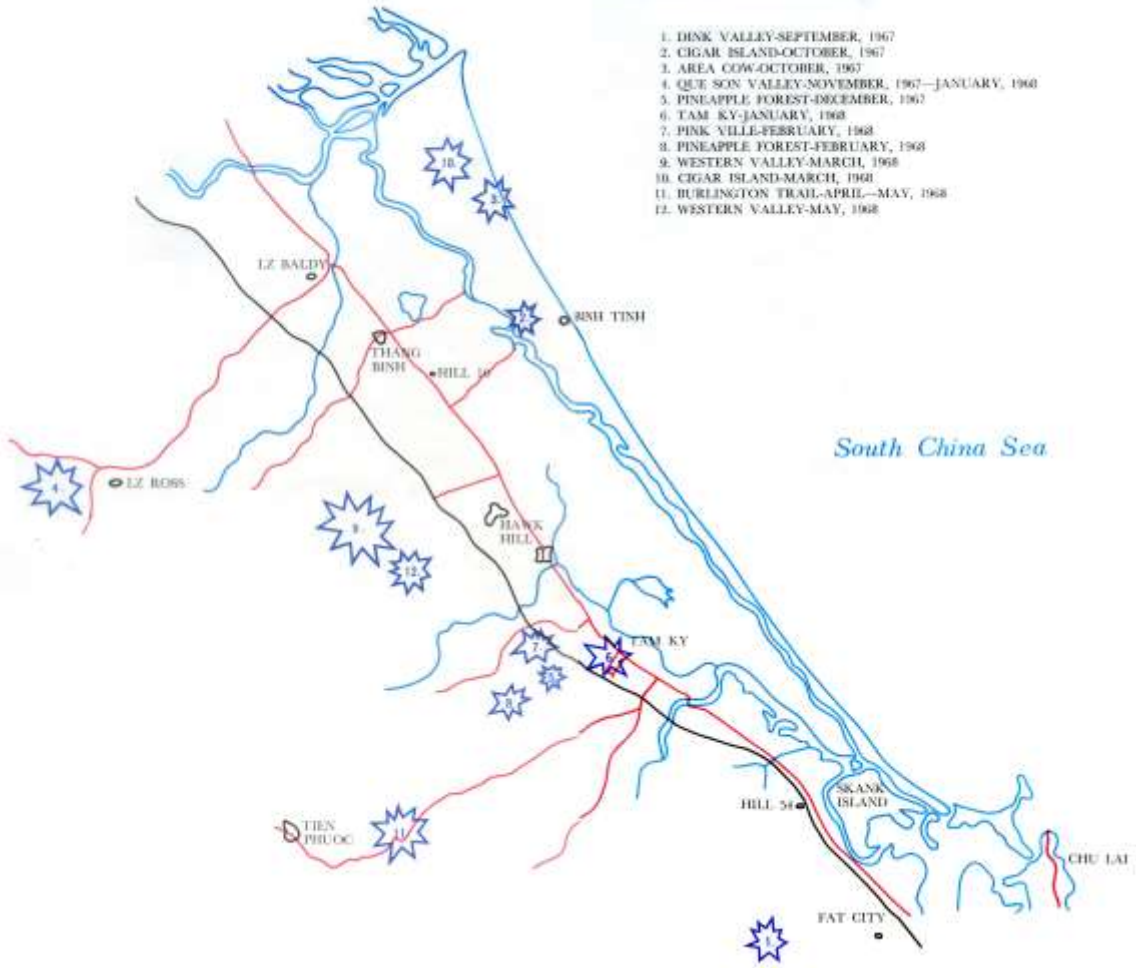
Niner zeros sound off!

Helix strikes again

Zippo-guaranteed to light every time

Blue Ghost riders in the sky

FIRST SQUADRON, FIRST CAVALRY
MAJOR BATTLES—QUANG TIN PROVINCE, VIETNAM



The Americal AO

After September 1969 the Marine boundary was shifted south to give the Marines LZ Baldy and LZ Ross. Then After April 1971 the Marines left I Corps, leaving the Americal to defend Da Nang and areas in Thua Thien and Quang Tri provinces.

This map was printed in the first issue of the Americal Division's "Southern Cross" newspaper in May 1968.

This is a 21″x21″ computer generated 3D Map made of Kham Duc. May 12, 1968 the base was evacuated 1 day prior to the monsoon season weather's arrival. This became the site of the largest number of missing in action for a one day battle in Vietnam. F Troop received honors for their participation in this battle that resulted in an estimated 1,200 NVA soldiers KIA. Several 3D Maps have been made in areas that Blue Ghost teams worked. Check with the ADVA historian if you might be connected to a museum interested in displaying 3D maps. Copies of the maps are reasonably priced for purchase or they might be loaned to reunion groups. Contact the ADVA historian to learn more.

Comments by ADVA Historian: I was a helicopter crewchief for one year and observed a few things in two years with the 123rd Combat Aviation Battalion. Pilots had to be highly skilled, but there were things that were really pushing the edge.

1. Slicks. UH-1Ds were underpowered. On hot days we had to slide out over the edge of hilltops and basically free fall to make transition airspeed. The UH-1H helicopters with 300 more horsepower were a lot more tolerant especially for center of balance issues.
2. Night time flare missions and monsoon weather made difficult flying situations. Vertigo issues and getting lost over the South China Sea added a lot of stress.
3. There were issues with ground control systems that we trusted when we were lost in IFR situations. These resulted in pilots being guided into mountains or out to sea. The high number of incidents that occurred made me feel that the enemy had something affecting our systems that we were not aware of.
4. It was dangerous to be in the air after a couple weeks of our units not taking fire. The pilots would become careless and fly like they were stateside. Then after a flare up in action with helicopters in their unit shot up, the pilots were a bit more careful. Something like birds that are more careful following an attack on their flock.
5. I often have heard from pilots that the 105mm howitzers were not as effective as the 2.75 inch rockets. The 105mm rounds we were using were made in WWII with an old type of explosive. The 2.75 inch rockets had an explosive material that was 1,000 times more powerful as from WWII. Initially I had read an article that stated the 2.75 inch rockets with a 10-17 lb warhead were equivalent to a much larger (33 lb) 105mm warhead. It didn't make sense until I found that the explosive was much more powerful.
6. I have seen more than one 2.75 inch rocket accidently fired off from parked helicopters in their revetments. I remember being told that the rockets only needed 1.5 volts to fire. Each time the rockets hit and penetrated a 55 gallon barrel filled with sand. It was a little amazing how the rocket accelerated right through the barrels. The barrels were mainly there to protect our helicopters from mortar and rocket attacks. The impact with the barrel at least stopped the warhead from arming. On a couple of these incidents that was very fortunate. This was because the rockets landed very close to an open door leading to ammo dump for my Battalion.
7. Cobra helicopters. On my second tour I became the Shop Leader for the Engine Shop of E/723rd. I was required to take test flights to perform a vibration test on the Cobras. I was always a bit afraid of flying in the Cobras because they had a SAS system that replaced the stabilizer bars and etc. like we had on the Hueys. I had been told that it was almost impossible to survive a SAS failure on the Cobra.

8. The worst job: Burning crap. 55-gallon drums cut in half collected the crap under the two hole outhouses. When they filled up someone had to take them out and replace them. A piece of wood was placed through the holes cut at the top of the barrell to lift the heavy barrell out. It was a two man job. Then a replacement empty was inserted. The full barrell was taken to a place where the crap could be burned out. I forget how much diesel fuel/kerosene was poured in. Then someone had to paddle the crap to mix the crap with the fuel. When it was mixed well, then it was set on fire. Man oh man did this stink up the base! The other thing was that old rocket pods from a gunship were used for a piss tube. They were set in the ground so you could piss on the end of the rocket pod. They had some plywood up around most of them to allow some privacy. They smelled awful ripe after a while.
9. The Chu Lai base was always noisy and busy. Helicopters were always coming and going at Ky Ha. At the main base their were jet fighters taking off at all hours. It was difficult to sleep, except you were usually bone tired...flying missions, flying flare at night, pulling guard duty, or KP which sometimes started at 2:00 a.m. and didn't finish until late in the evenings. I received a video from Kurt McFadden from his return trip to Vietnam. In the video was a scene of the Ky Ha base back in 1998. The base was just vacant sand dunes. It shocked me that a place so active and noisy would become a peaceful quiet place.

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Photo of the 123rd Combat Aviation Battalion area at Ky Ha.

10. I have heard a lot of belly-aching from UH-1C crews who were sidelined by the new Cobra gunships. Their claim is that the gunners on the UH-1B & C model helicopters kept the enemy's heads down during their gun runs. The enemy had a clear shot at the Cobra's from the side. The crewchief on a Cobra did not fly missions.

The Americal Division Veteran's Association obtained the 50 months of Americal Division S2/S3 Daily Tactical Operations Center reports from the National Archives in a five year effort. An additional five years was spent transcribing the documents so they are computer searchable. These documents are currently being shared with many veterans. Copies reside online at the AmericalFoundation.ORG web-site and also at the Americal Division portal at the online Vietnam Archives maintained by Texas Tech. University. Although the information is there it takes a minimal computer skill to successfully search entries for the Troop F, 8th Cavalry. One problem is that the helicopter units are often not identified in the reporting. If they are identified they might be identified by the unit name, the call sign, or whatever.

Examples of extractions performed on these files follow, but in two different formats. Vern Schleyer, an F Troop veteran did several months. They will have a slightly different look from the May 1968, May 1969, May 1970, and May 1971 files that will be interspersed in the following:

The concept of performing an extraction is that it is either too expensive or difficult to obtain the S2/S3 report from the 123rd or 14th Aviation Battalion. There would be more detail about the unit operations at the Battalion level reporting

I provided Troop F, 8th Cavalry veteran, Vern Schleyer, a copy of the transcribed Americal Division TOC reports. And he performed extracts of entries from the April 1968, August 1968, September 1968 and February 1969 files. The source files that he started with are available to view or download from the AmericalFoundation.org web-site or from the Texas Tech. University Vietnam Archives through the Americal Division portal.

The following is Mr. Schleyer's extracted Blue Ghost entries from April 1968:

Date	Entry	Time	Action reported	Source File
1-Apr-68	36	1407	1/1 Cav, F/8, vic BT231413 at 1403H, eng'd 1 VC evading, res: 1 VC KIA (C).	6804_DTOC_Trans
1-Apr-68	40	1401	1/1, F/8 Cav, vic BT179336 at 1400H, obs & eng'd 3 VC evading, res: 1 VC KIA (C).	6804_DTOC_Trans
1-Apr-68	52	1555	196th, F/8th Cav, BT061312 at 0945H, ref journal entry #23. Add 1xM-1 carbine CIA, SN 2585660.	6804_DTOC_Trans
2-Apr-68	18	0829	1/1, F/8 Cav, AT964343 at 0820H, rec'd 1 rd AK-47, rd went through windshield, 1 WHA (M), aircraft still flyable.	6804_DTOC_Trans
2-Apr-68	34	1139	196, F/8 Cav, AT975345 at 0930H, obs 1 MAM wearing blk PJ's and web gear, eng'd, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
2-Apr-68	35	1139	196, F/8 Cav, AT964343 at 0926H, obs 1 MAM w/wpn, brown uniform, evading, eng'd, res: 1 VC KIA. Did not pick up wpn.	6804_DTOC_Trans

2-Apr-68	36	1140	196, F/8 Cav, AT964343 at 0835H, obs 10 MAM, some w/wpns, green & khaki uniforms, evading, eng'd, res: 4 VC KIA. Did not recover wpns. Acft rec's SA fire, res: 1 US WHA (E) w/eye injury.	6804_DTOC_Trans
2-Apr-68	39	1220	196, F/8 Cav, BT190470 at 1200H, obs several MAM evading across river, eng'd w/M-60 MG, res: 2 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
2-Apr-68	46	1348	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT220437 at 1343H, obs and eng'd 1 camouflaged sampan, res: sampan destroyed.	6804_DTOC_Trans
2-Apr-68	59	1558	1/1, F/8 Cav, 1555H, Inf plat, F/8 Cav, extracted 1555H.	6804_DTOC_Trans
2-Apr-68	71	1755	196, A/2/1, F/8 Cav, AT982323 at 1613H, obs what appeared to be rocket launcher, opened fire on it and it blew up. At AT980323 obs 2 MAM in green uniforms evading, eng'd, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
2-Apr-68	72	1738	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT208262 at 1735H, obs 1 MAM evading, eng'd, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
2-Apr-68	75	1700	1/1, F/8 Cav, delete entry #18, same incident as entry #36.	6804_DTOC_Trans
3-Apr-68	11	0850	196th, D/1/20, AT815245, Light Team from F/8th Cav requested for D/1/20. Team should be on 1/20 command push and report ASAP. D/1/20 feels that there are VC on ridge that D/1/20 cannot get to. Passed to 1/1 for approval. 1/1 approved request at 0910H, passed to 196th.	6804_DTOC_Trans
3-Apr-68	25	1058	196, F/8 Cav, BT180475 at 0955H, obs 1 MAM evading to east, eng'd w/M-60, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
3-Apr-68	42	1642	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT261371 at 1540H, eng'd 1 VC evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
3-Apr-68	45	1718	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT261371 at 1715H, Eng'd 1 VC, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
3-Apr-68	47	1800	1/1, F/8, BT261371 at 1756H, 1 MAM evading, 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
4-Apr-68	10	0945	196, 4/31, AT887399, request VR mission from F Trp, 8th Cav at 1100H for 4/31 for 3 hrs in areas of AO bounded by (1) 88 to 91 NS line and 36 to 41 EW line and (2) 49 to 86 NS line and 31 to 36 EW line. Passed to 1/1 Cav at 0953H. 1/1 feels mission is better suited for FAC. 196 still wants F/8th team (CPT Spahn) at 1040H. Passed to 1/1. Mission cancelled by 196 at 1055H in deference to another mission by F/8th for 196 to make a possible snatch of 6 NVA and 2 Americal soldiers.	6804_DTOC_Trans
4-Apr-68	14	1035	196, B/3/21, AT993218, requests F/8 Cav heavy team to make a VR and possible "snatch" of 2 American soldiers and 6 NVA spotted at BT000200 at approx 1030H. B/3/21 engaged the 6 NVA at 150 meters, request approved by 1/1 and G3 at 1050H.	6804_DTOC_Trans
4-Apr-68	25	1235	196th, B/3/21, BT000200, request return of F/8th Cav team that was working with B/3/21 morning of 04 April in pursuit of 6 NVA and 2 Americans. Mission to last 90 minutes. Request them on station ASAP. Passed to 1/1 Cav, approved by 1/1 Cav at 1240H and dispatched.	6804_DTOC_Trans
5-Apr-68	15	0830	1/1, F/8th Cav, BT240250 at 0830H, 1 MAM evading, eng'd, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans

5-Apr-68	22	0945	1/1, CPT Cronnin, F/8th is flying the 1st mission request for 196th now and will fly the 2nd from 1030-1200H. Passed to 196th 1000H.	6804_DTOC_Trans
5-Apr-68	23	1015	196, B/2/1, AT927383 at 1000H, unit is in small contact at this time. Heavy team from F/8 on the way.	6804_DTOC_Trans
5-Apr-68	25	1045	196th, 2/1, request VR by F/8th at 1100H at BT0235-1135, BT1034, BT1134, BT1035. Passed to 1/1 who said F/8 already had a heavy team working for 196th and did not have any more ships available. 196th notified.	6804_DTOC_Trans
5-Apr-68	39	1250	196, request F/8 support, heavy team for screening opns vic AT8433 area east and south of grid. Located large cache in area (wpns, ammo, and electronic gear). 1255H, 1/1 Cav notified of request. 1/1 only has light team available. 1305H, 196th notified hvy team not available. 1310H, 196 request light team and they will provide 2 gunships to accompany.	6804_DTOC_Trans
5-Apr-68			1315H, 1/1 notified of light team request. 1/1 Cav approved and dispatched team at 1320H.	6804_DTOC_Trans
5-Apr-68	42	0900	196, 1/6 Inf, 2 hrs, hvy team, for VR. This would require two hvy gun teams. 1/1 Cav does not feel they can do both missions. Provide one team from 1/1 Cav to cover both requirement, 1/1 Cav concurs. 1/1 Cav will spt 1/6 requirement and as much of 4/31 requirement as possible before ships are required in 1/1 opn. CPT Spoon (196) advised at 050805 Apr. 196, 4/31, AT830335, request team from F/8 Cav VR at 051000H Apr 68 for 3 hours at AT830335. Passed to 1/1 Cav at 0900H.	6804_DTOC_Trans
5-Apr-68	53	1735	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT171531 at 1730H, obs 2 MAM evading, eng'd, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
5-Apr-68	60	1840	1/1, F/8 Cav, obs 2 MAM evading, eng'd, res: 2 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
5-Apr-68	61	1841	1/1, F/8, BT205523 at 1837H, obs 3 MAM evading, eng'd, res: 3 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
5-Apr-68	70	2035	1/1, F/8, BT205530 at 1850H, 1 MAM evading, eng'd, res: 1 VC KIA (C).	6804_DTOC_Trans
6-Apr-68	12	0920	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT164284 at 0918H, eng'd 1 VC evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
6-Apr-68	15	0938	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT174528 at 0931H, eng'd 2 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
6-Apr-68	16	1005	1/1, F/8, BT167251 at 0957H, obs 1 metal canister and roll of concertina wire, 2 trenches, 20 freshly fox holes, appeared to be training area.	6804_DTOC_Trans
6-Apr-68	24	1127	196, BTOC, BT023199, request F/8 Cav light team for VR, work with E/3/21, desire ASAP. Passed to 1/1 at 1128H. 1135H, 1/1 OK'd request but stated it would be 30 minutes before team would arrive. 1136H, notified 196. 1230H, 1/1 has contact, F/8 cannot leave them to go to 196th for VR. Notified 196th. Mission to be run when possible.	6804_DTOC_Trans
6-Apr-68	30	1410	1/1, F/8th Cav, vic BT219533 at 1404H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA (C).	6804_DTOC_Trans

6-Apr-68	35	1355	1/1, F/8th Cav, vic BT205545 at 1210H, gunship rec'd 1 hit in rotor blade, flying 75 ft at 70 knots, f/8 sending rotor blade from Chu Lai to 1/1 location.	6804_DTOC_Trans
6-Apr-68	42	1610	1/1, F/8th Cav, vic BT206534 at 1605H, obs 10-15 MAM w/wpns, web gear, steel helmets, eng'd, res: 3 VC KIA, 1 IWC (destroyed carbine).	6804_DTOC_Trans
6-Apr-68	45	1640	1/1, F/8th Cav, 1636H, vic BT203547, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
7-Apr-68	12	0817	196, F/8 Cav, BT061401 at 0753H, obs 1 VC carrying a poncho with what appeared to be ammo in the poncho. He dropped poncho and ran. Eng'd, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
7-Apr-68	41	1120	196, BTOC, request VR flight, F/8 Cav, report to BT002277, come up on 3/21 cmd freq, time ASAP, time on station 1-2 hrs. Reason: OP spotted 10 VC w/green uniforms, moving W from that location. Unit has no troops in immediate area. Passed to 1/1 at 1122H. 1145H, 1/1 diverting team to 196, 196 notified.	6804_DTOC_Trans
7-Apr-68	67	1405	196, F/8 Cav, BT045295 at 1215H, while departing 3.21 AO, rec'd 3-4 rds of SA fire. Neg hits, obs 5 VC evading from hut. Eng'd, res: 2 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
7-Apr-68	76	1610	1/1, TOC, 1/1 AO ext approved by Province in Pineapple Forrest area until 2000H 7 April. Ext as follows: BT206224 NE along road to BT257255, W to present AO. F/8 Cav will go in to look for possible mortar and rocket sites tonight.	6804_DTOC_Trans
7-Apr-68	80	1555	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT231219 at 1550H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
7-Apr-68	82	1624	196, BTOC, request F/8 Cav, VR Team 080900H, vic AT9633, come up on 2/1 command net, approx 2 hrs duration. Passed to 1/1 at 1640H.	6804_DTOC_Trans
8-Apr-68	17	1035	1/1, F/8, BT214247 at 1030H, 2 MAM evading, eng'd, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
8-Apr-68	46	1426	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT204214 at 1345H, 1 gunship took 1 hit from AW, ship made it back to 1/1 pad and is not flyable.	6804_DTOC_Trans
8-Apr-68	67	1655	1/1, F/8, BT221236 at 1645H, 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
9-Apr-68	3	0807	1/1, F/8 CAV, BT165256 at 0805H, 2 MAM evading, res: 2 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
9-Apr-68	21	1023	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT217206 (BT), 1030H, obs 3 MAM evading, eng'd, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
9-Apr-68	45	1335	1/1, F/8, BT206178 at 1330H, 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
9-Apr-68	67	1700	196, 4/31, AT952342, 4/31 requested VR over AT952342 by F/8. Suspect VC's location, come up on 4/31 command push. Mission: 1 hour. On station ASAP. 1/1 notified: all F/8 ships being used for contact. 196 notified: will use their own choppers.	6804_DTOC_Trans
9-Apr-68	69	1806	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT201188 at 1800H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
9-Apr-68	71	1807	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT198192 at 1805H, eng'd 2 MAM in spider hole. Res: 2 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
9-Apr-68	74	1840	1/1, F/8, BT196188 at 1825H, 3 MAM evading, res: 3 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans

9-Apr-68	75	1840	1/1, F/8, BT214170 at 1830H, 1 MAM evading. Res: 1 VC KIA, also engaged approx 30 VC hiding in a trench.	6804_DTOC_Trans
9-Apr-68	82	2030	196th, BTOC, at 1738H, req F/8 Cav support 10 Apr 68. Type mission: VR & blocking. Loc: AT8131, 8031, 8231, 8232, 8132, 8032. Time on station: 0830H. Duration: 2 hrs. Freq: 4/31 CMD. Loc of friendly: AT815823, be moving SE in morning. Passed to 1/1 at 1745H. 1905H, 1/1 feels they need to concentrate efforts in Burlington Trail with 198th. Passed to G-3. At 2030H, CPT Freeman notified that F/8 Cav was committed to operate in Burlington Trail on 10 Apr. If a situation develops which warrants use of F/8 Cav, they could request again at that time.	6804_DTOC_Trans
10-Apr-68	8	0715	198th, TOC, 0715H, request support of F/8th Cav for VR in the following area from BT2412, S to 2410, W to 1310, N to 1312, E to 2412. Period of request 1000-1200H. Work in 1/6 Inf area. CG approved. 1/1 Cav notified, 0815H 198th notified, 0817H, 196th will not have use of F/8th Cav.	6804_DTOC_Trans
10-Apr-68	26	1115	198th, vic BT165090, requested F/8 to come back to area where they spotted 15-20 VC at 1045H. Air strike was brought in and now they want F/8 Inf Plat inserted. Called 1/1, they are sending team back to area and are checking on whether or not they can send the reaction plat 1133H. 1/1 does not feel it feasible to insert the plat (23 men) as they feel the plat is too small to be put in the area. Passed to G-3. 1140H, G-3 determined that F/8 Inf Plat would not be used. Passed to 1/1 & 198th.	6804_DTOC_Trans
10-Apr-68	27	1110	198th, F/8, vic BT165090 at 1045H, sighted 15-20 enemy in open, wearing green uniforms, web gear & have wpns. Obs, rec'd fire (AW heavy) from area. Air strike requested, airstrike 1138H complete, 1 structure destroyed & 10 meter trench was uncovered.	6804_DTOC_Trans
10-Apr-68	42	1250	196th, D/4/3, vic AT831311 at 1240H, rec'd AW fire. Would like to have F/8 run VR in area. Passed to 1/1, 1/1 Cav stated that all ships were being used for Burlington Trail. Passed to G-3 at 1255H. G-3 disapproved request, passed to 1/1 & 196th at 1256H.	6804_DTOC_Trans
10-Apr-68	61	1516	1/1, F/8 Cav, vic BT190175 at 1515H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
10-Apr-68	69	1609	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT195178 at 1600H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
10-Apr-68	70	1610	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT195173 at 1608H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
10-Apr-68	76	1707	196th, D/4/31, AT813318 at 1700H, unit reported receiving hvy volume of SA fire. Arty called. Request gunship support. Contacted 1/1 Cav to determine availability of F/8 Cav, 1/1 stated they were committed to Burlington Trail. 1714H, 196th notified (CPT Morris) that F/8 committed. Morris stated they would use their guns.	6804_DTOC_Trans
10-Apr-68	77	1733	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT191175 at 1730H, eng'd 1 VC, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
11-Apr-68	3	737	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT246173 at 0730H, eng'd 1 VC evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans

11-Apr-68	17	1010	196th, MAJ Bearden, called to advise TOC that their gunships were down for armament maintenance and didn't know how long it would be before they were up. Stated there was no real problem at this time since F/8 Cav was on station. Would like for us to check Avn and determine what is not committed. 1015H, Checked Avn, 1 gun at Duc Pho not committed. 1020H, advised MAJ Bearden only 1 gun available, he stated that they were still attempting to get theirs up at this time.	6804_DTOC_Trans
11-Apr-68	19	1020	196th, B/4/31, AT805305 at 0910, pinned down w/SA and AW fire, heavy team from F/8 Cav on station. Res: 1 US KHA, 4 US WHA. MTF.	6804_DTOC_Trans
11-Apr-68	36	1255	198th, 1/6, BT216138 at 1243H, F/8 obs 1 VN MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
11-Apr-68	66	1656	1/1, F/8, BT195155, 1 VC w/wpn evading. 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
11-Apr-68	71	1715	1/1, F/8, BT195162 at 1715H, eng'd 1 VC evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
12-Apr-68	9	0725	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT197141 at 0700H, 2 MAM w/wpns eng'd. Res: 2 VC KIA, cannot recover wpns at this time.	6804_DTOC_Trans
12-Apr-68	26	1010	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT214245 at 1000H, eng'd 2 VC w/wpns evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
12-Apr-68	27	1010	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT183154 at 1007H, eng'd 1 VC evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
12-Apr-68	37	1144	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT175175 (BT), 1145H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
12-Apr-68	41	1207	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT185144, 8 MAM evading, eng'd, res: 2 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
12-Apr-68	48	1245	198th, LT Bibb, ASAP, request assistance from F/8 Cav, reason: continuing sniper fire causing hindrance to unit. Instruction: to come up on Kansas command push vic Hill 218 for further instruction. 1245H, 1/1 notified, they are using F/8 in a contact. 1/1 will present request to G-3 when he lands at 1/1. 1310H, 198th cancelled their request.	6804_DTOC_Trans
12-Apr-68	74	1640	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT169136 at 1355H, 1 gunship rec'd 2 hits, neg WHA, returned to Hill 29, not flyable, hits were taken in rotor blade.	6804_DTOC_Trans
12-Apr-68	89	2045	196th, request for Blue Ghost. 1st one. Type mission; VR. Time on station: 0900H. Contact Maverick on 818333. His command, 44.15 working w/Maverick, Bronco area to the UR 7932, 7933, 8033, 8132, 8133. 2nd request: Type mission: VR and screen. Duration: 1-2 hrs working w/Maverick on 44.15 on 873353 area to the VR: 9039, 9038, 9138, 9239. Request for 0730H. Passed on to 1/1 at 2045H.	6804_DTOC_Trans
13-Apr-68	8	0735	198th, TOC, BT191144, request gunships to support B/1/6 who has been receiving sniper fire since 0635H. Request the ships come up on 1/6 alt command push. 198th has sent their 2 gunships to 196th AO to support a CA. 0736H, called 1/1 for F/8 Cav. 0737H, notified by Avn that 2 guns are on the way from Duc Pho. 0740H, 1/1 called to say an F/8 ship has been shot down, they are using all available craft to cover it, but cannot send any ships. 0742H, notified 198th, they will use gunships which are on the way from Duc Pho.	6804_DTOC_Trans

13-Apr-68	13	0230	196th, requests F/8 Cav for VR for 2-1/2 hours beginning 0640H. Area: BT1020, 1030, 2020, 2030. Friendly position: BT1323, enemy probably to NE, contact Cedar Mountain A 61.2, Cedar Mountain B 57.7, 0430H, directed 1/1 to have F/8 Cav fly this mission weather permitting.	6804_DTOC_Trans
13-Apr-68	21	0745	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT172253 at 0745H, have a helicopter down at BT1725 from ground fire. MTF. 0802H: ship down was a LOH due to transmission failure. Hvy damage but believed repairable, in process of extraction. Crew is OK. 0815H: 1/1 will have to cancel their VR for 196th while they secure the downed craft. They are able to partially run it, as they are circling the downed craft in the general vicinity of the desired VR. The ships are drawing ground fire from 600 meters to the north. 0837H: LOH that is down was hit by ground fire. MTF. 1040H: 1/1 C&C rec'd 1 hit while flying near downed chopper.	6804_DTOC_Trans
13-Apr-68	51	1400	196th, BTOC, request for F/8 Cav VR mission, on station 140900H for 2 hours. Grid: 0036-0136, working with 2/1, B Co on cmd freq, 35.55, M-246. Passed to 1/1 at 1403H. Not a mission request. To be based solely on availability of acft.	6804_DTOC_Trans
13-Apr-68	71	1635	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT171253 at 0815H, 1 MAM evading, 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
13-Apr-68	72	1645	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT172255, ref journal entry #21. Chopper rec'd 1 rd in tail causing rotary blade to stop. 2 WHA (minor).	6804_DTOC_Trans
14-Apr-68	32	1230	196th, CPT Spohn, AT7932, request F/8 Cav for screen for B/4/31 on B push for 1 hour. Had an airstrike and arty in yesterday. Going in to check area. Want F/8 Cav to screen along river. Request mission ASAP. 1231H, passed to 1/1, to run it they will have to divert a hvy team from Burlington Trail area. 1315H, disapproved by CG. 1/1 and 196th notified.	6804_DTOC_Trans
14-Apr-68	36	1337	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT231219 at 1335H, eng'd 2 VC evading, res: 2 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
14-Apr-68	52	1645	196th, TOC, request VR mission 150800 for 2 hrs, AT7934, AT7933, AT8033, AT8034, AT8035, will be working with 4/31, come up on freq M.822, friendly loc AT7933. Request for F/8 Cav. 1650H, passed to 1/1, last priority mission. 196th notified.	6804_DTOC_Trans
14-Apr-68	56	1751	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT171131 at 1750H, eng'd 1 VC w/wpn evading, res: 1 VC KIA, cannot recover wpn.	6804_DTOC_Trans
14-Apr-68	57	1753	11th, Aero Scouts 4/3, BS457710 at 1250H, detained 1 VCS, initial interrogation reveals he was Asst Hamlet Chief, Trung Phoc (BS464767).	6804_DTOC_Trans
15-Apr-68	6	0840	1/1, F/8 Cav, at 0700H vic BT189170, UH1C rec'd 3 hits, not flyable, acft is located at 1/1 base camp.	6804_DTOC_Trans
15-Apr-68	7	0840	1/1, F/8 Cav, at 0730H vic BT191167, UH1C rec'd 2 hits, not flyable, acft is located at 1/1 base camp.	6804_DTOC_Trans

15-Apr-68	23	1145	196th, BTOC, request F/8 Cav hvy team to screen for B&D Co's, 4/31, vic AT7932, come up on 4/31 cmd freq, ASAP. 1/1 could not provide hvy team but may have a light team. 196th said they would take a light team and augment with 1 gunship. 1/1 did not have a team that was not committed. G-3 said not to send F/8 Cav, inform 196th to use their own guns for mission if they needed more guns, we would send them when requested. CPT Morris, 196th notified, 1/1 notified.	6804_DTOC_Trans
15-Apr-68	63	2200	196th, B/4/31, Blue Ghost request, time on station, 0930H. Duration unk. Mission: screening. Area: BT7933, 7934,7935, 8034, 8035. Contact Maverick Bravo on 44.15. Friendly positions: BT794340. Enemy's unk. Passed request to1/1 Cav at 2203H. At 2205H, 1/1 Cav stated they would run mission at 2211H. Above info passed to CPT Friedman, 196th.	6804_DTOC_Trans
16-Apr-68	42	1508	1/1, F/8 Cav, at 1505H vic BT238246, obs & eng'd 1 MAM evading. Res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
16-Apr-68	43	1521	1/1, F/8 Cav, at 1515H vic BT232229, obs & eng'd 1 MAM evading. Res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
16-Apr-68	47	1628	1/1, F/8 Cav, vic BT233229 at 1625H, eng'd 2 VC, res: 2 VC KIA (C).	6804_DTOC_Trans
16-Apr-68	58	1750	196th, request Light team F/8 Cav, report to vic BT043223, 3/21 cmd push. Target: VC in open, 1/1 Cav told to send light team to marry up with 196th gunship. 1805H: 1/1 called, team on the way.	6804_DTOC_Trans
17-Apr-68	9	0930	Tam Ky (CPT Stewart), reported that a helicopter had picked up a VN vic BT263237 and did not coordinate with ARVN. They desire to know what unit picked up VN. Called 1/1, F/8 Cav picked up a VN at BT200248 and later released him as an IC. F/8 Cav said VN had been waving at them. Info passed to SGT Henry, Tam Ky.	6804_DTOC_Trans
17-Apr-68	30	1403	1/1, F/8 Cav, at 1400H vic BT188250, eng'd 1 VC evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
17-Apr-68	44	1700	1/1, F/8 Cav, 1656H vic BT171175, eng'd 1 VC evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
18-Apr-68	34	1513	1/1, F/8 Cav, 1510H vic BT190473, eng'd 1 VC evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
18-Apr-68	36	1530	1/1, F/8 Cav,1530H vic BT158498, eng'd 1 MAM evading. Res: 1 VC KIA. Credited to 196th as in their AO.	6804_DTOC_Trans
18-Apr-68	41	1722	1/1, F/8 Cav, 1720H vic BT217431, eng'd 2 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
18-Apr-68	43	1734	1/1, F/8 Cav, 1730H vic BT217431, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
18-Apr-68	45	1745	1/1, F/8 Cav, 1740H vic BT220428, eng'd 1 MAM, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
18-Apr-68	46	1754	1/1, F/8 Cav, 1750H vic BT226220, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
18-Apr-68	52	1856	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT324309 at 1850H, 1 VC eng'd, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans

19-Apr-68	5	0810	1/1, CPT Cronan, 0810H, request AO ext from BT138408 along river to BT123370, E along 37 EW line to 2nd ARVN boundary, N along boundary to BT138408. Want this ext from time approved until 192000H as F/8 Cav has spotted suspected enemy in the area. Want to send F/8 into the area. Passed to 196th at 0840H, at 0820H passed to 1/1 to get approval from Thang Binh. Cancelled by 1/1 0845H. Passed to 196th.	6804_DTOC_Trans
19-Apr-68	6	0820	1/1, F/8 Cav, vic BT154348 at 0814H, eng'd 1 VC evading, res: 1 VC KIA (C).	6804_DTOC_Trans
19-Apr-68	40	1412	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT178245 at 1405H, LOH acft rec'd 20 rds SA fire, pilot hit in leg. Will evac. A/C not flyable, secured by C/1/1. Will lift out.	6804_DTOC_Trans
19-Apr-68	50	1635	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT230252 at 1635H, eng'd 1 VC, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
19-Apr-68	54	1645	1/1, B/1/1, BT209140 at 1610H, eng'd est enemy plat. Res: B/1/1, 7 VC KIA, 2 IWC (1xAK-44 SN 39991). 1 SKS (SN 1009164). F/8 Cav: 6 VC KIA. C/1/6: 12 VC KIA, 3 IWC (1xAK-44 SN J12517, 1xChicom carbine SN 3322A72, 1x.45 cal pistol SN 179701).	6804_DTOC_Trans
19-Apr-68	77	2400	Opns Summary: Americal Div units cont'd combat opns. Realignment of forces and movement of the 196th Inf Bde N. In Opn Wheeler/Wallowa the 196th Inf Bde cont'd movement N with 4th Bn, 31st Inf and A/3/82 Arty completing their air move to Camp Evans at 1400H, and becoming OPCON to 1st ACD. 2d Bn, 1st Inf moved from vic LZ Ross (BT027342) to LZ Baldy (BT133453) closing 1755H. C/3/82 Arty moved from LZ Ross to LZ Baldy closing 1455H. The 1st Bn, 20th Inf (-) moved from Nghia Hanh (BS615640) to LZ Ross closing 1543H and assumed OPCON of 2d Bn, 1st Inf AO as of 1720H. The 2d convoy from the 196th Inf Bde departed LZ Baldy at 1330H and closed DaNang at 1700H. In Opn Burlington Trail, at 1610H B/1/1 Cav vic BT209140 became engaged with an est VC plat. C/1/6 and F/8 Cav joined the contact, resulting in 25 VC KIA (C), 5 IWC, 1 US WHA (minor). Contact was broken at 1755H. A 2d ARVN Div 50 vehicle convoy departed Tam Ky from Tien Phuoc at 0945H and made the round trip closing Tam Ky at 1810H without significant incident. In Opn Muscatine & the Duc Pho AO there were 7 BT incidents and 1 mine incident resulting in friendly casualties of 3 KHA, 18 WHA (evac) & 4 WHA (minor). Opn Norfolk Victory was terminated at 1800H after the movement of 1/20 Inf (-) to LZ Ross and B/6/11 Arty movement from Nghia Hanh to LZ Sue (BS565877) closing 1337H. In the Duc Pho AO, B/4/21 Inf was moved from Chu Lai to LZ Charlie Brown (BS932222), closing at 1045H. Americal Div Totals: 3 KHA, 20 WHA (E), 9 WHA (M), 49 VC KIA, 11 IWC.	6804_DTOC_Trans
20-Apr-68	5	753	1/1, F/8 Cav, 0750H vic BT195175, eng'd 1 VC evading, w/pack and wpn. Res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
20-Apr-68	10	850	Tam Ky, report gunship firing rockets vic BT2422. Checking with Div AVNO and 1/1 Cav. 1/1 stated it was an acft from F/8 Cav on a snatch mission, fired smoke, not rockets, but have pulled out of area now. Relayed to Tam Ky 0858H.	6804_DTOC_Trans
20-Apr-68	65	1802	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT216444 at 1756H, eng'd 4 MAM w/uniforms & wpns, res: 2 NVA KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
21-Apr-68	4	0805	1/1, F/8 Cav, 0800H vic BT192464, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans

21-Apr-68	14	0950	1/1, TOC, 0830H, requested AO ext into ROK AO for F/8 Cav elements only. Reason: 18-20 VC evaded into this area, there are more than that in that location. AO ext: from boundary at BT140507, NE along S bank of river to BT167526,	6804_DTOC_Trans
21-Apr-68			then S along W bank of river to boundary at BT168496. Time: ASAP until 211800H. ROK's approved: CPT Coggershall. III MAF approved: LTC Schoening. Passed to 1/1 Cav 0944H.	6804_DTOC_Trans
21-Apr-68	24	1132	1/1, F/8 Cav, inf plat inserted 1100H vic BT2542. 1215H: Inf plat extracted.	6804_DTOC_Trans
21-Apr-68	49	1830	1/1, F/8 Cav, 1735H vic BT155552, acft took 1 hit, 75-100 rds fired. 1815H: rec'd 15 to 20 more rds.	6804_DTOC_Trans
21-Apr-68	55	1830	1/1 Cav, CG gave approval to destroy enemy location between BT155522 and BT165520. 1/1 Cav (F/8 Cav) rec'd fire from area. Was village area and they spotted 50 MAM in green uniforms. Requested air strike on village area. CG contacted and approved air strike. CG directed that area be checked in morning. Passed approval to 1/1 Cav. 198th will have area tomorrow to check. They were informed of request to check area.	6804_DTOC_Trans
22-Apr-68	6	0807	1/1, F/8 Cav, 0800H vic BT221439, eng'd 2 VC evading, res: 2 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
22-Apr-68	7	0807	1/1, F/8 Cav, 0800H vic BT205472, eng'd 1 VC evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
22-Apr-68	9	0840	1/1, F/8 Cav, 0830H vic BT290348, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
22-Apr-68	10	0840	1/1, F/8 Cav, 0830H vic BT295339, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
22-Apr-68	11	0840	1/1, F/8 Cav, 0830H vic BT245162, eng'd 3 MAM evading, res: 3 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
22-Apr-68	12	0846	1/1, F/8 Cav, 0845H vic BT245162, eng'd 2 MAM evading, res: 2 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
22-Apr-68	29	1045	1/1, TOC, have AO ext approved by 2d ARVN and from CG, from BT227172 to BT260189 to BT260150. F/8 Cav spotted movement in area. Time of ext 221000H - 221800H Apr 68.	6804_DTOC_Trans
22-Apr-68	42	1430	1/1, F/8 Cav, 1425H vic BT175472, eng'd 1 VC, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
22-Apr-68	43	1430	1/1, F/8 Cav, 1305H vic BT228444, eng'd 1 VC, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans

22-Apr-68	63	2400	Opns Summary: Americal Div units cont'd combat opns in zone w/light contact reported & cont'd realignment of forces. In Opn Wheeler/Wallowa, 3/21 Inf (-) was moved from their AO to LZ Baldy (BT113453) and then moved to Camp Evans. Approx 68 pax and misc equipment remain to be moved. Task Force Manassas was formed and assumed responsibility for the 3/21 AO with the movement of A, B, & C, 1st Bn/6th Inf from Opn Burlington Trail to Opn Wheeler/Wallowa. TF Manassas operates with A, B, & C Co's and Rcn Plt 1st Bn/6th Inf. In Opn Burlington Trail, A/1/52 was air moved from the Chu Lai TAOR to LZ Bowman (BT239142). The 1st Bn/6th Inf now operates in the southern portion of the opn area with A/1/52, A & D 1/46, & D Co 1/6. The 1/1 Cav (-) with F/8 Cav in support continues operations in the northern portion of the AO. In the Chu Lai TAOR, A/1/14 Arty moved from LZ Chippewa (BS485967) to LZ Gator (BS578961) closing at0940H. In the Opn Wheeler/Wallowa, B/1/52 CA'd at 0842H to vic BT1652 and conducted opns to the SW. Americal Div totals: 1 KHA, 8 WHA (evac), 10 WHA (minor), 28 VC KIA, 5 IWC.	6804_DTOC_Trans
23-Apr-68	82	1403	1/1, F/8 Cav, vic BT183178 at 1400H, eng'd 1 VC evading, res: 1 VC KIA (C).	6804_DTOC_Trans
23-Apr-68	93	1717	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT184184 at 0830H, eng'd 1 VC, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
25-Apr-68	6	0804	1/1, F/8 Cav, vic BT158327 at 0800H, obs 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
25-Apr-68	10	0903	1/1, F/8 Cav, vic BT181230 at 0855H, eng'd 1 VC, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
25-Apr-68	11	0905	1/1, F/8 Cav, vic BT162240 at 0900H, eng'd 1 VC, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
25-Apr-68	12	0920	1/1, F/8 Cav, vic BT201201 at 0918H, obs 1 MAM evading, eng'd, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
25-Apr-68	15	0946	198th, TOC, vic BT141423 at 0945H, obs unk no. VC in open w/wpns. Requested team from F/8 Cav to cover the area because their guns were supporting the LRRP insertion. 1/52 CO was in a C&C on freq 65.2, closest friendly troops at BT138424. 1/1 Cav approved and sent troops at 0947H.	6804_DTOC_Trans
25-Apr-68	23	1136	1/1, F/8 Cav, vic BT169471 at 1120H, obs & eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA (C).	6804_DTOC_Trans
25-Apr-68	41	1459	198th, A/1/6, BT104216 at 1440H, in contact, receiving M-79 fire, have 1 WHA. Dustoff requested. Requests gunships for contact mission. 1/1 Cav contacted and dispatched F/8 Cav hvy team. Broke contact at 1500H.	6804_DTOC_Trans
25-Apr-68	58	1731	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT223445 at 1825H, eng'd 1 VC, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
26-Apr-68	40	1113	1/1, F/8 Cav, vic BT190178 at 1110H, eng'd 1 VC, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
26-Apr-68	48	1410	1/1, F/8 Cav, at 1410H vic BT156226, obs 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
26-Apr-68	58	1620	1/1, F/8 Cav, vic BT176215 at 1612H, obs 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans

26-Apr-68	63	1650	1/1, F/8 Cav, vic BT156243 at 1630H, gunship rec'd 1 hit, 1 WHA (minor), aircraft went back to 1/1 to be checked.	6804_DTOC_Trans
27-Apr-68	8	857	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT179174 at 0845H, eng'd 1 VC evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
27-Apr-68	28	1502	1/1, F/8 Cav, vic BT224444 at 1500H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
28-Apr-68	29	1136	1/1, F/8 Cav, vic BT142501 at 1130H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
28-Apr-68	37	1100	(delayed entry) 1/1 Cav, AO ext request. BT1229 S to BT1227, E to BT1627, 1/1 boundary to BT152290 then W along 29 GL to BT1229, from 1200H to 1900H. Intel report of enemy activity. Turned down by 198th because A/1/6 was to be in area. Arranged however to have F/8 Cav work in area under contact of TF Manassas. Passed to 198th and 1/1 Cav.	6804_DTOC_Trans
28-Apr-68	41	1335	1/1, F/8 Cav, vic BT170278 at 1239H, eng'd 1 VC evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
28-Apr-68	42	1340	198th, F/8 Cav, vic BT128272 at 1326H, eng'd 1 VC evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
28-Apr-68	54	1646	1/1, f/8 Cav, vic BT128337 at 1644H, 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
28-Apr-68	57	1727	1/1, F/8 Cav, vic BT204242 at 1721H, eng'd 1 VC evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
28-Apr-68	59	1758	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT335315 at 1755H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
29-Apr-68	24	1102	1/1, F/8 Cav, vic BT249423 at 1100H, eng'd 1 VC evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
29-Apr-68	47	1530	1/1, F/8 Cav, vic BT173291 at 1525H, eng'd 1 VC, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
30-Apr-68	12	0741	1/1, F/8 Cav, vic BT201153 at 0735H, eng'd 1 MAM, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
30-Apr-68	13	0741	1/1, F/8 Cav, vic BT184272 at 0740H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
30-Apr-68	21	0947	(delayed entry) 1/1, F/8 Cav, vic BT337268 at 0945H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
30-Apr-68	22	0951	9delayed entry) 1/1, F/8 Cav, vic BT332270 at 0950H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
30-Apr-68	25	1014	1/1, F/8 Cav, vic BT346273 at 1010H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
30-Apr-68	26	1025	1/1, F/8 Cav, vic BT308269 at 1020H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
30-Apr-68	28	1030	1/1, F/8 Cav, vic BT320276 at 1026H, eng'd 1 VC, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
30-Apr-68	29	1030	1/1, F/8 Cav, vic BT351265 at 1025H, eng'd 1 VC, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans

30-Apr-68	38	1057	1/1, F/8 Cav, vic BT355263 at 0955H, 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
30-Apr-68	39	1059	1/1, F/8 Cav, obs unk number sampans with 400 MAM. 1/1 wanted us to notify Swift Boats. Sampans at BT3727 & 3529. F/8 Cav on station. Swift Boats will come up on 1/1 freq.	6804_DTOC_Trans
30-Apr-68	65	1540	1/1, F/8 Cav, vic BT145485 at 1535H, eng'd 1 VC, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
30-Apr-68	68	1630	1/1, F/8 Cav, vic BT181248 at 1340H, fired a M-79 at a bunker, rec'd shrapnel from explosion, res: 1 WHA (M).	6804_DTOC_Trans
30-Apr-68	76	1815	1/1, F/8 Cav, vic BT330318 at 1810H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6804_DTOC_Trans
30-Apr-68	91	2400	Opns Summary: Americal Div units cont'd combat opns in zone w/light contact reported. In Opn Wheeler/Wallowa, D/1/52 conducted a CA at 1033H to vic T27513 with a hot LZ and conducted opns to the SW. Gunships supporting the opn eng'd an unk number of VC vic BT125514 at 1009H resulting in 14 VC KIA. D Co was extracted at 1603H and CA into another hot LZ at 1735H vic BT097478. The CA by D/1/20 was again cancelled due to poor weather. In Opn Burlington Trail, at 0205H LZ Bowman (BT239142) rec'd an attack with HG's and RPG fire, contact ceased at approx. 0400H with 4 VC KIA, 1 RPG and 1 AK-47 CIA, 7 US WHA (evac), 1 WHA (minor). F/8 Cav from 0730H to 1030H vic BT3327 eng'd and killed 8 VC. In Opn Muscatine, A/5/46 CA at 1156H to BS715915 with a clod LZ. Americal Div results as of 2100H: 43 VC KIA, 2 NVA KIA, 4 IWC, 1 CSWC. Americal Division Totals: 13 WHA (evac), 13 WHA (minor), 1 NBW, 43 VC KIA, 2 NVA KIA, 5 IWC, 1 CSWC.	6804_DTOC_Trans

These are the Americal Division S2/S3 entries for May 1968 using a filter select:

unit	Date	Entry	Text
F/8	680501	25	1/1, F-8 Cav vic BT177233 at 1130H obs'd and Eng'd 2 VC evading. Res: 2 VC KIA
F/8	680501	33	1/1, F-8th Cav vic BT183326 at 1220H eng'd 1 VC. Res: 1 VC KIA
F/8	680501	46	1/1, F-8 Cav vic BT159171 at 1506H 1 MAM evading. Res: 1 VC KIA
F/8	680501	47	1/1, F-8 Cav vic BT181343 at 1550H eng'd 1MAM evading. Res: 1 VC KIA
F/8	680502	3	1/1, F-8 Cav vic BT191142 at 0720H eng'd 1 VC. Res: 1 VC KIA
F/8	680502	13	1/1, Sgt Heres, Request AO Ext fm boundary at BT138506 along river NE to BT150532 then follow river NE to BT190550, south along 19 NS Grid line to BT190485. Request from 021100 – 02200H. Want Ext to send F-8 Cav to check area for targets. Also have ground element that can be sent in against enemy. Passed to 2d ROK MAR BDE. Approved 1010H. Approved by COL Galloway, passed to 1/1 Cav
F/8	680502	19	1/1, F-8 Cav vic BT164170 at 1055H 1 MAM evading. Res: 1 VC KIA
F/8	680502	20	1/1, F-8 Cav vic BT153179 at 1140H eng'd 1 VC evading. Res: 1 VC KIA
F/8	680502	24	1/1, F-8 Cav vic BT258389 at 1300H eng'd 1 MAM evading. Res: 1 VC KIA
F/8	680502	30	1/1 Cav vic BT175970 at 1430H Info Plat fm F-8 Cav inserted at 1430H vic BT175340 to search for rice
F/8	680502	39	1/1, F-8 Cav vic BT175333 at 1615H found 2000 lbs rice in a hut, will evac as much as possible.1755H 1000 lbs evac, rest dest
F/8	680502	48	1/1, F-8 Cav, BT345296 at 1830H eng 1 VC. Res: 1 VC KIA.
F/8	680503	3	1/1 Cav, F-8 vic BT254399 at 0815H obs'd 1 MAM evading. Res: 1 VC KIA
F/8	680503	6	Delayed Entry: 1/1, F-8 Cav vic BT240464 at 0842H obs'd 1 MAM evading. Res: 1 VC KIA
F/8	680503	16	1/1, F-8 Cav, vic BT163229 at 1055H eng'd 1 MAM evading. Res: 1 VC KIA
F/8	680503	44	1/1, F-8 vic BT199480 at 1545H eng'd 1 MAM Evading: Res 1 VC KIA
F/8	680503	59	(Delayed) 1/1, F-8, BT202453 at 1645H recd sniper fire fm 3 or 4 loc. AW fire. 12 MAM evaded into bnkr. Calling for air strike – approved.
F/8	680504	6	1/1, F-8 vic BT189470 at 0800H eng'd 1 VC evading. Res: 1 VC KIA
F/8	680504	7	1/1, F-8 Cav vic BT183116 at 0840H eng'd 1 MAM evading. Res: 1 VC KIA (ref journal #7 BT165178 is the correct coord)
F/8	680504	11	1/1, F-8 vic BT175139 at 0855H eng'd 1 VC evading. Res: 1 VC KIA
F/8	680504	13	1/1, F-8 Cav vic BT198458 at 0930H eng'd 4 MAM evading. Res: 4 VC KIA
F/8	680504	31	1/1, F-8 Cav vic BT200460 at 1335H eng'd (cont) 1 MAM evading. Res: 1 VC KIA
F/8	680504	42	1/1, F-8 Cav at 0840H ref journal #7 BT165178 is the correct coord
F/8	680505	142	1/1, F-8 vic BT152316 at 0840H 2 MAM, Res: 2 VC KIA
F/8	680505	150	1/1, AO request for period: ASAP – 082400H fm BT190134 South to BT190120 East to BT210120 North to BT210148. Reason: F-8 Cav obs'd any VC/NVA in above area. Will move B-1-1 into area w/F-8 Cav. Map posted, 198th notified at 0904H. 1005 approved by G3- 1010- approved by 198, passed to 1/1
F/8	680505	152	1/1, TOC request immediate AO Ext of grids 1535 and 1536 as F/8 spotted VC/NVA in area. passed to 198. 1/1 clearing through Thang Binh. (cont) approved by G3 at 1005H, at 1015H approved by 198th, passed to 1/1
F/8	680505	158	1/1, F-8 (Inf Plat) vic BT214254 at 1020H inserted inf plat vic above coord with ARVN approval to engage VC that fired on 3d plat of B-1-1

F/8	680505	161	1/1, F-8 vic BT214254 at 1022H obs'd 1 MAM w/web gear, wpnd and pack evading. NVA dropped equip and got away. CIA: SKS Rifle, 1 x NVA canteen, 1 x Chicom HG, Medic Kit, NVA belt, rice rations, pack
F/8	680505	162	1/1, F-8 Cav vic BT200254 at 1106H eng'd 1 VC, Res 1 VC KIA
F/8	680505	178	1/1, F-8 Inf Plat vic BT220250 at 1400H Inf Plat extracted from above coord to Hill 29 at 1400H
F/8	680505	179	Delayed Entry: 198th, 1 slick from 176th Avn down at BT080249 and 1 gun from 71st Avn down at BT075248. F/8 sent one hvy tm to area and rec'd fire and hits. both ships burned. 3 KHA and 7 MHA from slick, 1 WHA (E) and 3 WHA (M) from gun – WHA's evac SEE ENTRY 171
F/8	680505	180	Delayed Entry: 1/1 F-8 Cav vic BT173134 at 1127 A/C took some hits. Res; 3 WHA (M). A/C still flyable. 1300H A/C back at 1/1 loc and is not flyable at this time, A/C took 12 hits (correction to grid location should be BT062260)
F/8	680505	181	1/1, F-8 vic BT075248 at 1145H 2 A/C in the area where other A/C are down rec'd approx 6 hits each, both A/C flyable
F/8	680505	187	1/1, F-8 Cav vic BT236432 at 1450H 1 MAM evading. Res 1 VC KIA
F/8	680505	188	1/1, F-8 Cav vic BT251403 at 1415H 1 MAM evading. Res: 1 VC KIA
F/8	680505	196	1/1, F-8 Cav vic BT220254 at 1555H eng'd 1 VC evading. Res: 1 VC KIA
F/8	680505	199	1/1, F-8 Cav at 1127H ref journal #180 change coord to read BT062260
F/8	680505	230	1-1, F-8, BT0625 at 1800H A/C recd gnd fire. Res: 2 WHA(evac).
F/8	680506	36	1/1, F-8 vic BT185223 at 0710H eng'd 2 MAM evading. Res: 2 NVA KIA
F/8	680506	38	1/1, F-8 vic BT185223 at 0730H UH-1C rec'd 2 or 3 AW hits. Res: 1 WHA (M) (leg wound). Called for Airstrike against force estimated to be an en Co (-). Approved by G3, firing arty, will check area after airstrike.
F/8	680506	54	1/1, F-8 Cav vic BT169251 at 1110H eng'd 1 VC. Res: 1 VC KIA
F/8	680506	71	1/1, F-8 Cav vic BT169251 at 1140H eng'd 2 MAM evading. Res: 2 VC KIA
F/8	680506	77	1/1, F-8 Cav vic BT176123 at 1605H eng'd 3 MAM evading. Res: 2 VC KIA. Individuals had packs, pistol belts and wpns, could not recover wpns
F/8	680506	104	1/1, F-8 Cav, BT159245 at 1305H eng 3 VC evading into bunkers. Res: 1 VC KIA.
F/8	680507	7	1/1, B-1-1 vic BT189158 at 0320H Perimeter rec'd mortars and SA fire. 0335H they have 1 WHA (E), still receiving mortar and SA fire, no evidence of ground attack. Mortars fired from BT193149. 0317H rec'd 20 x rds 82mm - 1 WHA (E), 1 WHA(M), no SA fire. Gunships took a little fire from the ground at 0420H (cont) lead gunship took a hit and has to pull out. 0428H will have to scramble F-8 ships. 0440H did not scramble ships. change 1 WHA to 1 KHA. Rec'd a total of 40 rds of mortar fire throughout the morning.
F/8	680507	15	1/1, F-8 Cav vic BT189250 at 0740H eng'd 1 VC evading. Res: 1 VC KIA
F/8	680507	25	1/1, at 0940H rec'd sniper and AW fire at the following coords: BT122321 (F-8), BT174315 (C-1-1), BT179310 (C-1-1), BT185215 (F-8)
F/8	680507	80	1/1, F-8 Cav, BT204235 at 1755H A/C recd 60-75 rds AW fire. Neg hits. Trying to get air strike on loc now.
F/8	680508	24	1/1 TOC – request AO Ext from 198th in the TF Manassas AO be extended to the South one grid all the away across. drop from 30 EW grid line to 29 EW grid line as there is AW fire coming from that area. F/8 rec'd 50 to 75 rds of AW fire. C-1-1 moving toward the fire-BT112303. Passed to G3 and 198th. 1035H approved by 198th. passed to 1/1 and FSE.
F/8	680508	51	1/1, F-8 vic BT2244438 at 1735H eng'd 1 MAM evading. Res: 1 VC KIA

F/8	680508	78	1/1, F-8 Cav, BT240450 at 1845H recd 100 rds AW fire. Thought to be .50 cal. 1 A/C hit. Flew back to Chu Lai. 1 hit in tail rotor. 5 struc dest.
F/8	680509	9	1/1, F-8 vic BT175171 at 0725H eng'd 1 MAM evading. Res: 1 VC KIA
F/8	680509	12	1/1, F-8 Cav vic BT190172 at 0745H eng'd 1 VC evading. Res: 1 VC KIA
F/8	680509	16	1/1, F-8 Cav vic BT223445 at 0850H eng'd 1 VC evading. Res"1 VC KIA
F/8	680509	17	1/1, F-8 Cav vic BT168442 at 0905H eng'd 1 VC evading. Res: 1 VC KIA
F/8	680509	20	1/1, F-8 Cav vic BT185476 at 0947H eng'd 1 MAM evading. Res: 1 VC KIA
F/8	680509	21	1/1, F-8 Cav vic BT193485 at 0950H eng'd 1 MAM evading. Res 1 VC KIA
F/8	680509	22	1/1, F-8 Cav vic BT103303 at 1000H eng'd 1 MAM evading. Res: 1 VC KIA
F/8	680509	23	Delayed Entry: 1/1 – request AO Ext from BT 160500 N to BT160520 E to BT230520 S along boundary – from time approved to 102400H May 68. Have spotted 40-50 MAM evading North and rec'd fire, F-8 returned fire. Passed to 2d ROK Bde for approval and to G3. Approved by 2d ROK at 0952. Approved by CG, passed to 1/1, Msg sent to III MAF
F/8	680509	30	1/1, F-8 vic BT1794 at 1030H sand and dest 15 sampans
F/8	680509	32	1/1, F-8 vic BT104306 at 1045H eng'd 1 MAM evading. Res: 1 VC KIA, was wearing khaki uniform
F/8	680509	34	1/1, F-8 vic BT213516 at 1055H eng'd 1 VC evading. Res: 1 VC KIA
F/8	680509	40	1/1, F-8 Cav vic BT213316 at 1115H eng'd 2 MAM evading. Res: 2 VC KIA
F/8	680509	42	1/1, F-8 Cav vic BT092299 at 1145H eng'd 1 VC evading. Res: 1 VC KIA
F/8	680509	50	1/1, F-8 Cav/C-1-1 vic BT113291 at 1330H eng'd 6 MAM evading. Res: 4 VC KIA (2 C – 2 F) 2 det. CIA 1 x M1 Carbine #626457
F/8	680509	62	1/1, F-8, BT092333 at 1620H eng 1 VC. Res: 1 VC KIA.
F/8	680509	67	1/1, F-8 Cav, BT113291 at 1330H add 1 VC KIA. Total: 5 VC KIA, 1 IWC, 2 det. Ref Journal Entry #50.
F/8	680511	39	1/1, F-8 vic BT186303 at 1025H eng's 1 VC. Res: 1 VC KIA
F/8	680511	73	TOC – LTC Baxley directed that 2 guns, F-8 Cav be dispatched to Kham Duc immediately. 1/1 Cav notified and msg acknowledged
F/8	680511	104	1-1, F-8 Cav, F-8 gunship arrived at Kham Duc.
F/8	680512	19	1/1, F-8 Cav vic BT178282 at 0920H eng'd 1 VC evading/ Res"1 VC KIA/ C-1-1 has rec'd sniper fire and 4 rds RPG fire from above coord, are sweeping area now
F/8	680512	49	2/1st Inf, F-8 Cav – one gunship shot down at Kham Duc. Dusto off able to get people out
F/8	680512	61	1/1, F-8 Cav vic BT178289 at 1035H eng'd 1 VC. res: 1 VC KIA
F/8	680512	91	1/1, F-8 Cav, 1510H vic BT180289, eng'd 1 NVA evading. REs: 1 NVA KIA.
F/8	680513	33	1/1, F-8, vic BT150290 at 1255H eng'd 1 MAM Res: 1 VC KIA
F/8	680513	39	1/1, F-8 Cav vic BT135295 at 1345H eng'd 1 NVA in green uniform and web gear. Res: 1 NVA KIA
F/8	680513	70	1/1, F-8 BT196303 at 1835H eng 1 VC. Res: 1 VC KIA.
F/8	680513	81	1/1, S2, at 1922H 1 VC PW captured by F-8 Cav at 1759H, 15 May 68 [sic], BT140313. Investigation revealed Source was part of 1st VC Regt. said 31st NVA Regt operating vic BT0527 to 1227. Interrogation continues.
F/8	680514	2	1/1, F-8 Cav vic BT178297 at 0710H 2 MAM evading Res: 2 VC KIA
F/8	680514	33	1/1, F-8 vic BT133283 at 1225H eng'd 2 NVA. Res: 1 NVA KIA, 1 NVA WIA/CIA. Both had wpns and wore web gear and khaki uniforms. Unit is looking for wpns now
F/8	680514	34	1/1 – ref journal entry #33 – change NVA to read VC

F/8	680514	55	196th, Maj Logan, requests a tm fm Blue Ghost to cover the sweep tm on Rt 535 between LZ Baldy and LZ Ross fm 0700 to 0830. Fm Baldy to BT087389 they are to be on Ranger 33 push of 65,20; fm BT087389 to Ross they are to be on Cougar 33 push of 56,25. Passed to G-3.
F/8	680514	58	196th, Sgt Kenmore, request F-8 Cav (2 guns) for screening mission of Hwy #535 fm 151200H- 151600H. This is for a convoy fm LZ Baldy to LZ Ross. Want them to come up on 1/52 command net and ask for Ranger 33.
F/8	680514	61	196th, S-2, request gun tm fm F-8 to fly Hwy 535 after the road sweep fm 1030 to 1200H. This is to check and see if VC will come back and lay mines after road sweep. Work on same freq and call signs as previous request. Further request and Arty obs and A/C to fly in area around FSB Center. 196th obs have not returned as yet. Would like Div Arty to provide. Kansas 33 on 67.00.
F/8	680515	30	1/1, F-8- Cav(Inf), vic 155301 at 1230 1xNVA evading 1xNVA KIA
F/8	680515	37	1/1, F-8-Cav, vic BT158298 at 1540H LOH shot down by believed AK-47 fire, 3 WHA (E) C-1-1 secured it.
F/8	680515	67	196th, SGT Kenmore, VR request for F-8 Cav 16 May 68 fm 0900H-1000H; 1600H-1700H. VR between BT1647 and BT1941 at both times. Come up on 1-52 command push, transmit to Ranger 33. SGT Kenmore needs to know ASAP if its approved. Passed to 1/1 at 1900H.
F/8	680516	3	196th, at 171520-258406 Firefly dest 47 sampans. Recd hvy SA fire, 0 hits.
F/8	680516	30	1/1 S-3 results of VR mission flown revealed neg findings along Route 1. Flight time of mission 1 hour 35 minutes
F/8	680516	36	196th requests that firefly mission be flown tonight as long as possible fm BT0520 to AT9223. In 4/31st Inf area
F/8	680516	57	1/1st F-8 Cav vic BT159290 at 1450H recd hvy AW Fire gunship shot down, C-1-1 moving to secure 1510: 1 WHA (E) 2 WHA (M) possibly 1 KHA, receiving fire from all directions. manuevering elements into area at this time cont 57: 1630: helo total loss totals of 1 US KHA, 1 US WHA (E), 2 US WHA (M) survivors recd heavy fire after helo crashed C/1/1 and 1 plat of "A" sweeping area
F/8	680516	76	196th, Lt Campbell request Fire Fly mission 52 grid S to 40 grid on inland waterway – 17 2400H. Passed to Div Avn. Call sign: Wildcat 33. Freq: 61.2 Brief Time: 2330H. Loc: LZ Baldy.
F/8	680517	7	196th vic AT919230 BT048202 at 2400 Firefly mission – neg sighting on mission AT919230 048202 drew Hvy SA fire from 4 loc between LZ Colt & way to obj area did return fire
F/8	680517	15	(delayed) 162305 196th S-2 F-8 request VR, HWy 535, 0700-0830, 1030 – 1200, LZ Baldy to BT0839, 65.90, revolver 33, BT0839 to LZ Ross, 65.25, cougar 33. If this is not possible request a slick equipped for VR flight from 0700-1200
F/8	680517	73	196th, requested Firefly misison, SE to NW along river at grids BT2640 – BT1752. Briefing at 2330H at LZ Baldy. 1/1 approves. ROK (Lt Campbell) It is clear fm 2400 to 0300 w/2 conditions. (1) TPQ10 is being flown 1800 – 0600 at BT1950. (2) Also will cut off HI and Arty. need to know when Firefly leaves ROK AO so can cont HI and Arty. Approved for 1/1 area only. Passed to 196th (Maj Bearden).
F/8	680518	16	196, firefly misison vic 194480-258400 at 2400-0100 43 sampans dest. AT BT218438 recd AW Fire & returned. Sporadic SA fire all along river. No hits
F/8	680518	19	1/1 F-8 vic BT17135s at 0940H engd 1 VC, 1 VC KIA
F/8	680518	23	196, TOC, 3-21 request F-8 Cav for VR ASAP wants him to come up on 3-21 command freq of 68.65, no contact. Enemy location suspected on Hill 330 (BT113276). Passed to 1/1. 1020H, 1/1 Cav can run the mission in 30 to 45 minutes after their Inf Plat is extracted. passed to 196

F/8	680518	40	1/1 F-8 Cav vic BT171352 at 1310 engd 1 VC evading Res: 1 VC KIA
F/8	680518	43	1/1 F-8 at 1308 inserted Inf Plat vic BT171352
F/8	680518	50	1/1 F-8 inf Plat vic BT170350 at 1345H engd 1 MAM w/HG evading Res: 1 VC KIA
F/8	680518	59	1/1, F-8 Inf vic BT172351 at 1525H F-8 Inf was extracted
F/8	680518	62	1/1 F-8 Cav vic BT151322 at 1605H obsd 1 MAM evading. Res 1 VC KIA (C)
F/8	680518	69	196th TOC request VR by F/8 CAV A-4-31 to check out BT037218. friendly elements at BT035218. FReq of 39.85 1/1 will run mission
F/8	680518	84	196th, Request for F-8 Cav –area as follows: BT0122, 0121, 0221, 0222, 0321, 0322 – VR and screen, will require hvy gun team if available. Times on sta from 0830 until 1130 – from 1230 – 1530. Friendly loc C-4-31 at AT998202, freq 66.5 A&D 4-31 at BT040260
F/8	680519	8	1/1 F-8 Cav vic BT204468 at 0910H engd 2 MAM, Green uniforms, web gear & packs, evading. Res: 2 VC KIA
F/8	680520	34	1/1 Sgt Wilhaitevic BT1528 in contact, extension request grid BT140290 south to 140270 west to 165270 time ASAP – 202000H Reason: C-1-1 received RPG rd and then F-8 received 50 Cal fire BT154289, approved by 196th, passed to 1/1 Cav
F/8	680520	41	1/1 F-8 vic BT268347 at 1440H obs 2 MAM evading, engd Res: 2 VC KIA
F/8	680520	45	1/1 F-8 vic BT154289 at 1445H A gunship recd 15 rds of 50 Cal and 30 rds AK-47. took 2 hits. gunship enroute back to Chu Lai at this time
F/8	680520	50	196th SP/4 Bynum, F-8 Cav request for LRP Diane Reason: team sent out 2xmen for recon, have not returned, want F-8 to make VR for missing men. To come up on 1-20 – A Co freq, passed request to 1/1 Cav, 1/1 Cav sent one F-8 Cav Team. Passed to 196th
F/8	680520	64	196th, 3-21, F-8th Cav (Blue Ghost) request. TOS: 0900H- 1000H 21 May. Come up on command push. VR grids 1228, 1225, 1525, 1628. Friendly all through this area. Passed to 1/1 Cav at 2128H. If A/C avail, OK. If unavail, do not run.
F/8	680521	7	196th SGT Kinmore VR from 3-21 Inf for F-8 Cav request, come up on their command push, check grid 1127, 1124, 1224 up to BT165270 Want VR ASAP, will give further info on friendly location etc. on arrival, passed to 1/1, three guns availabl,e two out on missions unable to perform mission at this time.
F/8	680521	30	1/1 F-8 Cav, vic BT 195530, 190523, 220530 at 1410H receiving intense AW fire, using Naval Gun Fire. 8 individuals running in area. F-8th Cav's CO believes a Bn size unit is in area
F/8	680521	31	1/1 F-8th Cav vic BT225533 at 1415H obsd 1 MAM evading Res: 1 VC KIA
F/8	680521	33	1/1 F-8th Cav vic BT205534 at 1445H engd 1 VC Res 1 VC KIA
F/8	680522	4	196th 4-31 Request for F-8 Cav, VR for suspected en locations, come up on 4-31 command freq, recon area vic AT9820 to BT0318. Friendly positions at BT012200 & BT010200 Passed to 1/1 Cav. 1/1 Cav unable to run mission. Only 1 hvy team available. Passed to 196th Bde
F/8	680522	48	1/1 F-8 Cav vic BT222523 at 1415H engd 2 VC evading Res: 2 VC KIA
F/8	680522	60	1/1 F-8 Cav vic BT212509 at 1600H eng 1 MAM evading. Res; 1 VC KIA
F/8	680522	65	1/1 F-8 Cav vic BT212504 at 1630H eng 1 VC evading, Res: 1 VC KIA, 1 9mm Pistol CIA, 2CH9851

F/8	680523	58	196th TOC Requested through 1/1 a surveillance mission by F-8th Cav in grids BT2043, 2143, 2243, 2244 to locate 200 VC reported in area. 196th has an AO extention in the 1/1 area to try to find and engage the reported VC force, want mission run in the afternoon when 196th moves in – 1/1 approves, DTOC notified
F/8	680523	124	1/1, F/8 Cav. BT170538 at 0910H air strike went in at above loc. Acft checked area. 2 VC KBA.
F/8	680524	8	TOC, 196, request F/8 CAV for a recon and screen mission for the 4-31 at 0930H, come up on C/4-31 Freq. F/8 CAV will be working at BT0419. C/4-31 & B/4-31 will be moving through the area. Mission passed to 1/1 CAV. 1/1 CAV will run mission. Approval passed to 196.
F/8	680524	12	1/1 F/8 CAV vic BT223446 0900H 1 MAM evading res: 1 VC KIA(C).
F/8	680524	54	1/1 F-8th Cav vic BT236438 at 1430H engd 1 VC, Res: 1 VC KIA
F/8	680524	55	1/1 F-8th Cav vic BT245429 at 1440H engd 1 MAM evading. Res: 1 VC KIA
F/8	680524	93	196th, TOC, request F-8 at 0700 25 May 68 for VR mission vic BT0051, BT0151. Come up on 1-52 command freq. Friendly loc will be vic BT0051. Passed to SGT Wilhoite at 2045H: 1/1 Cav.
F/8	680525	38	1/1 F-8 Cav vic BT198297 at 1125H 1 MAM evading, 1 VC KIA
F/8	680525	53	1/1 F-8 Cav vic BT105324 1255H 2xMAM evading Res: 2xVC KIA
F/8	680525	74	1-1, F-8 Cav, BT208202 at 1602 eng 1 VC; 1 VC KIA.
F/8	680526	44	1/1 F-8th Cav vic BT193512 at 1600H eng 8 MAM evading. Res: 8 VC KIA
F/8	680526	47	1/1 F-8th Cav, vic BT211514 at 1630H engd 4 MAM evading, Res: 4 VC KIA
F/8	680527	52	196th request for VR msn vic BT115215 2 GS E&W, 4 GS N&S. B-2-1 push, ASAP passed to 1/1: 1115H, cannot do it now. F-8th Cav not available, resubmit for after lunch. 1118: passed above to 196th 1/1 Called saying there is too much 50 Cal in area to run mission
F/8	680528	27	1/1 F-8th Cav vic BT217226 at 1015H inserted infantry, people moving around, may make a snatch. Also going to blow some tunnels
F/8	680528	34	1/1 F-8th Cav vic BT205213 at 1145H engd 2 MAM evding, Res: 2 VC KIA
F/8	680529	8	1/1 F-8th Cav Vic BT193262 at 0705H obs 1xMAM evading Res 1 VC KIA
F/8	680529	58	1/1 F-8th Inf vic BT185334 at 1435H inserted Inf fm F-8-Cav at abov coord to check the area where they picked up some detainees.
F/8	680529	62	1/1 F-8-Inf vic BT189331 at 1505H engd 1 VC, 1 VC KIA
F/8	680529	67	1/1 F-8 Inf vic BT189329 at 1555H engd 2 MAM, 2 VC KIA
F/8	680530	21	196th TOC request F-8th Cav for VR mission vic BT035218, BT035225, BT0420, come up on Rcn-4-31 freq, loc of frndly troops in that area is LZ West AT990250, request VR ASAP. Reason: To look for mtr pos. Passed to 1/1 at 1031, did not give VR to 196th
F/8	680530	38	1/1 F-8th Inf vic BT189291 at 1245H inserted at above coord
F/8	680530	62	1/1, F-8, BT173217 at 1700H eng 1 VC – 11 VC KIA.

The following is Mr. Schleyer's extracted Blue Ghost entries from August 1968:

Date	Entry	Time	Action reported	Source File
1-Aug-68	12	0803	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT200236 at 0735H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
1-Aug-68	34	1110	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT172259 at 1110H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
1-Aug-68	44	1255	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic AT958105 at 1030H, VR report. Movement in bushes at AT958105. At AT957102, camouflaged bunker recently reinforced, supported by timbers. At AT985114, .50 cal pit recently reinforced. At AT978112, pile of kindling wood. At AT972102, 6 to 7 foot bamboo poles, many on hill top. At AT972113, hut w/hvy camouflage, well hidden under bushes. At AT972102, 2 MAM wearing long sleeve green or black shirts, both had wpns, moving west to east in tall grass, eng'd w/AW fire with neg results.	6808_DTOC_Trans
1-Aug-68	58	1550	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT183268 at 1545H, eng'd 1 VC, 1 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
2-Aug-68	9	0641	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT165239 at 0636H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
2-Aug-68	24	1010	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT194283 at 1007H, 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
2-Aug-68	47	1415	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BS096389 at 1406H, detained 1 MAM, evac to Hawk Hill.	6808_DTOC_Trans
2-Aug-68	49	1440	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT189450 at 1428H, detained 2 MAM with no ID cards, will evac to Hawk Hill.	6808_DTOC_Trans
2-Aug-68	56	1515	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT242475 at 1445H, detained 1 MAM to Hawk Hill.	6808_DTOC_Trans
2-Aug-68	64	1716	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT203317 at 1705H, detained 4 MAM.	6808_DTOC_Trans
3-Aug-68	28	1350	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, LT King, between 1300H and 1350H, results of VR mission ran by F/8 Cav. At coord AT973101 on the NW side of the hill, poles are sticking up out of the ground to keep aircraft from landing. Coord AT942093, AT960097, AT965086 can be used for landing zones, 6 aircraft at one time can land there on low ground. VR mission was on station for one hour, and had to leave because of storm from the west. Passed to 196th, SGT Kenlow.	6808_DTOC_Trans
3-Aug-68	43	1645	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT108375 at 1635H, eng'd 1 VC evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
3-Aug-68	44	1713	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT081343 at 1600H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
3-Aug-68	46	1740	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT085339 at 1710H, detained 2 MAM, evac to Hawk Hill.	6808_DTOC_Trans
4-Aug-68	13	0842	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT192329 at 0840H, detained 1 MAM, evac to Hawk Hill.	6808_DTOC_Trans

4-Aug-68	23	0845	196th, 2/1, from 1700H to unk time. F/8 Cav request for general VR at coords BT0039, 0139, 0239, 0339, 0038, 0138, 0238, and 0338. Reason: to check trails and possible infiltration routes. Time: from 170H until mission is completed. Nearest friendly: Tiger Base at 002373, and Cobra Base at 045375. Contact Bullet 33 on compound push.	6808_DTOC_Trans
4-Aug-68	53	1600	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT079023, obs 40 to 50 NVA with wpns at above grid. Fired on acft, ret'd fire, res unk.	6808_DTOC_Trans
4-Aug-68	54	1625	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT286350 at 1616H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
4-Aug-68	57	1645	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT268401 at 1634H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
4-Aug-68	82	2400	Opns Summary: Americal Div units cont'd combat opns in zone and realignment of forces with only scattered contact reported. In the Pocahontas Forest AO, A&C/4/3 conducted an air move from LZ Lurch (AT926238) to the Chu Lai TAOR to Hill 54 (BT396145) complete at 1241H. D/5/46 was air moved from Polar Bear II (AT940211) to Hau Duc (BT075056) complete at 1419H. C/5/46 was air moved from LZ Sooner (AT870369) to Tien Phuoc (BT108142) complete at 1835H. In the Burlington Trail AO, F/8 Cav vic BT085017, while on a snatch mission, had two acft (UH1H and OH6A) hit by ground fire and the UH1H went down. The acft was destroyed and all personnel extracted. Res: 4 NVA KIA, 2 WHA (E), 7 WHA (M). In the Chu Lai TAOR, A/1/6 was air moved from Hill 54 to vic of the rocket mountain area (BT4600). Recon & D/1/52 were air moved from LZ Buff (BS538824) to LZ Chippewa (BS485967) complete at 1150H. In the Duc Pho AO, B/3/1 (-) air moved from LZ Liz vic BS752436 to Quang Ngai Airfield, 1 plat was CA'd from Liz to vic BS525690, LZ cold at 0726H. The elements from B Co (-) were then moved into the LZ and conducted opns into a block set up by Rec/1/20. Both units were extracted with B/3/1 returning to LZ Liz at 1359H and Rcn/1/20 to LZ Bronco at 1700H. Americal Division Totals: 10 WHA (E), 9 WHA (M), 11 VC KIA, 4 NVA KIA, 2 IWC.	6808_DTOC_Trans
5-Aug-68	22	1339	11th, F/8 Cav, vic BS359612 at 1300H, made a snatch, 1 VCS male CIA, evac to Bronco.	6808_DTOC_Trans
5-Aug-68	28	1520	196th, F/8 Cav, vic BT040399 at 1455H, obs 1 VC evade into spider hole, dressed in black PJ's, eng'd, res: 1 VC KIA, No ID, wpn, docs, or equip.	6808_DTOC_Trans
5-Aug-68	29	1540	196th, F/8 Cav, 2/1, vic BT004388 at 1515H, obs 1 MAM evading, dressed in black shorts, blue shirt, eng'd, res: 1 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
5-Aug-68	44	1620	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, Mission CD-5-1, at BT004388 and BT043299, eng'd 2 MAM, res: 2 VC KIA. VR was incomplete due to rain. Only trail found in area are regularly used trails found on map. 4 ships on station and standby for 4:35.	6808_DTOC_Trans

6-Aug-68	17	52327	(delayed entry) 198th, TOC, F/8 Cav, request from LT Reesor, Times: 0700H, 1000H, 1400H, and 1730H, to VR following areas in priority at each time above. Rice Bowl Area AT9910, Cuba Valley BT1102, Tra Bong Valley BS2889, call sign Whip 33, freq: 58.60. Nearest friendlies are at 0403, 0404, 0906, 0907, and 1207, Tra Bong SFC. Special Forces have operation grids BS2588, 2592, 3192, 3188. Call sign and frequency given, called to 1/1 Cav. 060950H. further information from 198th: would like to have VR of area of aircraft light strike vic BT1002. This mission will have priority.	6808_DTOC_Trans
6-Aug-68	18		196th, 2/1, F/8 Cav, request any time in morning and afternoon to screen and recon a 6000 meter center mass AT9731, 120 min each. Freq and call sign, 64.35. Bullet 33. Passed to 1/1 Cav.	6808_DTOC_Trans
6-Aug-68	32	1030	196th, 4/31, requests F/8 Cav to VR following coord: AT9022, 9123, 9225, 9325, 9427, 9526, 9626, 9726, 9827, and 9927. Nearest friendly: B element at LZ O'Conner. Contact Steady 33 on commo push.	6808_DTOC_Trans
6-Aug-68	37	1145	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT082018, trails E and W thru recent bomb craters describes extreme movement to east. 1025H, BT118020, trail NW from mountains thru bomb craters joined main trail having usage to NE. 1035H, BT072014, main trail east to west has many trails from hills thru bomb craters joined main trail, showed signs of usage by water buffalo. 198th, passed to LT Freeman.	6808_DTOC_Trans
6-Aug-68	51	1617	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT257450, detained 2 MAM, evac to Hawk Hill.	6808_DTOC_Trans
6-Aug-68	53	1625	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT238490, detained 1 MAM, evac to Hawk Hill.	6808_DTOC_Trans
6-Aug-68	60	1615	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT257450, eng'd 1 VC at 1605H, 1 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
7-Aug-68	30	62015	(delayed entry) 198th, TOC, request F/8 Cav (Blue Ghost) to check Rice Bowl, Cuba Valley, Tra Bong Valley, four times on the 07 Aug at 0700H, 1000H, 1400H, and at 1730H. Notified 1/1 Cav, they said OK but the first time they could fly in, in the morning is at 0930H. Notified 198th at 062050H.	6808_DTOC_Trans
7-Aug-68	41	1133	1/1, F/8 Cav, vic BT0213-0113 at 1103H, VR mission for 198th, took about 10 to 15 rds of AW fire, time 1103H, neg casualties or hits.	6808_DTOC_Trans
7-Aug-68	42	1155	196th, TOC, F/8 Cav, request ASAP for 4/31, to check Hiep Duc Valley AT9023, AT9123, AT9225, AT9325, AT9427, AT9526, AT9626, AT9726, AT9727, AT9827, and AT9927. West od O'Conner will be the nearest friendly location.	6808_DTOC_Trans
7-Aug-68			When F/8 Cav comes upon 4/31 command, they will give habit location of friendly.	6808_DTOC_Trans
7-Aug-68	56	1250	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, AT994124 at 1030H, VR mission for 198th, spotted AW position 100m from a trench running NW to SE. Neg camouflage, but showed recent use.	6808_DTOC_Trans

7-Aug-68	57	1253	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT010125 at 1040H, VR mission for 198th, a large number of sweet potatoes layed out in open to dry, but no people around.	6808_DTOC_Trans
7-Aug-68	59	1255	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, AT990129-BT010129 at 1040H, VR mission for 198th, spotted trails running N, shows heavy foot traffic to NE.	6808_DTOC_Trans
7-Aug-68	62	1430	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, at 1430H, VR mission for 198th, neg sightings. Area could not be covered because of arty firing. 0993, 0994, 1691, 1093.	6808_DTOC_Trans
7-Aug-68	69	1635	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, at 1500H at BT023094, rec'd 15-25 rds semi-auto fire. Made gun run, rec'd 30 more rds at BT030090. After 2d run, took a lot of AW fire. Neg significant sightings in area.	6808_DTOC_Trans
8-Aug-68	7	0705	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT257406 at 0700H, F/8 eng'd 1 military aged male wearing black shorts evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
8-Aug-68	13	0807	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT279362 at 0810H, 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA, no won or ID.	6808_DTOC_Trans
8-Aug-68	15	0810	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT222452 at 0805H, 3 MAM evading, eng'd, res: 3 VC KIA. No wpns or ID's.	6808_DTOC_Trans
8-Aug-68	23	0900	196th, TOC, 2/1, F/8 Cav, request "Snatch" for 2/1 at AT9731. Friendly forces at OP Dragon and LZ Ryder, also from AT9937, BT0240. Call on 2/1 Command Push, Bullet 33 (P) 64.35 (A) 56.30. Passed to SGT Powell, 1/1 Cav.	6808_DTOC_Trans
8-Aug-68	33	1106	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT224411 at 1106H, 1 MAM, eng'd, res: 1 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
8-Aug-68	37	1132	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT207473 at 1130H, 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
8-Aug-68	38	1405	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, mission US 8-1 for 5/46 VR for Rice Bowl, rec'd AW fire from BT030090 form that to 0508, intense AW fire. F/8 Cav expended all ammo in area with unk results. Passed to 198th, SP/4 Wright at 1410H.	6808_DTOC_Trans
8-Aug-68	43	1140	198th, F/8 Cav, will fly mission this afternoon. Mission #1, vic Rice Bowl, west of Tien Phuoc. Contact on ground will be 5/46, on command push. Mission #2, is at Tra Bong Valley, west of Tra Bong Special Forces Camp. Contact on ground will be 5/46 on command push. All reports will be given to 198th on 198th command. Passed to 1/1 Cav and told that this mission has 1st priority.	6808_DTOC_Trans
8-Aug-68	44	1150	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT209472 at 1142H, 1 MAM evading, eng'd, res: 1 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
9-Aug-68	17	955	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT105370 at 0950H, detained 1 MAM, evac to Hawk Hill.	6808_DTOC_Trans
10-Aug-68	9	811	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT069305 at 0810H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA (C).	6808_DTOC_Trans

10-Aug-68	10	815	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT085315 at 0800H, 2 MAM evading, eng'd, res: 2 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
10-Aug-68	14	850	198th, LT Blanco, F/8 Cav, request 1 mission this morning in the Rice Bowl, center of mass grid BT0010 and work NE &	6808_DTOC_Trans
10-Aug-68			SW, contact 5/46 for friendly position. Report to 198th. 1 mission this afternoon along the Tra Bong Valley west from the	6808_DTOC_Trans
10-Aug-68			2d grid N to S to 10 grid. No friendlies in area, contact 5/46 command net. Report to 198th. Passed to SGT Moffit at 0917H.	6808_DTOC_Trans
10-Aug-68	38	1210	198th, F/8 Cav on station, vic BT012103 at 1110H, from SP/4 Hodge. Rec'd fire from BT012113, ret'd fire with neg observation. At 1140H, broke station, ship did not take a hit.	6808_DTOC_Trans
10-Aug-68	42	1315	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, results of VR mission for the 198th Bde. Entire valley showed people lived around the area, obs a few water buffalo in the area, BT001094. Observed a large bunker recently constructed and used, BT012103, rec'd AW fire, neg hits. 1/1 Cav will have F/8 Cav avoid this area in the afternoon mission to preclude heavier AA fire engagements. F/8 Cav will VR Tra Bong Valley in the afternoon.	6808_DTOC_Trans
10-Aug-68	49	1545	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT090390 at 1540H, eng'd 1 VC evading, res: 1 VC KIA, no ID or weapon.	6808_DTOC_Trans
10-Aug-68	59	1510	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, 1330H-1430H, results of VR mission by F/8 Cav in Tra Bong Valley: neg sightings.	6808_DTOC_Trans
10-Aug-68	63	1620	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT257451 at 1615H, eng'd 1 VC, 1 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
10-Aug-68	64	1625	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT235452 at 1622H, eng'd 1 VC, 1 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
10-Aug-68	65	1635	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT247465 at 1630H, eng'd 1 VC, 1 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
11-Aug-68	22	1120	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, mission # US/11-1 for 198th. Could not get radio contact with unit. Location BS125927, obs heavy use trails through stream bed. Smaller trails intersecting from north to south also heavily used. Location BS014968, obs heavy trails used recently. Location AS999966, obs herd of 16 water buffalo, also heavy used trails crossing stream. Neg sightings of persons or other sightings.	6808_DTOC_Trans
11-Aug-68	36	1415	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic AT928176 at 1340H, F/8 Cav obs 3 VCS, 1 w/wpn, individuals evaded snatch resulting in 3 VC KIA, 1 IWC (SKS), 1 brown pack CIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
11-Aug-68	71	2150	198th, TOC, F/8 Cav request: BS3387 W along river to BS9597, E along valley to BT0500 to BS2799, S to BS3387. Nearest friendlies: 1/46 at 144018. Time: 111000H, mission: VR. Will be run, passed to 198th.	6808_DTOC_Trans

12-Aug-68	2	111925	(delayed entry) 196th, 4/31, F/8 Cav request, time 121200H, grids: UL 9028, LL 9025, LR 0028, UR 0025. Purpose: to screen and cover and VR 120 minutes, contact 61.90, 45.65. Friendly locations: Co B and E, LZ O'Conner, ARVN, LZ West. Co A/4/31 will CA into area on morning of 12 Aug, will pop smoke on request.	6808_DTOC_Trans
12-Aug-68	3	112050	(delayed entry) Request F/8 Cav, BS3388 west along Tra Bong to BS9798, east to BT0501, east along valley to	6808_DTOC_Trans
12-Aug-68			BS2899, south to BS3388, also Rice Bowl at BS1492, north to BT1401 in morning. BT0108, A/5/46, Merit A6, 51.20. BT0205, C/5/46, Merit C6, 56.95. BT0600, D/5/46, Merit D6, 58.55. BT1401, D/1/46, Fierce D6, 56.65. Notified 1/1 Cav at 112033H.	6808_DTOC_Trans
12-Aug-68	13	0825	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT095372 at 0800H, detained 1 MAM, evac to Hawk Hill.	6808_DTOC_Trans
12-Aug-68	34	1050	198th, F/8 Cav, vic AT976978 at 0900H, obs 2 MAM in a sampan, they evaded into the brush with neg results. At BS009740, obs 1 MAM in black PJ's. BS9797, obs many heavily used trails.	6808_DTOC_Trans
12-Aug-68	39	1045	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic AT970970 at 0930H to 1030H, VR mission number US 12-1 for 198th. AT970970, heavy trails running through the river bed, show very heavy usage. BT000974, 1 MAM evading, wearing hat and black PJ's, he evaded. BT060940, heavy trails, small bridge used recently. Pilot Information: D/5/46 was 10 km away from designated location, they were at BT0410. Only completed west and east ends of area due to artillery firing in area. Area completed, approx area BT0991 to BT1399. 198th has report.	6808_DTOC_Trans
13-Aug-68	21	0856	196th, request F/8 Cav for VR, coord AT9731 center of mass, 3 grid squares west of AO boundary. Nearest friendly: Dragon Base, contact on command push. Artillery on Ross, passed to 1/1 Cav, SGT Moffit.	6808_DTOC_Trans
13-Aug-68	22	0925	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT282365 at 0918H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
13-Aug-68	26	0950	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT261369 at 0940H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
13-Aug-68	31	1030	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT251395 at 1020H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA, neg wpn or documents.	6808_DTOC_Trans
13-Aug-68	56	1450	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, at 1400H, results of VR mission for the 198th Bde. At BT111920, obs a new bridge under construction, bridge is not complete, bridge is 12 feet wide, 20 feet long. F/8 Cav did not see bridge in the area before when they checked area. Obs 20ft wide trail from AT975095 S to AT980070 to AT946106 to AT985103 SE to BT029050.	6808_DTOC_Trans
13-Aug-68	74	1740	196th, request F/8 Cav run VR on morning of 14 Aug, area: AT9201 grid N to BT2229, east west, friendlies: O'Conner B/4/31, 40.15 (steady), Arty Gimlet, ARVN West. Informed 1/1, passed to SGT Martis.	6808_DTOC_Trans

13-Aug-68	75	1740	198th, Aero Scouts, vic BS769835 at 1735H, eng'd 5 VC, res: 3 VC KIA. VC had web gear and HG's, the other 2 VC evaded into a tunnel, they had wpns and dressed in green uniforms, will put air strike on tunnel.	6808_DTOC_Trans
13-Aug-68	76	1745	196th, 2/1, request F/8 Cav for VR, 9731 is center of mass, 3 grids west of AO, friendlies on Dragon Base, arty at Ross, 39.95, command push 64.35. Dragon Base R/3/1, 43.65. Informed 1/1 Cav, SGT Martis.	6808_DTOC_Trans
13-Aug-68	79	1800	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT128314 at 1750H, eng'd 1 VC, res: 1 VC KIA, neg wpn, ID, or equipment.	6808_DTOC_Trans
13-Aug-68	84	1945	198th, TOC, F/8 Cav, at0900H. Friendlies at BT0207 and BT0501 (C, D, and R/5/46). AO: vic 3387 W to 1591, N to 1201, W to 0297, NW to 0099, SW to 9797, E to 1292, N to 1500, E to 2799, S to 3090. Rice Bowl in morning and in evening.	6808_DTOC_Trans
14-Aug-68	7	132005	198th, CPT Kenny, request for F/8 Cav as per conversation with 198th CO and 1st Cav, they are to operate in areas 1, 2, and 3. Passed to 1/1 Cav, SGT Pane 2007H.	6808_DTOC_Trans
14-Aug-68	10	0735	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT291390 at 0720H, eng'd 2 MAM evading, res: 2 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
14-Aug-68	11	0735	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT294385 at 0720H, eng'd 2 MAM evading, res: 2 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
14-Aug-68	13	0735	1/1Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT289389 at 0720H, eng'd 2 MAM evading, res: 2 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
14-Aug-68	17	0800	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT292388 at 0752H, detained 1 VCS, will evac to Hawk Hill.	6808_DTOC_Trans
14-Aug-68	30	0930	1/1 Cav, CPT Logan, request AO ext from coord BT100384 N to 100420, E to 144420, S to 138407. Dtg 141200H to 141800H. Village Economics Chief snatched 2 day ago knows location of VC District Chief. Detainee cannot read map, but will lead F/8 Cav infantry to the location. Area of AO ext is needed to allow for the maneuver room if necessary. Passed to 196th, they would like to do it in coordination with F/8 Cav since A/4/21 and PF's are in area. 1/1 Cav agrees. AO ext request dropped. Approved by G-3.	6808_DTOC_Trans
14-Aug-68	70	1600	1/1 Cav, TOC, BT118386 at 1550H, F/8 Cav rifle platoon inserted at above grid and coord. Extracted at 1647H with neg results.	6808_DTOC_Trans
14-Aug-68	79	1849	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT509358, eng'd 3 VC, 3 VC KIA at 1845H.	6808_DTOC_Trans
15-Aug-68	63	1244	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, results of VR for 198th. AT950110, well used trails. AT945096, recent and well used river crossing. AT942093, 2 camouflaged sampans and bunkers. BS002974, well used trail. BS062943, five well used trails from SW to NE. BS035963, 25-30 water buffalo. Passed to 198th, SGT Kaiser.	6808_DTOC_Trans

15-Aug-68	65	1430	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT250451 at 1425H, F/8 Inf has been inserted at 1425H, coord BT250451.	6808_DTOC_Trans
15-Aug-68	66	1431	196th, F/8 Cav, AT985314 at 1300H, eng'd 1 MAM in green uniform, res: 1 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
15-Aug-68	70	1505	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT277362 at 1454H, F/8 Cav extracted infantry at 1455H and reinserted them at 1455H at BS277362.	6808_DTOC_Trans
15-Aug-68	73	1510	1/1 Cav, TOC, F/8 Cav mission #CD-15-1 for 196th, res: 1315H, AT983311, 5 MAM evading, eng'd, 1 KIA. AT971304, tunnel entrance, 7 wooden boxes believed to be rocket boxes, 1 metal box same size as .50 cal.	6808_DTOC_Trans
15-Aug-68	75	1535	1/1 Cav, TOC, vic BT277362 at 1535H, F/8 Cav infantry extracted.	6808_DTOC_Trans
15-Aug-68	78	1655	1/1 Cav, TOC, time of VR mission from 1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, mission #US-15-1, 4 acft on station 6:25H, 4 acft on standby 6:25H. Mission #CD-15-1, 3 acft on station 5:00H, 3 acft on standby 3:00H. Mission #15-1-2, not run.	6808_DTOC_Trans
15-Aug-68	90	2030	196th, 4/31, request F/8 Cav (morning) N-S 90 to 00, E-W 24 to 28. Friendlies: ARVN west, B-E/4/31 at O'Conner.	6808_DTOC_Trans
15-Aug-68	91	2040	196th, 2/1, request for F/8 Cav, center of mass 9731, 3 grids to each side. Friendlies: R/2/1 at Dragon (Bullet 22) (64.35).	6808_DTOC_Trans
16-Aug-68	60	1550	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT214389 at 1545H, 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
17-Aug-68	10	710	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT225454 at 2400H, one helicopter took a hit at 2400H. Got off about 20 rds of automatic fire. Damage to ship, took a rd in tail, not flyable. F/8 Cav in support of contact by B/1/1, vic BT225454.	6808_DTOC_Trans
17-Aug-68	32	2215	196th, F/8 Cav, request VR in morning, form 90 to 00 N-S grid and from 24 to 28 E-W grid. Also request that F/8 Cav come up on 4/31 command frequency. Friendlies on LZ West, O'Conner, and LZ Mellon. No friendlies moving in morning from FSB's. Passed to 1/1 Cav.	6808_DTOC_Trans
18-Aug-68	6	626	1/1 Cav, B/1/1, vic BT213466 at 0625H, took 12 rds of AK-47, action ceased immediately, F/8 Cav checking area.	6808_DTOC_Trans
18-Aug-68	22	1055	198th, TOC, request Snatch mission by F/8 Cav today, grid BS058934, passed to 1/1 Cav.	6808_DTOC_Trans
19-Aug-68	3	150	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BS0293 at 181313H-1415H, mission #US-18-2, Snatch for Merit 33 BS0593. Had neg sightings. Area unsuitable for snatch. VR teams in that area have had neg sightings for past 2 weeks.	6808_DTOC_Trans

19-Aug-68	4	182222	(delayed entry) 196th, TOC, at 191200H for 2 hrs, request F/8 Cav for screening mission, coord Upper Left 0630, Lower Right 1429. Request F/8 Cav come up on 3/21 command push for further details and then switch to 3/21 C internal push. C/3/21 located 0928 nearest friendly: BT035295, C/2/1, BT078277, OP A/3/21. To be cancelled after 1200H, MAJ Dixon.	6808_DTOC_Trans
19-Aug-68	32	1150	198th, TOC, request F/8 Cav run VR of following area: BT235406, 235061, 279069, 280061,289048, 291057, 301018, 313065, 310109, 319059, 338014, 353065, 310109, 319059, 338014, 353065. Location of friendlies: 1/6 ARVN, LZ Professional, B/1/6, BT3601. Will be flown by 19th Avn. Passed to LT Freeman.	6808_DTOC_Trans
19-Aug-68	40	1250	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT220431 at 1240H, 1 MAM evading, 1 VC KIA, no wpn, ID, or equipment.	6808_DTOC_Trans
19-Aug-68	62	1500	198th, LT Mitchell, request F/8 Cav to run same VR mission tomorrow as they ran today, friendly locations will be the same and frequency will be the same. This is the only VR for the 198th tomorrow. SGT Kaiser. Passed to SGT DeLoach at 1/1 Cav.	6808_DTOC_Trans
21-Aug-68	10	2205	(delayed entry) 198th, TOC, req Blueghost for area recon of coord BT0700, BT1700, BS1767, BS0787. Particular attention should be paid to the areas of Arc Light strikes flown tonight. Sent to 1/1 Cav 2213H. This mission is to be flown instead of the mission passed at 201629H. This will include areas 1, 2, and 3 of previously agreed mission between 1/1 Cav and 198th. 2255H, this mission has been replaced by a new mission.	6808_DTOC_Trans
21-Aug-68	56	1635	198th, TOC, request Blueghost for VR mission, from BT1515, 1518 and from BT1815, 1818, nearest friendlies at LZ Young, request for 22 Aug.	6808_DTOC_Trans
29-Aug-68	49	1455	196th, Blue Ghost request, from BT1430 to 0630, 300m on either side of E-W gridline. Mission for 1 hour. Ground contact, call sign Demon, freq 36.25, friendly at 103308, enemy location unk, should contact B/31 OP at 077276. Passed to 1/1 Cav 291520H.	6808_DTOC_Trans
20-Aug-68	14	1010	1/1 Cav, 1/1 Cav's Infantry, vic BT283356 at 0955H, F-8 (infantry) inserted at above coord.	6808_DTOC_Trans
20-Aug-68	25	1135	1/1 Cav, vic BT283356 at 1135H, F/8 Cav Infantry extracted.	6808_DTOC_Trans
20-Aug-68	46	1359	196th, S-2, TOC, F/8 Cav request: 21 Aug anytime, conduct recon of trail from BT0541 to BT0544. This is to determine the extent of use, indications of movement, and possible cache site. PW report indicates use of this area as supply route. If possible, request snatch along this trail if no sightings are made on trail. Conduct air recon in area, grid upper left BT0544 to lower right BT0840 to locate trails or movement, no recent AW fire in this area. Friendly freq 64.45, call sign Bullet. Location of friendly troops BT0241, location of Cobra Base BT0438 along Route 535. From SP/4 Cotacts, passed to 1/1 Cav, SP/4 Paressi.	6808_DTOC_Trans
20-Aug-68	61	1629	198th, TOC, F/8 Cav request: same as today, same units.	6808_DTOC_Trans

21-Aug-68	9	202002	(delayed entry) 196th, TOC, request F/8 Cav for recon mission at the following coord: UL8827, LR9626. There have been numerous sightings of small troop movement from west to east, be especially watchful for enemy KIA by arty.	6808_DTOC_Trans
21-Aug-68	12	737	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT198471 at 0720H, eng'd 1 VC evading, res:1 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
21-Aug-68	14	750	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT227424 at 0745H, eng'd 1 VC evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
21-Aug-68	23	830	198th, LT Freeman, change to F/8 Cav mission for today. This mission will replace all other requests for today. The request is to VR area #1 (Rice Bowl area), area #4 which is BT370075, 4 km radius of that point, and area #5 which is: BT2808 SW along river to BT3204, south to BT3202, SW to 3101, NW to 2703. Have an addition to area #5 to VR to the 2005 area. Passed to 1/1 Cav 210945H. Nearest friendlies: area #4 LASM Bravo. Urgent Bravo are call words, freq: 60.6, BT375115, 67.0 BT411038. Area #5, Fierce Charlie, freq: 36.6, BT175076. Passed to 1/1 Cav.	
21-Aug-68	42	1230	198th, TOC, request F/8 Cav or Aero Scouts to run VR mission ASAP vic BT1514, 1516, 1714, 1716. Nearest friendly are LZ Young, Rambler A, freq 53.00. This mission has priority over any other mission for the 198th. To divert Aero Scouts to this mission when they report to the 198th.	6808_DTOC_Trans
21-Aug-68	48	1410	G-3, MAJ Medbery, LTC Marlow notified to move 5/46 from field location and Pleasantville to the Young-Bowman complex. The 5/46 DS Arty will be moved to Bowman from Pleasantville. 198th will also have priority of F/8 Cav mission in the Young area. CIDG's will also be moved from the field. 1/1 Cav was also notified about F/8 Cav missions, also the unit now on Bowman is to be moved back to another location. Aviation was notified to coordinate with the 198th for the move.	6808_DTOC_Trans
21-Aug-68	54	1830	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, results of VR mission from 1530H-1700H for 198th. At 1555H at BT171143, obs 1 male dressed in black clothes, eng'd, res: 1 VC KIA. At 1810H at BT175177, obs 1 male dressed in black shorts and white shirt, eng'd, res: 1 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
21-Aug-68	57	1645	G-3, 198th has mission of convoy escort, road security from Tam Ky to LZ Young and in their AO to Tien Phuoc. 198th will employ f/8 Cav to get BDA from strike area.	6808_DTOC_Trans
22-Aug-68	24	1020	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, results of VR for 198th. 1025H, BS135934, rec'd 20-30 rds .30 cal AW fire, eng'd, neg results. 1040H, BS131921, bunker complex, sighted movement in tree line, fresh trails through and around craters, down from hillside then generally west, water buffalo tracks with drag marks leading west, eng'd with neg results. 1055H, BS1292, several fresh diggings, 10 fresh spider holes, est 3 ft in dia. 1110H, BS129919, human body in spider hole, w/green uniform on. 1120H, BS111921, AW position in camp pit, sighted man moving in pit, eng'd, neg results. Indications of large force still in area. Passed to 1/46 S-3. Passed to 198th, SGT Kaiser.	6808_DTOC_Trans

22-Aug-68	42	1520	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT194276 at 1514H, detained 1 MAM without ID, returning him to 1/1 Cav location (Hawk Hill).	6808_DTOC_Trans
22-Aug-68	44	1600	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT081344 at 1608H, 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA, no wpn or ID.	6808_DTOC_Trans
22-Aug-68	53	1805	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT110366 at 1800H, eng'd 1 VC, res: 1 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
22-Aug-68	56	2015	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT339293 at 1810H, eng'd 2 VC, res: 2 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
22-Aug-68	68	2155	198th, request for F/8 Cav 23 Aug, as early as possible, area from BT0700 to BS0787, BT1700 to BS1787. Closest friendlies at Hill 162, A/1/46. 2d area from BT1517 to 1917 to 2319 to 2010. B-C/5/46 at LZ Young, LZ Bowman. Area #3, BT0501 to 0305 to 1010 to 1407. Nearest friendlies, B/1/46 at BT050046.	6808_DTOC_Trans
23-Aug-68	88	1221	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT215230 at 1155H, eng'd .50 cal position with 2 MAM's, knocked out position, res: 2 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
23-Aug-68	123	1550	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT215220 at 1535H, infantry element CIA 1x12.75 AA wpn, SN 133366 w/tripod and tool kit. Completely operational. 51 rds 12.75mm, 3 packs, 4 green uniforms, 60 rds AK-47, 4 NVA KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
23-Aug-68	128	1455	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT215220 at 1445H, eng'd 2 VC, res: 2 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
24-Aug-68	28	940	198th, TOC, 198th requests F/8 Cav to make VR in vic of LZ Chippewa, thought to be a lot of enemy movement in that area. Contact freq: 1/52 command, nearest friendlies: D Co on Chippewa. Passed to 1/1 Cav (LTC Lawrence).	6808_DTOC_Trans
24-Aug-68	46	950	1/1 Cav, vic BT235215 at 0910H, ARVN, 3/4, Cav, and A26 working together, eng'd unk size NVA forces, res: 3 NVA KIA (C) (Info only). F/8 Cav in area now. One ACAV rec'd 57mm RR rd, last sighted ACAV was burning.	6808_DTOC_Trans
24-Aug-68	50	1025	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT230218 at 1020H, helo took 2-3 rds of AW fire, also sighted 18-30 MAM, green uniforms w/wpns, eng'd, res: 1 NVA KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
24-Aug-68	68	1326	1/1 Cav, C-6 with 26th, 1/1 Cav vic BT239228 at 1325H, rec'd AW fire, obs RR position, F/8 Cav is making gun run on RR, contact is E and to the N of A/1/1 contact, C/1/1 will try to link up with A/1/1 (26). A Trp (-) is moving as additional reactionary force.	6808_DTOC_Trans
24-Aug-68	116	1715	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT226205 at 1712H, eng'd 2 NVA, res: 2 NVA KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
25-Aug-68	12	241640	(delayed entry) 198th, request VR from Warlord to work Areas 4 and 1. Friendlies located in Area 4: call sign: Sentry C6, BS539828, freq: 62.60. Area #1: Urgent C6, Hill 707, freq: 37.55. Request F/8 Cav VR area 1, 2, and 3. Friendlies located in Area #1: Hau Duc, freq: 45.35, call sign: Fierce E6. Area #2: Merit D6, Young, Freq: 58.53. Merit B6, Young B6, freq: 59.85. Area #3, Pleasantville, call sign: Fierce B6, freq: 46.55. Time 0800H to end of mission. 1700H, hasn't been passed. Passed to 1/1 Cav 2014H, to SGT Mardis.	6808_DTOC_Trans

25-Aug-68	20	808	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT189245 at 0803H, eng'd 1 NVA evading into a bunker, res: 1 NVA KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
25-Aug-68	31	955	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT197252 at 0950H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 NVA KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
25-Aug-68	33	1006	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT230215 at 1005H, rec'd 20-30 rds AW fire, neg casualties.	6808_DTOC_Trans
25-Aug-68	36	1040	1/1 Cav, C/1/1, F/8 Cav, vic BT229227 at 241715H, reference contact yesterday, add 46 more NVA KIA, 20 KIA by C/1/1, 26 by F/8 Cav.	6808_DTOC_Trans
25-Aug-68	67	1137	196th, TOC, F/8 Cav request 26 Aug 68 for Bullet. Want Snatch mission **(redacted)**, 261800H to 261900H, nearest friendlies: Dragon, freq: **(redacted)**, reason: has been known as a rest area for VC along a known infiltration route. The local VC live in this area, there are no available troops to search area at this time. No record of report of anti-aircraft fire in that area.	6808_DTOC_Trans
25-Aug-68	76	1445	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT264231 at 1438H, obs 7 NVA carrying 2 bodies and 25 NVA running out of huts dressed in civilian clothes w/green uniforms under civilian clothes, eng'd, res: 3 NVA KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
25-Aug-68	97	1530	198th, TOC, vic S/b at S/B. F/8 Cav request: 1st request: work Area #1 from coord BS3789, 3793, 4589, mission: Arc Light BDA, friendly location: negative, freq: Bde Command 58.6, call sign: Whip 33 (198th). 2d request: VR from bridge at BT4102, 4308, 3805, 4011, friendly location: negative, freq: 60.6, call sign Lash 33 (4/3 Inf). 3d request: VR area Chippewa, Century D-6 on 59.15. VR area Young and Bowman, Merit D-6 on 58.55 (5/46th Inf).	6808_DTOC_Trans
25-Aug-68	115	1610	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT253243 at 1506H, eng'd 1 NVA, neg result. At BT239244, eng'd 1 NVA, neg result. At BT253241, eng'd 1 NVA, res: 1 NVA KIA. At BT219212, eng'd 20 NVA, neg result. At BT219219, rec'd hvy AW fire, neg hits, cont'd mission.	6808_DTOC_Trans
25-Aug-68	128	2030	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, 229211 at 1840H, eng'd unk number NVA, res: 15 NVA KIA	6808_DTOC_Trans
25-Aug-68	150	2400	Opns Summary: Amcal Div units cont'd combat opns in zone w/light contact being reported except for the Burlington Trail AO where elements of 1/1 Cav reported hvy contact w/unk size force. 1/1 Cav with B/2/1 inf and B/4 21 Inf, vic BS2122 and BS2222 made contact at 250803H. F/8 Cav provided helo gunship support, TAC Air strikes, and arty supported the ground contact. Contact was broken at 1930H, resulting in 259 NVA KIA, 12 VC KIA, 10 IWC, and 10 CSWC. In the Wheeler/Wallowa AO, B/2/1 air moved from LZ Ross to LZ Hawk Hill at 0543H, completed at 0650H. C/2/1 air moved from LZ Ross to an LZ vic BT046344, D/2/1 then air lifted back to LZ Ross at 0817H. 1 platoon A/3/21, B/3/21, and D/3/21 air moved to LZ East, completed at 0817H. C/3/21 conducted a CA into an LZ vic BT120220 at 1318H. In the Chu Lai TAOR, D/1/52 conducted a CA into an LZ vic BS405895, completed at 1333H.	6808_DTOC_Trans
25-Aug-68	99	1923	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT237201 at 1800H, eng'd 1 NVA, 1 NVA KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans

25-Aug-68	100	1915	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT228218 at 1910H, eng'd 1 NVA, 1 NVA KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
25-Aug-68	24	750	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT225216 at 0743H, eng'd 1 VC evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
25-Aug-68	25	750	1/1 Cav, C/1/1, vic BT222208 at 2355H, eng'd 12 NVA evading, res: 2 NVA KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
25-Aug-68	26	750	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT219191 at 0745H, eng'd 2 VC evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
25-Aug-68	27	815	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, vic BT165255 at 0809H, eng'd 1 VC evading, res: 1 VC KIA, neg wpn or documents.	6808_DTOC_Trans
27-Aug-68	68	1156	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT176285 at 1155H, 1 VC in .50 cal pit with 1x.50 cal MG. 1 VC WIA, 1 VC KIA, 1x.50 cal AA CIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
27-Aug-68	104	1658	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT163250 at 1557H, receiving .50 cal fire at this time, neg hits.	6808_DTOC_Trans
27-Aug-68	109	1630	1/1, F/8 Cav, BT162242 at 1625H, spotted 15-20 MAM evading SW along trail, dressed in green and gray uniforms, eng'd with neg results.	6808_DTOC_Trans
28-Aug-68	68	1536	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT190270 at 1538H, 1 NVA evading, eng'd, res: 1 NVA KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
28-Aug-68	73	1705	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT290390 at 1653H, eng'd 1 VC evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
28-Aug-68	88	1605	198th, request Aero Scouts or F/8 Cav for VR of Area #1: BS4496, 5296, 4579, 5279, friendly: A/1/52 on freq 58.05 at 452965 and A/1/52 on same freq at BS527952. C/1/52 on LZ Buff on freq 62.60. Area #2: BT2911, 3301, 3801, 3113, friendly: D/4/3 at BT398072 on freq 55.55. Area #3: Batangan Peninsula, center of mass BS7885, call Sentry 33 before entering area on 66.10. Mission to be flown for 198th in the morning.	6808_DTOC_Trans
29-Aug-68	58	1730	196th, TOC, request for F/8 Cav, mission for 2/1 to recon and snatch a suspect, target coord 958308, time: 301800H for one hour, friendlies at 000317, will have 2 elements moving from N to S.	6808_DTOC_Trans
29-Aug-68	70	1650	198th, TOC, request Aero Scouts or F/8 Cav, to run VR mission on 30 Aug. Area #1: BS4496 to BS5296 to BS4579 to BS5279. Friendlies will be A/1/52 at BS452965, A/1/52 at BS527952, C/1/522 at LZ Buff. Area #2: BT2911 to BT3301 to BT3801 to BT3907 to BT3113, friendlies: D/4/3 at BT398072. Area #3: center of mass: BS7585. No friendlies in the area. Area #4: BT1005 to BT1013 to BT2305 to BT2313. No friendlies in the area.	6808_DTOC_Trans
30-Aug-68	3		198th, request for F/8 Cav VR. 1.) 1st priority: check Arc Light BS402987, BS425985, 408997, BS419977. 2.) S384981, BS399968, BS387988, BS409975. 3.) BS370922, BS374914, BS388932, BS392924. 2nd priority: on way back, check old LZ Clifford area BT258103. Suspect AW position on it. Check in on Whip 33 and push 58.60.	6808_DTOC_Trans

30-Aug-68	82	1422	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, 160320 at 1410H, detained 1 MAM, evac to Hawk Hill.	6808_DTOC_Trans
30-Aug-68	87	1449	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT174335 at 1448H, eng'd 2 VC, 2 VC KIA.	6808_DTOC_Trans
30-Aug-68	95	1537	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT174335 at 1515H, detained 1 VN female.	6808_DTOC_Trans
30-Aug-68	96	1547	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav Infantry, BT170337, extracted.	6808_DTOC_Trans
30-Aug-68	104	1615	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, results of VR mission. At 1129H, AT969315, obs fresh dirt on trenchline and spider holes. 1140H,	6808_DTOC_Trans
30-Aug-68			AT971314, obs trail along stream. At 1150H, BT088309, obs bunker complex. There was no one in the snatch area.	6808_DTOC_Trans
30-Aug-68	122	235	(delayed entry) 196th, Blue Ghost (F/8 Cav) request, 2/1, to work vic BT001328 along main trail to vic AT960310. Recon area and snatch 1 indiv, suspected area where LZ Ross was mortared. This request supersedes previous request.	6808_DTOC_Trans
30-Aug-68	125	1645	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT234440 at 1638H, helo went down at above coord. F/8 Cav Inf going in to secure acft, OH6A type. Neg casualties. At 1818H acft extracted. Acft went down due to mechanical failure.	6808_DTOC_Trans
31-Aug-68	63	1630	198th, TOC, request for F/8 Cav or Aero Scouts. Area #1: BT1511, 1406, 1902, 2603, 2609, 2215. Friendlies C/5/46 at BT2207. Area #2: BS4681, 5296, 5281. Friendlies D/1/52 at BS473948, C/1/52 at LZ Buff. Area #3: Batangan Peninsula, BS7585 is center of mass. No friendlies. Before entering area, contact 1/52. Would like Areas #1 and #2 flown twice tomorrow.	6808_DTOC_Trans

The following is Mr. Schleyer's extracted Blue Ghost entries from September 1968:

Date	Entry	Time	Action reported	Source File
1-Sep-68	26	1130	198th, CPT Kenny, request F/8 Cav fly VR of Tien Phuoc Rice Bowl this afternoon, no friendly troops in area. Passed to 1/1 Cav.	6809_DTOC_Trans
1-Sep-68	40	1030	198th, TOC, results of VR mission ran by F/8 Cav. At 0920H, BT192078, obs bunker believed to be living quarters because of clothing outside, and women in area. At BT192077, obs 1 spider hole. At BT168034, obs 40 water buffalo. At BT165026, obs new hut constructed of ponchos. At BT2202, all civilians living in bunkers, also obs 75 cattle. At 0945H, BT303098, rec'd AW fire, neg hits.	6809_DTOC_Trans
2-Sep-68	2	2000	(delayed entry) 198th, request (Blue Ghost) F/8 Cav, to VR Area #1 in Rice Bowl area, no friendlies in immediate area. Area #2, BT1511, BT1406, BT1902, BT2603, BT2609, BT2215. Only friendlies in area, 5/46, BT163104, call sign Merit Charlie 6, freq: 56.95. This is a two priority mission. Called 1/1 Cav 012010H, they said they doubt that they can get around to it, but would process it anyhow.	6809_DTOC_Trans
2-Sep-68	8	755	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT186560 at 0730H, obs 1 sampan with 3 MAM, evading, eng'd, res: 1 VC KIA and 1 sampan destroyed.	6809_DTOC_Trans
2-Sep-68	11	800	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, at 0745H, one gunship (Cobra) took some hits, landed at LZ Baldy, neg casualties. No damage assessment at this time. Coord of enemy unk at this time. Coord is BT188524.	6809_DTOC_Trans
2-Sep-68	27	1039	1/1 Cav, TOC, BT212482 at 1030H, F/8 Cav Infantry inserted, reason: filler for C Troop.	6809_DTOC_Trans
2-Sep-68	34	1140	196th, 4/21, BT201543 at 1140H, F/8th Cav with 4/21, rec'd burst of AW fire, neg hits. Obs 1 VC in green uniform and wpn run into a bunker. Ground troops moving in.	6809_DTOC_Trans
2-Sep-68	59	1339	196th, TOC, request F/8 Cav for Snatch mission, 3398-9735 (both 1000m radius). URI and CI indicate hvy enemy activity in this area. For 2 Sep.	6809_DTOC_Trans
2-Sep-68	61	1600	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT196535 at 1540H, helo rec'd AW fire and took 4 hits, ship is flyable at this time.	6809_DTOC_Trans
2-Sep-68	72	1705	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, Infantry extracted at 1615H from BT223477.	6809_DTOC_Trans
3-Sep-68	35	900	1/1 Cav, TOC, BT2249 at 0835H, F/8 Cav Infantry inserted at BT2249 to reinforce 4/31, and for training.	6809_DTOC_Trans
3-Sep-68	62	1335	198th, F/8 Cav, BT002134 at 1335H, VR mission. Roads med to hvy used, wood piles set on fire, believed to be a signal, obs several wood piles on hills in area, lots of potatoes and rice by huts, more than normal.	6809_DTOC_Trans
3-Sep-68	72	1358	198th, F/8 Cav, BT231119 at 1335H, eng'd 1 VC, 1 VC KIA.	6809_DTOC_Trans
3-Sep-68	74	1425	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, at 1420H, F/8 Cav Infantry extracted.	6809_DTOC_Trans

3-Sep-68	76	1525	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, results of VR mission. At 1245H, at BT003134, signal fire appeared to have been hit as helos moved into the area. At AT946114, obs 6 sampans hid under brush on E side of river. At AT950105, obs 3 sampans on N side of river. At 9810, all roads and trails show hvy use in all directions. Also rice and potatoes drying. At BT231119, obs 1 VC, eng'd, 1 VC KIA. At BT1908, all fields were attended. Trails show hvy use.	6809_DTOC_Trans
3-Sep-68	90	1800	DTOC, to 1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav to be on alert to furnish air support to both the 198th and 196th, starting 4 Sep on mission basis.	6809_DTOC_Trans
3-Sep-68	115	1456	198th, request F/8 Cav and Aero Scouts to run same VR mission they ran today. Passed to 1/1 Cav: because of missions already laid on F/8 Cav, all might not be flown. 1/1 Cav will liaison with 198th for preference of missions.	6809_DTOC_Trans
4-Sep-68	17	0856	1/1 Cav, TOC, BT215490 at 0855H, F/8 Cav Infantry was inserted to support C Troop at coord BT215490.	6809_DTOC_Trans
4-Sep-68	37	1240	198th, LT Blanco, BT187093 at 1230H, request gunships for D/5/46, in hvy contact with USEF. Co Commander has been wounded. Firing all available arty. Passed request for gunships to 1/1 Cav for F/8 Cav to CPT Shackleford.	6809_DTOC_Trans
4-Sep-68			1247H, guns scrambling, CPT Logan. 1310H, gunships on station, neg contact as of 1307H. Request Dustoff for 12 WHA (E) (4 urgent, 10 priority) 1 WHA is CO. Unit was in night laager position when they rec'd mortars and AW fire. 1421H read out. D/5/46 rec'd mortar fire, coord BT191093. Had 12 WHA (E), 4 WHA (M), 4 urgent, 8 priority, 1 WHA was CO. Dustoff complete at 1330H. F/8 Cav on station at 1241H. Unit was in night laager position when they rec'd mortar fire and AW fire. 1 WHA (E) had Rheumatic Fever and shoulder wound. 1 WHA (E) was CO. D-6 stated he saw secondary explosion in area.	6809_DTOC_Trans
4-Sep-68	48	1430	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT248425 at 1420H, rec'd 1 rd of SA fire, possibly took 1 hit. At BT229449, rec'd 1 rd of sniper fire, neg hits.	6809_DTOC_Trans
4-Sep-68	54	1415	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav Infantry, BT215490 at 1412H, F/8 Cav Infantry was extracted.	6809_DTOC_Trans
4-Sep-68	71	2050	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, at 1420H, flew VR in D-1 Area. At 1420H, rec'd SA & .30 cal fire, neg hits.	6809_DTOC_Trans
4-Sep-68	72	2052	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, at 1300H, flew contact mission for 198th in D-2 Area. Put suppressive fire on suspected target. Escorted Medevac, placed fire on supply route.	6809_DTOC_Trans
4-Sep-68	69	1515	198th, TOC, request for F/8 Cav VR, same area as 4 Sep area.	6809_DTOC_Trans
5-Sep-68	28	1630	198th, Blue Ghost request: Area #1 Rice Bowl, no friendlies. Area #2 BT1416, 1406, 1902, 2603, 2609, 2116, friendlies Merit A6 located BT1714, freq 51.20, Merit B6, LZ Young, freq 57.00. Area #3 BT2709, 2913, 2901, 3905, friendlies Fierce B6, freq 46.55, located BT2610. Would like as early as possible in morning and another run of areas in afternoon. Passed to 1/1 Cav, PFC Fervocce.	5-Sep-68

6-Sep-68	27	1111	198th, F/8 Cav, at 1038H, results of VR: Obs 1 trail between 07 and 08 grid E to W, trail light to med use. Also obs trail W of LZ Professional an BT064023 running NNE, light to med use.	6809_DTOC_Trans
6-Sep-68	38	1130	198th, F/8 Cav, at 1046H, read out on VR. BT224079 198084 obs 1 heard of water buffalo, approx 12 in each herd. BT225072, obs 2 huts, 2 defensive bunkers. BT228009, obs 1 large defensive bunker. BT216074, obs 1 old US position with spider holes and trench network. BT223788, obs 12 water buffalo.	6809_DTOC_Trans
6-Sep-68	47	1350	198th, F/8 Cav, at 1140H, obs 10 VN females and children by hut at BT228114. BT228118, obs green smoke grenade, neg friendlies in area. BT184098, obs 15-25 camouflaged positions, last occupied 5 days ago. BT283075, found extremely well used trail during and after rain. Comment by F/8 Cav: never seen this many buffalo on this many trails used in this area.	6809_DTOC_Trans
6-Sep-68	52	1417	196th, TOC, request F/8 Cav for Snatch mission, target coord AT948306, 957308, whatever they find should be taken to LZ Ross. Ground contact Bullet 3, freq: 64.35, 967316. Reason: PW reports 1 VC and 1 NVA Bn in the area. Contact has been made with VC in the area. Passed to 1/1 Cav.	6809_DTOC_Trans
6-Sep-68	60	1450	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT192260 at 1440H, 1 MAM evading, eng'd, res: 1 VC KIA, neg wpn or ID.	6809_DTOC_Trans
6-Sep-68	68	1600	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT235439 at 1600H, 1 VC evading, MAM, 1 VC KIA, neg ID, wpn, or documents.	6809_DTOC_Trans
7-Sep-68	23	1000	11th, B/3/1, BT550757 at 0940H, eng'd 1 VC, res: 1 VC KIA. Blue Ghost assisting in operation.	6809_D
7-Sep-68	33	2000	198th, request for Blue Ghost, agreed between the two 6's for Areas #1, #2, and #3. Nearest friendlies Merit A-6, located BT1713, freq: 59.05. Fierce B, located 2510, freq: 36.30. Anytime tomorrow. Passed to 1/1 Cav over secure.	6809_D
7-Sep-68	69	1518	198th, LT Mitchell, request for Blue Ghost for 08 Sep 68. Areas are the same as today plus Arc Light BDA. BS3795, 3797, 3997, 3995, 3695, 4095, 3692, 4092. Passed to 1/1 Cav over secure at 1532H, rec'd by PFC Parisi.	6809_D
8-Sep-68	5	2015	(delayed entry) 196th, F/8 Cav, request for 4/21 to recon and screen for friendly movement. Target: 8011, 8617, 8014, duration of mission 45 min, ground contact 4/31, command net 61.90. Friendlies A/4/31 LZ Mellon, C and Recon 825165. Enemy location unk. Had enemy contacts 3-4 days ago, thick vegetation in area, was an enemy base camp located in area. Request time on station 1030H. Passed to 1/1 Cav by secure 080704H.	6809_DTOC_Trans
8-Sep-68	60	1330	198th, F/8 Cav, BDA, from 1115H to 1200H, BS374945 to 373948, located 4 huts, 2 damaged, 2 undamaged. BS381967, 2 huts undamaged. BS394964 to 391974, rec'd hvy AW fire.	6809_DTOC_Trans
8-Sep-68	78	830	196th, 3/21, request F/8 Cav for recon and screen mission vic BT0220, BT0520, BT0218, BT0518. Request them on station from 0730H to 1030H 9 Sep. Come up on R/3/21 freq. Unit will be moving and will need close recon support.	6809_DTOC_Trans
8-Sep-68	79	950	196th, TOC, request for F/8 Cav Snatch mission for 2/1 Inf, from 091030H to 091130H. Sniffer mission high in that area, previous sightings, BT0039.	6809_DTOC_Trans
8-Sep-68	92	1647	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT169244 at 1645H, detained 1 MAM.	6809_DTOC_Trans

8-Sep-68	93	1650	196th, TOC, request F/8 Cav for screening mission, 8923, 9323, 8919, 9319. Have numerous sightings of VC.	6809_DTOC_Trans
8-Sep-68	96	1702	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT151293 at 1655H, detained 2 MAM.	6809_DTOC_Trans
9-Sep-68	11	830	11th, F/8 Cav, BS798475 at 0825H, rec'd 10 rds semi-auto wpns fire, going in to check it out.	6809_DTOC_Trans
9-Sep-68	12	855	198th, TOC, request for F/8 Cav to VR coord BS5585, 5588, 5888, 5885, time: anytime today, reason: high Sniffer readings at above cord, no friendlies in area. Passed to LT Susack, 1/1 Cav 090905H. Passed to 198th, CPT Kenny.	6809_DTOC_Trans
9-Sep-68			1/1 Cav will try to run the mission, if not, 1/1 Cav will inform DTOC. Will fly mission instead of one already scheduled.	6809_DTOC_Trans
9-Sep-68	14	930	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, F/8 Cav will not be able to run VR or Snatch mission at desired time for 196th due to acft commitments. May run mission later today, from SGT Mardis, 1/1 Cav. Passed to 196th, SP/4 Franklin, 090931H.	6809_DTOC_Trans
9-Sep-68	53	1500	198th, F/8 Cav, BS279114 at 1440H, spotted body in green shorts and green shirt, bandage on one leg, appears to have been dead several days, 1 VC KIA.	6809_DTOC_Trans
9-Sep-68	60	2045	198th, TOC, request F/8 Cav for VR, area #1: BT1411 to 1407 to 1706 to 2103 to 2603 to 2506 to 1911 to 1411. No friendly troops in area. Area #2: BT2510, 3110, 3406, 3402, 2705, 2408. Passed to 1/1 Cav.	6809_DTOC_Trans
9-Sep-68	61	1330	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, results of VR: at BT0039, neg personnel at western end of valley. At BT050397, obs group of 6 women with supplies. Women threw several items in bushes. Items appeared to be material of ponchos and uniform type, rice and bottles of clear liquid. Unable to get this item, women who threw them evac to LZ Ross.	6809_DTOC_Trans
9-Sep-68	64	1500	198th, F/8 Cav, results of VR: several large stacks of firewood in area, neg personnel. At 5586, large number of unattended cattle. At 540866, obs 3 VN males evading.	6809_DTOC_Trans
9-Sep-68	65	1535	198th, moving infantry to check out area of suspected enemy location. Want F/8 Cav there to stop anybody from moving out of area. Sent 1/1 Cav.	6809_DTOC_Trans
9-Sep-68	74	1700	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, results of VR mission for 196th: at AT915244, obs 1 VC, eng'd, 1 VC KIA. At AT898238, eng'd 2 VC w/neg results. At AT874220, eng'd several VC w/neg results. At AT878221, eng'd 1 VC w/neg results.	6809_DTOC_Trans
9-Sep-68	94	1657	196th, F/8 Cav, request for 10 Sep recon mission, 8622, 9026, 8820, 9124, at 0730H. LZ Gimlet and LZ O'Connor have friendlies, reason: numerous sightings of NVA/VC w/packs and wpns. Passed to 1/1 Cav.	6809_DTOC_Trans
9-Sep-68	99	2045	198th, request F/8 Cav for 10 Sep. Area #1: BT1411, 1407, 1706, 2103, 2603, 2506, 1911, 1411, no friendlies. Area #2: BT2510, 3110, 3406, 3402, 2705, 2408, B/1/46 at BT3213. Area #3: BS4197, 4491, 4488, 489, 4895, 4179, A/1/52 at BS4891. Anytime tomorrow. Passed to 1/1 Cav.	6809_DTOC_Trans
10-Sep-68	42	1100	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, from 100825H to 100955H, results of VR mission. At 0840H, AT888225, obs 1 defense bunker	6809_DTOC_Trans
10-Sep-68			4'x4'x4' with tunnel leading NE, 1 old man in area. At 0900H, AT820226-882224, obs several trails running NE. At 0915H, AT891230, obs 4 camouflaged spider holes. At 0940H, AT842216 and N about 300 meters, obs 5 herds of water buffalo, 7 in each herd. At 0945H, AT884235, obs trails across stream, showed hvy use. Passed to 196th Bde,	6809_DTOC_Trans
10-Sep-68			SP/4 Klco.	6809_DTOC_Trans
10-Sep-68	61	1750	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BS453764-BS444755, destroyed 9 sampans at 1718H.	6809_DTOC_Trans

11-Sep-68	29	1450	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, results of VR for 198th. At 1050H at BT285083, obs 10-15 spider holes, 1 bunker 4'x4' w/trenchline. At BT266083, obs several spider holes, neg personnel. At BT255083, obs moderately used trail. 20 water buffalo vic BT 248081. Obs several spider holes by trail at BT248081. Trails show moderate use vic BT2908.	6809_DTOC_Trans
11-Sep-68	30	934	198th, request for VR by F/8 Cav, BT2510, 3110, 3406, 2705, 2408, no friendlies in area, run anytime today.	6809_DTOC_Trans
11-Sep-68	44	1400	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT147251 at 1355H, found several burned huts on some used trails, F/8 Cav burned off some foliage from trail.	6809_DTOC_Trans
11-Sep-68	52	1620	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT210470 at 1614H, eng'd 1 VC w/neg results.	6809_DTOC_Trans
11-Sep-68	54	1640	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT264407 at 1637H, eng'd 2 VC, 2 VC KIA.	6809_DTOC_Trans
11-Sep-68	55	1643	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT288377 at 1642H, eng'd 1 VC, 1 VC KIA.	6809_DTOC_Trans
12-Sep-68	5	845	198th, TOC, request F/8 Cav mission, time: early evening today if possible, BS6296, 6582, 7183, 6794. Friendlies:	6809_DTOC_Trans
12-Sep-68			D/1/52 BS6891, call word Linked Lizard 23, freq: 58.50. This is to replace Area #2 of today's mission. Passed to 1/1 Cav.	6809_DTOC_Trans
12-Sep-68	16	925	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT309358 at 0815H, 1 MAM evading, eng'd, res: 1 VC KIA.	6809_DTOC_Trans
12-Sep-68	27	1355	198th, F/8 Cav, BT203078 at 1325H, VR mission for 198th, results: spotted 4 VN evading, 1 wearing green uniform, 1 black uniform, 1 civilian clothes. The fourth one could not be seen. Fired, but did not receive fire in return. Saw old bunker with recent use.	6809_DTOC_Trans
12-Sep-68	40	1600	198th, TOC, results of VR from F/8 Cav. 1326H at BT193093, obs 4 camouflaged huts, burnt huts, 2-3 secondary explosions. 1325H at 203078, obs 4 VC evading, 1 dressed in green uniform, 1 dressed in black uniform, 1 in civilian clothes, eng'd w/neg results. Also obs 1 old bunker 1330H at 194084, obs heavily used trail going NE. (Note) Days before VR obs water buffalo in area, neg sighting today.	6809_DTOC_Trans
12-Sep-68	68	1745	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT246403 at 1635H, eng'd 1 VC, 1 VC KIA.	6809_DTOC_Trans
13-Sep-68	41	1330	TF Galloway, 1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BS512775 at 1325H, detained 1 VCS MAM evading.	6809_DTOC_Trans
13-Sep-68	42	1330	TF Galloway, 1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BS473762 at 1245H, detained 2 females carrying 1 boy on a litter, 2 females detained, boy evac.	6809_DTOC_Trans
13-Sep-68	73	2147	198th, F/8 Cav request from 198th: Area #1: BT1411 to 1403, BT2603 to 2611. D/5/46 vic 255084. Area #2: BS4196 to 4192, BS4887 to 4896. A/26th Engr and E/1/52 at LZ Chippewa. Area #3: BS6290 to 6582, BS7183 to 6794. C/1/52 and D/1/52 at LZ Dottie. To be flown any convenient time tomorrow. Passed to 1/1 Cav at 2240H.	6809_DTOC_Trans
14-Sep-68	33	1105	TF Galloway, F/8 Cav, BS569742 at 1035H, eng'd 1 VC evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6809_DTOC_Trans
14-Sep-68	47	1340	TF Galloway, F/8 Cav, BS533754 at 1325H, 1 unk type aircraft shot down. A/1/1 in security of acft, acft LOH, F/8 Cav, no casualties. Acft completely destroyed, SOI secured. Passed to CPT Tunnelson, aide to ADC-A.	6809_DTOC_Trans
15-Sep-68	7	2145	(delayed entry) 198th, Blue Ghost request for 198th for 15 Sep 68. Request VR and Snatch if possible. Area #4: BT1407, 1411, 2103, 2603, 1911, friendlies are C/5/46 at 2109, Warm Sea Dog, 23-60.00 and D/5/46 at 2407, Racy Marker, 23-61.75. Area #5: BT2409, 3700, 4000, 3608, friendlies: Wicked Risker Golf at 249078, 62.40 and Wicked Risker Alpha at 220097, 62.40. Area #6: BS4296, 4796, 4890, 4289, friendlies LRRP Memphis at 4494, 46.55. To be flown as soon as possible 15 Sep when convenient. Warlords were furnished for the day to 198th for these missions.	15-Sep-68

15-Sep-68	20	917	TF Galloway, F/8 Cav, BS464765 at 0840H, LOH-6A rec'd AW fire, neg hits, neg results.	6809_DTOC_Trans
15-Sep-68	21	918	TF Galloway, F/8 Cav, BS519759 at 0840H, obs several VC evading, neg results.	6809_DTOC_Trans
15-Sep-68	22	918	TF Galloway, F/8 Cav, BS446762 at 0834H, obs 1 MAM in sampan, neg results.	6809_DTOC_Trans
15-Sep-68	23	919	TF Galloway, F/8 Cav, BS519759 at 0855H, obs several empty sampans, neg results.	6809_DTOC_Trans
15-Sep-68	24	919	TF Galloway, F/8 Cav, BS465745 at 0908H, eng'd 1 VC evading in black PJ's, res: 1 VC KIA.	6809_DTOC_Trans
15-Sep-68	25	920	TF Galloway, F/8 Cav, BS449750 at 0910H, obs 12-14 MAM in green uniforms evading, have rec'd 1 burst of SA fire, Helix on station, air strike on way.	6809_DTOC_Trans
15-Sep-68	26	920	TF Galloway, F/8 Cav, BS468758 at 0903H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6809_DTOC_Trans
16-Sep-68	75	825	196th, F/8 Cav request, S-2 approved 2244, 2444, 2833, 3134. VR mission along river and eastern boundary for evidence of enemy crossings and general use. Time on station: 0800H-1000H, or whenever possible on 17 Sep. 2d tgt: 9523, 9725, 9920, 0122, recon and screen, time on station: 1000H-1030H. Area of increased activity and fighting of small groups of VC. 2 months ago it was VC stronghold. Nearest friendlies: 2000 meters at LZ West.	6809_DTOC_Trans
16-Sep-68	81	2105	198th, F/8 Cav request for 17 Sep: Area #1: no friendlies, Area #2: no friendlies, Area #3 contact LRRP Atlanta 46.55. Area #4: A/5/46 at BT145163. D/5/46 at BT171157, C/5/46 at LZ Bowman.	6809_DTOC_Trans
17-Sep-68	14	920	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, at 0914H, eng'd several personnel around a bunker, neg results.	6809_DTOC_Trans
17-Sep-68	19	939	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT246417 at 0932H, 1 MAM evading into hut, res: 1 VC KIA, some SA ammo went off inside the hut.	6809_DTOC_Trans
18-Sep-68	21	849	198th, LT Blanco, at 0848H, request Blue Ghost to LZ Young, same freq and call sign, passed to 1/1 Cav, SP Pavaren, 0850H.	
18-Sep-68	43	1115	198th, Blue Ghost, BT168173 at 1115H, found 3x.50 cal positions, unoccupied, at 168173, 163168, 165164. Trench at 170162, NE to SE, 1500 lbs of rice at 162164. Destroyed 2 huts 169165, 2 tunnels 6 ft by 6 ft with 5 unused graves. Three new camouflaged huts with 25 NVA uniforms drying on rocks.	
18-Sep-68	30	1000	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, results of VR mission US-18-1 for 198th. 0825H, at coord BT175181, obs 3c.50 cal positions, 1 to 11/2 days old, many spider holes, well camouflaged, could see 10, believe to be more in wood line. 0835H, at BT159170, obs 2x.50 cal positions, 1 to 1-1/2 days old, 6 spider holes, well camouflaged, believe to be more in wood line. Passed to 198th on pn.	6809_DTOC_Trans
18-Sep-68	51	1250	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, results of VR mission # US-18-2. 1030H, BT168173, obs 2x.50 cal positions, 6 spider holes, all new and camouflaged. 1030H, BT163168, found 1x.50 cal position, 12 spider holes, 2 bunkers, well camouflaged. (continued)	6809_DTOC_Trans
18-Sep-68	58	1200	198th, TOC, request for F/8 Cav VR. 1st Priority: 1618, 2018, 2014, 1614, friendly, LZ Center, Bounty, L61-10 on road Wicked Risker 6. 2d priority: Valley from 1407 E to 2307. No friendlies, contact Wicked Risker 8, freq 62.40. 3d priority: 2311, 2612, 2910, 2807, friendlies in area, LZ Bowman, Central Bounty, M 61.10. Passed to 1/1 Cav, SGT Paul.	6809_DTOC_Trans
18-Sep-68	76	1656	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT288394 at 1640H, obs huts with wire around them. 1 MAM evaded, res: 1 VC KIA. Set hut on fire and rec'd secondary explosion. Called arty. At 1818H, F/8 Cav checked area,	6809_DTOC_Trans

			res: 4 bunkers destroyed, 5 VC KIA by arty, BT290394.	
18-Sep-68	84	1750	.50 cal positions, numerous spider holes, 25-50 pi BT163168, 1x.50 cal position and 12 spider holes running N-S. BT168166, 1x.50 cal position with	BT169162, several huts camouflaged with trenchline 30m long many spider holes. Did not complete last 2 missions.
19-Sep-68	34	1120	198th, F/8 Cav, BS686965 at 1103H, obs 2 females evading into wood line, they were hiding something under clothing. Upon check of area, F/8 Cav came under AW fire. CAP Team 133 will check out the area.	6809_DTOC_Trans
19-Sep-68	62	1550	1/1 Cav, Blue Ghost, BS686965 at 1100H, VR for 198th had neg findings. Saw only 2 young girls. At coord BT686965, rec'd 2 rds w/neg hits. Passed to 198th.	19-Sep-68
19-Sep-68	81	1805	198th, F/8 Cav, BS683941 at 1740H, found spider holes and rec'd SA fire, eng'd w/neg results.	6809_DTOC_Trans
19-Sep-68	85	1750	DTOC, passed to 1/1 Cav that F/8 Cav will support TF Galloway on 20 Sep 68. TF Galloway desires that F/8 Cav report to LZ Chevy at 0830H. Changed coord instructions as follows: Commander of F/8 Cav elements or lead pilot will report NLT 0800H to LZ Chevy. Remaining acft will report NLT 0815H. All acft will approach from N. Passed to 1/1 Cav.	6809_DTOC_Trans
19-Sep-68	86	1630	198th, request for F/8 Cav for recon mission: Priority #1: BT1513, 1813, 1409, 1808, B/1/52 located N end of grids 1 km.	6809_DTOC_Trans
19-Sep-68			Priority #2: BT1518, 2019, 1615, 2015, C/1/52 located at LZ Young. Priority #3: BT6687, 6987, 6699, 6999, CAP 133 at BT6698. Rec'd SA/AW fire. Passed to Aero Scouts to perform 1st thing in the morning.	6809_DTOC_Trans
20-Sep-68	13	1000	TF Galloway, CAP Henderson, the F/8 Cav element that are w/TF Galloway will remain all day in support of Opn Champaign Grove.	6809_DTOC_Trans
20-Sep-68	16	1040	TF Galloway, F/8 Cav, BS390648 at 1015H, 1 MAM evading, eng'd, res: 1 VC KIA.	6809_DTOC_Trans
20-Sep-68	19	1000	TF Galloway, CPT Henderson, result present F/8 Cav BDA/VR. 0900H, BS426580, found trail running E-W w/moderate use, neg personnel. 0905H, BS428585, found trail running E-W w/hvy use, obs neg personnel. 0918H, BS423575, found a lookout tower 15 ft tall with a platform on top, neg personnel obs. 0930H, screened BS4065 (vic), obs trails w/moderate use, nothing significant. 0945H, snatched 1 MAF at BS392601, evac to LZ Chevy. 1010H, obs 100 head cattle attended by 30 people at BS384654. People and cattle moved N into NFZ when acft approached.	6809_DTOC_Trans
20-Sep-68	20	1045	TF Galloway, F/8 Cav, BS3967 at 1040H, F/8 Can at above cord obs trail running N-S on east side of river, approx 20 people (MAM) carrying baskets from the field.	6809_DTOC_Trans
20-Sep-68	21	1050	TF Galloway, F/8th Cav, BS394624 at 1045H, F/8 Cav at above coord found 4-5 fresh tunnel entrances in bank of stream bed.	6809_DTOC_Trans
20-Sep-68	24	1109	TF Galloway, F/8th Cav, BS389653 at 1103H, snatched 1 MAM evading, took him to LZ Chevy.	6809_DTOC_Trans
20-Sep-68	26	1120	TF Galloway, F/8 Cav, BS392599 at 1110H, found 1 large bunker reinforced with timber, opening 2 ft by 2 ft, neg personnel in area.	6809_DTOC_Trans
20-Sep-68	27	1130	TF Galloway, F/8 Cav, BS393632 at 1120H, 1 hut built in underbrush and well camouflaged, destroyed w/WP grenade.	6809_DTOC_Trans

20-Sep-68	32	1236	TF Galloway, F/8 Cav, BS404643 at 1215H, rec'd 2-3 rds SA fire, neg hits. Obs 3 spider holes, 1 camouflaged hut, 1 MAM in area, unable to apprehend, will go back for a clearer look.	6809_DTOC_Trans
20-Sep-68	47	1440	TF Galloway, F/8th Cav, BS485603 at 1430H, VR of area, obs negative. 1 well used trail.	6809_DTOC_Trans
20-Sep-68	54	1530	TF Galloway, F/8 Cav, BS398628 at 1515H, obs 1 MAM without clothing. 338600 S 351480, neg sightings.	6809_DTOC_Trans
20-Sep-68	66	1640	TF Galloway, D/3/1, BS450595 at 1625H, moving to night position, rec'd SA fire, 1 US WHA (E), Dustoff called. 1655H, SGT Gerberding called, WHA is changed to KHA. 1705H, neg contact at this time, F/8 Cav fired on suspected location, rec'd 1 secondary explosion, lost 1 M-16.	6809_DTOC_Trans
21-Sep-68	7	1705	(delayed entry) 198th, Aero Scouts, request (prefer Aero Scouts rather than Blue Ghosts for this mission if possible) for 21 Sep 68 at 0730H. Priority #1: 6485, 7285, 6497, 7197, friendlies: C/5/46 LZ Paradise (7097) Wicked Risker Alpha, freq 62.40, enemy activity in this area 4-5 days ago at 6689. Priority #2: 7097, 6397, 6202, 6704, friendlies: CAP 132 at 6201, Flinty Sharks 132, 60.15, CAP 133 at 6698, Flinty Sharks 133, 60.15, CAP 134 at 6101, Flinty Sharks 134, 60.15, C/5/46, BT650015, Warm Seadog 67, 60.00, C(-)/5/46, LZ Paradise, Wicked Risker Alpha, 62.40. Mission is to locate unidentified unit in area and snatch if possible.	6809_DTOC_Trans
21-Sep-68	22	927	TF Galloway, F/8 Cav, BS383724 at 0915H, rec'd SA fire.	6809_DTOC_Trans
22-Sep-68	76	945	198th, LT Blanco, BT305182, enemy unit at above coord, Marine Mobile Training Team requests gunships. COL Bolte cleared area w/ARVN and Marines. Passed to LT Blanco 198th. Ships to come up on Tam Ky push - Junky Sprays. Blue Ghost from 1/1 Cav diverted from 198th VR to engage est enemy platoon.	6809_DTOC_Trans
22-Sep-68	80	2130	(delayed entry) 198th, F/8 Cav request for 22 Sep, as early in morning as possible. Priority #1: BS648863, 681877, 647940, 618922. Neg friendlies in area, before entering area contact Wicked Risker 8, freq 62.40. Priority #2: BS4485, 5585, 5591, 5091, 4797, 4495, friendlies A/5/46 at BS4794, Biter Lion 23, freq 46.40. Contact Wicked Risker 8 on 62.40 prior to entering and leaving area. Aero Scouts to TF Galloway 22 Sep 68, informed 198th. Passed to 1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, at 212200H to SGT Paul.	6809_DTOC_Trans
23-Sep-68	10	2330	(delayed entry) 198th, TOC, Blue Ghost request for 230730H Sep 68. 1st Priority: BS4692, 4688, 4691, 5689, no friendlies, MVR. 2d Priority: BT3012, 3214, 3705, 3807, no friendlies, MVR, contact is Central Lion 8, freq 67.35. 3d Priority: BS6594, 6894, 6586, 6886, no friendlies, MVR. Contact Wicked Risker 8 upon entering and leaving, freq 62.40, passed to SGT Moffit 0717H.	6809_DTOC_Trans
23-Sep-68	18	115	198th, TOC, request for Blue Ghost for 3 missions at 240700H Sep. 1st mission: BT315175, 280130, 340110, 365130, friendlies: C/1/46, BT310119, contact Central Lion 8, freq 67.35. 2d mission: BT340105, 380110, 380055, 400085, no friendlies, contact Central Lion 8, freq 67.35. 3d mission: BS455970, 490960, 495920, 565910, 455882, friendlies: a & B/5 46, LZ Chippewa, BS485970, A/1 BS490944. Contact, Wicked Risker, 62.40, Passed to Warlords to fly instead of 1/1 Cav.	6809_DTOC_Trans
23-Sep-68	30	1012	198th, TOC, request Blue Ghost VR mission ASAP, BS4696, 4688, 4991, 5691, A/5/46 friendlies, Bitter Lion 23, freq 46.75. Passed to 1/1 Cav, Moffit. Ref journal entry #10. This VR cancels 1st VR (illegible) S-2 196th.	6809_DTOC_Trans
24-Sep-68	28	1014	196th, 1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT237161 at 0950H, obs 1 MAM evading, dressed in black shirt and green pants, wpn and web gear, eng'd, res: 1 NVA KIA. B/1/1 trying to retrieve wpn at this time.	6809_DTOC_Trans
24-Sep-68	48	1344	198th, 5/46, BS522948 at 1300H, two F/8 Cav acft rec'd 1 or 2 rds sniper fire, 5/46 sent out patrol, picked up 2 VCS, one male, 1 female, evac to LZ Gator.	6809_DTOC_Trans
24-Sep-68	85	1713	1/1 Cav, A/1/1, BT225165 at 1710H, ACAV hit by RPG at 1825H, 12 NVA KIA by F/8 Cav, 12 NVA KIA by D/4/21. Acft putting in air strike took 1x.50 cal hit.	6809_DTOC_Trans

24-Sep-68	103	2245	1/1 Cav, TOC, update on casualties: 1 MHA. B/1/1: 10 WHA (E), 1 WHA (E) from 3/16 Arty. A/1/1: 11 WHA (E), 3 WHA (M), 1 WHA (E) from 3/16 Arty. Update on kills: B/1/1, 23 NVA, A/1/1: 33 NVA, F/8 Cav: 13 NVA, D/4/21, 12 NVA.	6809_DTOC_Trans
25-Sep-68	4	2040	(delayed entry) 196th, at 261000H to 261130H, Blue Ghost request for 196th Inf for 26 Sep 68. Time on station 261000H to 261130H. If 1st squadron, 1st Cav is hit in contact. NW BT0923, SW BT1020, NE BT1123, SE BT1321, type mission: recon. Ground contact: Amber Cobra Alpha, freq: 35.60, friendlies: a 3 company sweep vic BT1121. Enemy position unk. Passed to 1/1 Cav by secure at 242143H, to SP/4 Thompson.	6809_DTOC_Trans
25-Sep-68	15	815	1/1 Cav, TOC, BT245165 at 1430H, summary of 1/1 Cav contact 24 Sep 68. Elements of A & B/1/1, F/8 Cav, and D/4/21 made contact with Bn size force dressed in gray and green uniforms. Enemy was in a defensive position and were well organized. Enemy used AW wpns, .50 cal fire and RPG's against 1/1 Cav. Gunships and tactical air strikes were called on enemy positions, enemy started withdrawing to the E, then S to valley vic BT268168. No PW's captured or no documents captured to identify unit that1/1 Cav was in contact with.	6809_DTOC_Trans
25-Sep-68	33	1235	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT235158 at 1220H, eng'd 1 NVA evading, res: 1 NVA KIA.	6809_DTOC_Trans
25-Sep-68	53	1412	1/1 Cav, D/4/21, BT243168 at 1407H, eng'd unk number NVA evading, res: 33 NVA KIA, 6 AK-47 CIA, 5 RPG CIA, 37 RPG rds CIA. 1540H, add 15 NVA KIA by air strike, 9 NVA KIA by F/8 Cav, total KIA 57 NVA. 1550H, add 12 more KIA by A/1/1, 5 more KIA by F/8 Cav.	6809_DTOC_Trans
25-Sep-68	92	2300	1/1 Cav recap: A/1/1: 109 NVA KIA, 7 WHA (E), 2 WHA (M). 1 ACAV hit by RPG, minor damage. B/1/1: 17 NVA KIA, 2	6809_DTOC_Trans
25-Sep-68			WHA (E). F/8 Cav: 15 NVA KIA. D/4/21: 40 NVA KIA, 3 KHA, 1 WHA (E), 3 WHA (M). CIA 7 RPG-7, 5 RPG rds, 17 Chicom HG's, 1 RPD LMG, 2 RPD drums, 1 M-1 carbine, 1 NVA CIA. B/1/52: 2 NVA KIA. C/1/52: 2 NVA KIA. Air strike: 25 NVA KIA. HQ/1/1, 1 WHA (E).	6809_DTOC_Trans
27-Sep-68	7	100	198th, TOC, request for Blue Ghost. Priority Area #1: 160120, 130140, 200200, 220180, Friendlies in area: Friendlies in area: A/1/52 at LZ Bowman, Contact: Central Bounty 8, freq 31.60. Special instructions: close B/1/52 at 201161, D/1/52 at LZ Young, Contact: Central Bounty 8, freq 31.60. Priority Area #2: 120100, 120070, 210070, 210100, no friendlies in area, Contact: Central Bounty 8, freq 31.60. Priority Area #3: 280135, 290120, 230090, 220110, Friendlies in area: A/1/52 at LZ Bowman, Contact: Central Bounty 8, freq 31.60. Special instructions: close coordination should be made with Central Bounty 8, several units will be moving. Time for request 270700H Sep 68. 198th, MAJ Parks, S-2, 0705H. Passed to 1/1 Cav, Mardis, 0715H.	6809_DTOC_Trans
27-Sep-68	24	940	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT218439 at 0750H, eng'd 1 VC evading w/neg results.	6809_DTOC_Trans
27-Sep-68	90	2000	198th, req for F/8 Cav for 0700H 28 Sep, same as for 27 Sep request. Priority Area #1: 280135, 290120, 230090,	6809_DTOC_Trans
27-Sep-68			220110, D/1/52 at BT172127 and A/1/52 at BT171182. Priority Area #2: 160120, 130140, 200200, 220180. Priority Area #3: 120100, 120070, 210070, 210100, no friendlies in area. Passed to 1/1 Cav: they will fly only those they can in the priority listed. Passed to 198th.	6809_DTOC_Trans
28-Sep-68	26	1017	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, AT999329 at 0950H, 4-5 MAM hiding in bunker, left 1 ruck sack, 2 ft by 2ft in size. 5 or 6 spider holes and bunkers destroyed, could not get into the bunker the people were hiding in.	6809_DTOC_Trans
28-Sep-68	27	1017	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT030370 at 0955H, 1 MAM evading into spider hole, eng'd, but don't have results.	6809_DTOC_Trans
28-Sep-68	32	1017	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, AT984429 at 0905H, 1 MAM, black shirt and shorts evading, eng'd, res: 1 VC KIA.	6809_DTOC_Trans
28-Sep-68	33	1017	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, AT975333 at 0915H, 1 MAM evading, wearing black PJ's, eng'd, res: 1 VC KIA.	6809_DTOC_Trans

28-Sep-68	41	1017	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, AT997328 at 0940H, 1 MAM evading, wearing black PJ's and Ho Chi Minh sandals, eng'd, res: 1 VC KIA.	6809_DTOC_Trans
28-Sep-68	62	1405	196th, F/8 Cav, at 1000H, 3 enemy grids, eng'd 1 VC at each grid AT984329, 975333, 997328, res: 3 VC KIA. 1000H, obs 3 MAM evading NE in black PJ's, 2 wore white hats, neg wpns. AT999329, saw 2 white hats and 1 pack laying in bushes. Recon by fire, neg results. D/2/1 in area.	6809_DTOC_Trans
28-Sep-68	63	1606	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT286398 at 1520H, detained 1 MAM, evac to LZ Hawk Hill.	6809_DTOC_Trans
28-Sep-68	64	1607	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT325333 at 1515H, detained 1 MAM, evac to LZ Hawk Hill.	6809_DTOC_Trans
28-Sep-68	69	1318	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, at 1215H, VR mission results, US-28-4. 1145H, BT159187 (illegible) long wire radio antenna attached to poles of bamboo 15-20 ft high running N to S. At BT155193, same as at above coord, except antenna running E to W. 1200H, BT153191, 15 head of water buffalo, also indications are that the well-used trail of yesterday's report in this area, has not been used in the past 24 hrs. Passed to 198th, rec'd by LT Mitchell, 1345H.	6809_DTOC_Trans
29-Sep-68	12	2300	(delayed entry) 198th, Blue Ghost request, to be run for 198th LIB, at first light 30 Sep 68. Area #1: Hau Duc, vic 0227, 198th, TOC, request Blue Ghost hvy team, at 4 corner coord: BT121060, 121067, 130065, 130070. Est VC 1207, 0204, 1204, friendlies, PF's around Hau Duc, contact Junky Sprays 83, freq 42.80 for location of friendlies. Area #2: 1619, 1919, 1615, 1915, friendlies A/1/52, 173186; D/1/52 165186. Central Boundry, freq 61.10. Rec'd from SGT Seaton 198th. Passed to 1/1 Cav, rec'd by SGT Mardis at 0708H.	6809_DTOC_Trans
29-Sep-68	44	282107	(delayed entry) 198th, Blue Ghost request for 29 Sep. Area #1: new Hau Duc, vic BT0010, 0810, 005, 0805, Friendlies: New Hau Duc, Junky Sprays, 42.80. Area #2: 4499, 5099, 4494, 5094, friendlies: LZ Chippewa, Wicked Risker Mike, 62.40. Area #3: 1310, 2010, 1307, 2007, neg friendlies, closest friendlies LZ Bowman, contact Central Boundary 8, 31.60. Time on station approx 0830H. Passed secure to 1/1 Cav 282145H, SGT Moffit.	6809_DTOC_Trans
29-Sep-68	53	2100	(delayed entry) 198th, request for Blue Ghost to perform BDA on Arc Light strikes in D and E area, tomorrow morning 29 Sep 68. Contact Central Lion 8, freq 67.35. Passed secure to 1/1 Cav 282145H, SGT Moffit.	6809_DTOC_Trans
29-Sep-68	56	1243	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, from 1030H to 1130H, VR mission results, US 29-1. 1050H, at BT098023, numerous trails running from S curving to E, well used, about 2 meters wide, lots of trails running SW w/same specs. 1105H, at BT094025, obs 1 camouflaged hut, eng'd w/unk res. Air strike destroyed 14 huts, obs lots of movement in area. They were old men and women and children. Passed to 198th, rec'd by Mahek at 1323H.	6809_DTOC_Trans
29-Sep-68	62	1528	198th, TOC, request Blue Ghost hvy team, at 4 corner coord: BT121060, 121067, 130065, 130070. Est VC reinforced Co in area. Speedy Layout 1 NNE, Junky Sprays 83 4 km W, Central Lion 2.5 km NW. Blue Ghost on station at 1735H. Passed to 1/1 Cav over secure at 1620H, SP/4 Thompson.	6809_DTOC_Trans
29-Sep-68	67	1739	1/1 Cav, TOC, BT221440 at 1645H, Blue Ghost Blues Inf were extracted.	6809_DTOC_Trans
30-Sep-68	56	1545	1/1 Cav, F/8 Cav, BT242453 at 1450H, detained 4 MAM, evac to LZ Hawk Hill.	

The following is Mr. Schleyer's extracted Blue Ghost entries from February 1969:

Date	Entry	Time	Action reported	Source File
2-Feb-69	7	857	1/1 Cav, F/8th Cav, BT259446, BT248464 at 0815H, obs 2 MAM evading, eng'd, res: 2 VC KIA, neg wpns or ID.	6902_DTOC_Trans
2-Feb-69	8	858	1/1 Cav, F/8th Cav, BT307361 at 0820H, obs 1 MAM evading, eng'd, res: 1 VC KIA, neg wpn or ID.	6902_DTOC_Trans
2-Feb-69	16	950	1/1 Cav, F/8th Cav, BT195253 at 0940H, evac 1 detainee for questioning to LZ Hawk Hill.	6902_DTOC_Trans
2-Feb-69	21	1020	1/1 Cav, F/8th Cav, BT158324 at 1015H, evac 2 MAM for questioning to LZ Hawk Hill.	6902_DTOC_Trans
3-Feb-69	14	832	1/1 Cav, F/8th Cav, BT286377 at 0750H, obs 1 MAM evading, eng'd w/M-60, res: 1 VC KIA, neg wpn or ID.	6902_DTOC_Trans
3-Feb-69	60	1623	1/1 Cav, F/8th Cav, BT357242 at 1525H, detained 1 MAM, neg wpn or ID, evac to Tam Ky.	6902_DTOC_Trans
5-Feb-69	13	817	1/1 Cav, F/8th Cav, BT178272 at 0800H, obs 1 MAM evading, eng'd w/M-60, res: 1 VC KIA, neg wpn or ID.	6902_DTOC_Trans
6-Feb-69	54	1852	196th Bde, F/8th Cav, AT9427 at 1610H, eng'd 1 VC, res: 1 VC KIA, neg wpn or ID.	6902_DTOC_Trans
6-Feb-69	58	1740	1/1 Cav, F/8th Cav, AT940270 at 1615H, LOH forced down due to mech failure, 1 minor injury NBC (M). Aircraft extracted 1650H w/major damage fm impact.	6902_DTOC_Trans
7-Feb-69	24	840	1/1 Cav, F/8th Cav, BT251461 at 0805H, eng'd 1 MAM, res: 1 VC KIA, neg wpn or ID.	6902_DTOC_Trans
7-Feb-69	25	840	1/1 Cav, F/8th Cav, BT251461 at 0830H, eng'd 1 MAM, res: 1 VC KIA, neg wpn or ID.	6902_DTOC_Trans
7-Feb-69	37	1110	1/1 Cav, F/8th Cav, BT165247 at 1100H, eng'd 1 VC, res: 1 VC KIA, neg wpn or ID.	6902_DTOC_Trans
7-Feb-69	57	1629	1/1 Cav, F/8th Cav, BT173302 at 1615H, eng'd 1 MAM, res: 1 VC KIA.	6902_DTOC_Trans
7-Feb-69	82	1551	1/1 Cav, F/8th Cav, BT195477 at 1540H, detained 1 female, evac to LZ Hawk Hill.	6902_DTOC_Trans
7-Feb-69	84	1618	1/1 Cav, F/8th Cav, BT196288 at 1645H, eng'd 1 VC, res: 1 VC KIA, neg wpn or ID.	6902_DTOC_Trans
8-Feb-69	26	1215	1/1 Cav, F/8th Cav, BT203477 at 1135H, 1 US threw H/G into bunker, when H/G went off caused secondary explosion, res: 1 US KHA, 2 US WHA (E). D/O comp 1140H. Notified MAJ Powell G-3, CPT Stitt G-2.	6902_DTOC_Trans
9-Feb-69	54	1711	1/1 Cav, F/8th Cav, BT268423 at 1640H, eng'd 1 MAM w/SAF, res: 1 VC KIA.	6902_DTOC_Trans
9-Feb-69	54	1435	196th Bde, F/8th Cav, AT977275 at 1415H, obs 1 VC hiding in bush, eng'd, res: 1 VC KIA, neg wpn or ID.	6902_DTOC_Trans
9-Feb-69	62	1600	1/1 Cav, F/8th Cav, BT309359 at 1550H, detained 1 MAM w/neg ID or wpn, detainee taken to LZ Hawk Hill.	6902_DTOC_Trans

10-Feb-69	19	1008	1/1 Cav, F/8th Cav, BT240241 at 0945H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA, was wearing green uniform and 1 pack, neg ID or wpn.	6902_DTOC_Trans
10-Feb-69	20	1030	1/1 Cav, F/8th Cav, BT240241 at 1010H, eng'd 1 MAM, res: 1 VC KIA, neg ID or wpn.	6902_DTOC_Trans
11-Feb-69	8	840	1/1 Cav, F/8th Cav, BT227212 at 0805H, eng'd 1 VC evading, res: 1 VC KIA, neg wpn or ID.	6902_DTOC_Trans
11-Feb-69	30	1230	1/1 Cav, F/8th Cav, BT308358 at 1155H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6902_DTOC_Trans
11-Feb-69	39	1610	1/1 Cav, F/8th Cav, BS204231 at 1545H, eng'd 1 VC evading, res: 1 VC KIA, neg wpn or ID.	6902_DTOC_Trans
11-Feb-69	40	1630	1/1 Cav, F/8th Cav. BT204231 at 1610H, eng'd 1 VC evading, res: 1 VC KIA, neg wpn or ID.	6902_DTOC_Trans
11-Feb-69	41	1645	196th Bde, F/8th Cav, AT894389 at 1336H, eng'd 3 VC evading, res: 3 VC KIA, neg wpns or ID.	6902_DTOC_Trans
11-Feb-69	42	1645	196th Bde, F/8th Cav, AT913384 at 1313H, eng'd 2 VC evading, res: 2 VC KIA, neg wpns or ID.	6902_DTOC_Trans
11-Feb-69	44	1645	196th Bde, F/8th Cav, AT892387 at 1327H, eng'd 1 VC evading, res: 1 VC KIA, neg wpn or ID.	6902_DTOC_Trans
13-Feb-69	15	825	1/1 Cav F/8th Cav, BT273425 at 0820H, detained 2 MAM, 30-35 yrs old, will evac to LZ Hawk Hill.	6902_DTOC_Trans
13-Feb-69	75	1815	SGT Runney, 1/1 Cav, F/8th Cav, BT182231 at 1745H, 1 male evading, eng'd, res: 1 VC KIA, neg wpn or ID.	6902_DTOC_Trans
14-Feb-69	17	910	1/1 Cav, F/8th Cav, BT238220 at 0830H, obs 1 MAM evading, eng'd w/M-60, res: 1 VC KIA.	6902_DTOC_Trans
14-Feb-69	35	1130	1/1 Cav, F/8th Cav, BT217218 at 1115H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6902_DTOC_Trans
14-Feb-69	73	1644	1/1 Cav, F/8th Cav, BT192290 at 141635H, eng'd 1 VC, res: 1 VC KIA, neg wpn or ID.	6902_DTOC_Trans
14-Feb-69	79	1810	Nong Son SF, Opn PA-15A, secured LZ for recovery of acft, departed SF Camp 141015H, closed 141310H. While at LZ waiting for lift ships, detach Co was informed that a body was found at AT814270 by friendly element. Body was found lashed to a bamboo raft at AT814370. Propaganda leaflets were found on the body. Given to Blue Ghost 46. Indications are that body was removed from A/C vic AT814370 by VC element, body was wet & documents were dry. No member went south of location where body was found. Body had been victimized, wires were removed from pilot's flight helmet. Bullet hole was in the victim's head. A/C believed to be B/T'd, unable to get in and get equipment. Request permission to destroy A/C. Contacted General Clement for permission. Request has been granted 141240H, GEN Cooksey. 1/1 Cav, ref Blue Ghost extraction of down A/C: 1) TOS 141230H. 2) Body is at Graves Registration, Chu Lai. 3) Some of propaganda leaflets were taken to 1/1 Cav S-2. 4) A/C was destroyed by rockets. 5) Neg SOI was found by Blue Ghost. 6) Blue Ghost broke station at 141445H.	6902_DTOC_Trans
15-Feb-69	77	1615	196th Bde, F/8th Cav, AT914207 at 1330H, eng'd 2 VC evading, res: 1 VC KIA, neg wpn or ID.	6902_DTOC_Trans
16-Feb-69	43	1600	1/1 Cav, F/8th Cav, BT157222 at 161450H, eng'd unk no. VC, res: 1 VC KIA, VR continued.	6902_DTOC_Trans
16-Feb-69	45	1620	1/1 Cav, F/8th Cav, at 161605H, found and destroyed 3 camouflaged structures and 1 bunker.	6902_DTOC_Trans
17-Feb-69	11	850	1/1 Cav, F/8th Cav, BT135309 at 0810H, obs 2 MAM evading.	6902_DTOC_Trans

17-Feb-69	12	850	1/1 Cav, F/8th Cav, BT324327 at 0740H, obs 1 MAM evading into bunker.	6902_DTOC_Trans
17-Feb-69	25	1227	196th Bde, F/8th Cav, AT818258 at 1150H, LOH-6A rec'd moderate SAF, res: neg hits.	6902_DTOC_Trans
18-Feb-69	13	830	1/1 Cav, F/8th Cav, BT138312 at 0800H, 1 MAM 35-40 yrs old was snatched, neg ID, had pack marks on back, evac to LZ Hawk Hill. 0800H, BT148312, eng'd 1 MAM evading w/M-60, res: 1 VC KIA. 0810H, BT255455, eng'd 1 VC evading, res: unk.	6902_DTOC_Trans
18-Feb-69	42	1235	196th Bde, SGT Kontax, F/8th Cav, BT078328 at 0950H, eng'd 1 VC, res: 1 VC KIA, neg wpn or ID.	6902_DTOC_Trans
19-Feb-69	7	810	1/1 Cav, SP Pappenheiner, F/8th Cav, BT265437 at 0740H, destroyed 4 sampans.	6902_DTOC_Trans
20-Feb-69	6	855	1/1 Cav, SGT Egbert, F/8th Cav, BT161255 at 0840H, detained 1 female 15 yrs old, neg ID, evac to LZ Hawk Hill.	6902_DTOC_Trans
20-Feb-69	35	1510	1/1 Cav, SGT Stiltner, F/8th Cav, BT202227 at 1505H, snatched 2 MAM, neg ID's, evac to LZ Hawk Hill.	6902_DTOC_Trans
21-Feb-69	10	810	1/1 Cav, SGT Rumsey, F/8th Cav, BT235455 at 0755H, detained 3 MAM, 1 tried to evade, eng'd w/M-60, D/O called for 1 wounded detainee, other 2 detainees evac to LZ Baldy. WIA evac to Tam Ky Hosp. Notified IPW, SP Murray.	6902_DTOC_Trans
21-Feb-69	11	958	1/1 Cav, SGT Evans, F/8th Cav, BT163247 at 0955H, evac 2 MAM for questioning to LZ Hawk Hill.	6902_DTOC_Trans
21-Feb-69	14	1015	1/1 Cav, SGT Stiltner, F/8th Cav, BT164258 at 1005H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA, neg wpn or ID.	6902_DTOC_Trans
21-Feb-69	27	1045	1/1 Cav, SGT Stiltner, F/8th Cav, BT166315, 1030H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA, neg wpn or ID.	6902_DTOC_Trans
22-Feb-69	14	1005	1/1 Cav, SGT Stiltner, F/8th Cav, BT166332 at 1005H, snatched 1 female, evac to LZ Hawk Hill.	6902_DTOC_Trans
22-Feb-69	20	920	1/1 Cav, SGT Callahan, F/8th Cav, BT193258 at 0910H, detained 2 MAM, 14-16 yrs old, evac to LZ Hawk Hill.	6902_DTOC_Trans
22-Feb-69	24	955	1/1 Cav, SGT Stiner, F/8th Cav, BT151309 at 0950H, snatched 1 female for questioning, evac to LZ Hawk Hill.	6902_DTOC_Trans
22-Feb-69	24	955	1/1 Cav, SGT Stiner, F/8th Cav, BT151309 at 0950H, snatched 1 female for questioning, evac to LZ Hawk Hill.	6902_DTOC_Trans
22-Feb-69	32	1055	1/1 Cav, SP Hausman, F/8th Cav, BY282400 at 1052H, 1 MAM dressed in green uniform evaded into hut, eng'd w/rkt w/unk res.	6902_DTOC_Trans
22-Feb-69	37	1106	1/1 Cav, SGT Stiner, F/8th Cav, BT270424 at 1100H, evac 1 MAM for questioning to LZ Hawk Hill.	6902_DTOC_Trans
22-Feb-69	43	1130	1/1 Cav, SGT Stiltner, F/8th Cav, BT235497 at 1030H, snatched 2 females 35-40 yrs old, evac to LZ Hawk Hill.	6902_DTOC_Trans
22-Feb-69	74	1649	1/1 Cav, SGT Stiltner, F/8th Cav, BT175227 at 1645H, obs 1 MAM evading into a hut, eng'd with WP H/G, destroyed hut w/neg assessment.	6902_DTOC_Trans
23-Feb-69	25	1015	1/1 Cav, SP Housman, F/8th Cav, BT203237 at 0957H, rec'd fire, 1 US rec'd flesh wound in foot, treated at Aid Station on LZ Hawk Hill, 1 US WHA (M).	6902_DTOC_Trans
23-Feb-69	42	1145	1/1 Cav, SGT Stiner, F/8th Cav, BT292195 at 1125H, eng'd 4 MAM evading, res: 4 VC KIA.	6902_DTOC_Trans

23-Feb-69	91	1645	1/1 Cav, F/8th Cav, SGT Stiner, BT291390 at 1635H, destroyed 12 sampans w/M-60 MG fire.	6902_DTOC_Trans
23-Feb-69	104	1810	1/1 Cav, SGT Stiner, F/8th Cav, BT292195 at 1125H, see DJF #42 above, add: 5 VC KIA. Notified USARV SP Brawn.	6902_DTOC_Trans
24-Feb-69	17	758	1/1 Cav, SGT Edwards, F/8th Cav, BT209203 & BT202233 (en) at 0745H, rec'd SAF fm above grids, neg cas or dam.	6902_DTOC_Trans
24-Feb-69	18	815	1/1 Cav, SGT Stover, F/8th Cav, 0755H & 0758H. 0755H, at BT209239, rec'd SAF, ret'd fire, res: unk. 0758H, at BT213242, rec'd AWF, ret'd fire, res: unk.	6902_DTOC_Trans
24-Feb-69	31	1015	1/1 Cav, SP Housman, F/8th Cav, BT298174 at 0905H, rec'd SAF taking 1 hit in nose of ship, neg cas or damage. Passed to AAE 1020H, MAJ Spivach.	6902_DTOC_Trans
24-Feb-69	58	1305	1/1 Cav, SP Housman, F/8th Cav, BT279144 & BT295143 (en) at 1210H. 1) Rec'd .50 cal MG fire fm above grids, ret'd fire w/unk res. 2) At 1210H at BT295192, eng'd MG position, res: 1x.50 cal MG destroyed, 1 VC/NVA KIA.+	6902_DTOC_Trans
24-Feb-69	22	905	1/1 Cav, SGT Stiltner, F/8th Cav, BT238347 at 0730H, obs 1 MAM evading, eng'd, res: 1 VC KIA, meg wpn or ID.	6902_DTOC_Trans
26-Feb-69	23	906	1/1 Cav, SGT Stiltner, F/8th Cav, BT315350 at 0745H, detained 1 MAM 18-20 yrs old dressed in gray uniform, neg wpn or ID, evac to LZ Hawk Hill. Notified IPW, SGT Granger.	6902_DTOC_Trans
26-Feb-69	24	907	1/1 Cav, SGT Stiltner, F/8th Cav, BT301372 at 0745H, obs 1 MAM evading, eng'd, res: 1 VC KIA, neg wpn or ID.	6902_DTOC_Trans
26-Feb-69	25	908	1/1 Cav, SGT Stiltner, F/8th Cav, BT315350 at 0745H, obs 1 MAM evading, eng'd, res: 1 VC KIA, neg wpn or ID.	6902_DTOC_Trans
26-Feb-69	26	910	1/1 Cav, SGT Stiltner, F/8th Cav, BT301372 at 0800H, detained 4 MAM, 20-40 yrs old, neg wpns or ID, evac to LZ Hawk Hill.	6902_DTOC_Trans
26-Feb-69	27	912	1/1 Cav, SGT Stiltner, F/8th Cav, BT235499 at 0815H, detained 1 female, 18-20 yrs old, evac to LZ Hawk Hill.	6902_DTOC_Trans
26-Feb-69	56	1343	1/1 Cav, SP Housman, F/8th Cav, BT255454 at 1255H. 1) Obs 7 large sampans, eng'd w/rkts, res: 7 sampans destroyed. 2) At 1310H, BT288374, obs 4 large sampans, eng'd with M-60, res: 4 sampans destroyed. 4) At 1310H, BT299278, obs 4 large sampans, eng'd w/rkts, res: 4 sampans destroyed. Total: 15 sampans destroyed.	6902_DTOC_Trans
26-Feb-69	62	1340	1/1 Cav, SP Housman, F/8th Cav, BT236494 at 1235H, obs 7 sampans, eng'd with M-60, res: 7 sampans destroyed.	6902_DTOC_Trans
26-Feb-69	63	1345	1/1 Cav, SP Housman, F/8th Cav, BT268423 at 1300H, obs 1 MAM evading, eng'd, res: 1 VC KIA, neg wpn or ID.	6902_DTOC_Trans
26-Feb-69	71	1700	1/1 Cav, SP Housman, F/8th Cav, BT251495 at 1630H, rec'd AWF, neg dam, ret'd fire w/unk res.	6902_DTOC_Trans
26-Feb-69	77	1700	1/1 Cav, SP Housman, F/8th Cav, BT220487 at 1635H, eng'd 2 MAM evading, res: 2 VC KIA, neg wpns or ID.	6902_DTOC_Trans
26-Feb-69	81	1719	1/1 Cav, SP Housman, F/8th Cav, BT244475 at 1700H, eng'd 4 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA, 3 MAM detained for questioning, evac to LZ Hawk Hill.	6902_DTOC_Trans

26-Feb-69	85	1740	1/1 Cav, SP Housman, F/8th Cav, BT323317 at 1730H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA, neg wpn or ID.	6902_DTOC_Trans
27-Feb-69	12	918	1/1 Cav, SGT Stiltner, F/8th Cav, BT301353 at 0850H, detained 3 females, 12-17 yrs old, evac to LZ Hawk Hill, neg ID.	6902_DTOC_Trans
27-Feb-69	23	1030	1/1 Cav, SP Housman, F/8th Cav, BT205232 at 1010H, rec'd SAF, adj arty, res: unk.	6902_DTOC_Trans
28-Feb-69	13	800	1/1 Cav, F/8th Cav, SGT Egbert, BT276416 at 0730H, evac 1 detainee to LZ Hawk Hill for questioning.	6902_DTOC_Trans
28-Feb-69	14	840	1/1 Cav, F/8th Cav, SGT Travis, BT313341 at 0815H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA, neg wpn or ID.	6902_DTOC_Trans
28-Feb-69	29	1039	1/1 Cav, SGT Egbert, F/8th Cav, BT161249 at 0925H, obs 1 old .50 cal position freshly used w/spider holes and 10 water buffalo in area. 0955H, BT169215, obs hvy fortified position and well-used trails, neg activity. 1020H, BT170238, obs small trenchline camouflaged & well-used trail w/neg activity.	6902_DTOC_Trans
28-Feb-69	34	1109	1/1 Cav, SGT Egbert, B/1/1, BT233226 at 1050H, F/8th Cav obs 8 MAM and 1 female. B/1/1 detained 3 males, have ID's and neg wpns. Will keep in field for now. Extract to LZ Hawk Hill.	6902_DTOC_Trans
28-Feb-69	35	1110	1/1 Cav, SGT Egbert, F/8th Cav, BT23227 at 1105H, obs spider holes w/trench line w/neg activity in the area.	6902_DTOC_Trans
28-Feb-69	36	1140	1/1 Cav, SGT Travis, F/8th Cav, BT169250 at 1130H. 1) Found 1x155mm Howitzer rd, destroyed. 2) At 1135H, BT173249, obs large tunnel entrance. 3) At BT230220 at 281145H, obs several trails w/spider holes.	6902_DTOC_Trans
28-Feb-69	61	1525	1/1 Cav, SGT Egbert, F/8th Cav, BT149228 at 1515H, eng'd 1 MAM evading, res: 1 VC KIA.	6902_DTOC_Trans
28-Feb-69	64	1555	1/1 Cav, SGT Egbert, F/8th Cav, BT199259 at 1540H, snatched 1 MAM, neg wpn or ID, evac to LZ Hawk Hill.	6902_DTOC_Trans
28-Feb-69	65	1557	1/1 Cav, SGT Egbert, F/8th Cav, BT164283 at 1550H, eng'd 1 VC.	6902_DTOC_Trans
28-Feb-69	69	1638	1/1 Cav, SGT Egbert, F/8th Cav, BT150311 at 1610H, snatched 2 MAM w/neg wpn or ID, evac to LZ Hawk Hill.	6902_DTOC_Trans
28-Feb-69	70	1640	1/1 Cav, SGT Egbert, F/8th Cav, BT156294 at 1600H, eng'd & killed 1 VC.	6902_DTOC_Trans

These are the Americal Division S2/S3 entries for May 1969:

unit	Date	**Entry**	Text
F/8	690501	**19**	(C) 196th Bde, LT Hansen, Blue ghost Request. Purpose: conduct snatch msn. Target area: UL AT9711 and LR AT9909. TOS: 020900H–021100H May 69 Duration of msn: 2 hrs. Intel en routes of movement through the area. Sit: no frd in area. Call sign Witty Pacers Freq. 60.45. Note: No extensive recon wanted. Passed to Tien Phuoc. Approved 1255H. Approved by G-3 Cpt Miller. Passed to 1-1 CAV: SGT Collins and passed to 196th Bde: SP Trogden 1515H.
F/8	690501	**24**	(U) 1-1 CAV, SGT Collins; F/8th CAV, BT198234 at 1305H. Obsr 4-5 new spider holes & tunnels.
F/8	690501	**34**	(U) 196th Bde, Sgt Laporto, F/8th at 1445H: (1) BT110220 obsr sm tunnel complex. (2) BT028211 Obsr MAM evading, neg action taken. (3) BT031211 obsr fresh trails & 1xMAM evading, engd w/unk res.
F/8	690501	**40**	(U) 196th Bde, Sgt Laporto, BT174037 at 1545H- 1615H, F/8th engd 15xWater Buffalo, res: 15x Water Buffalo KIA. At BT165043 engd & killed 5x Water Buffalo and dest cam hut w/WP gren.
F/8	690502	**29**	(U) 1-1 Cav, Sgt Evans. F/8th, BT199274 at 1120H (1) obsr green unif around huts. Dest 5xhuts. (2) BT192232 at 1120H obsr mort pos w/base plate impression. (3) BT197226 at 1121H dest 1xbunker.
F/8	690502	**33**	(U) 1-1 Cav, Sgt Evans. F/8th, BT179237 at 1125H eng'd 4xMAM evading, res: 4 VC KIA.
F/8	690503	**18**	(U) 1-1 Cav. Sgt Neal. F/8th, BT229214 at 0930H eng'd 1xMAM evading w/neg res. BT207199 at 1000H eng'd 2xMAM evading. Res: 1xVC KIA. Neg wpn or pack obsr.
F/8	690503	**50**	(U) 1-1 Cav, Sgt Stiltner. F/8th, BT240485 at 1530H eng'd & killed 1xVC evading. Neg wpn or ID. 1535H BT248409 eng'd & killed 1xVC evading. Neg wpn or ID. 1545H BT253416 evac 1xMAM to Hawk Hill. Neg wpn or ID.
F/8	690503	**58**	(U) 196th Bde, SP Reese. F/8th, BT225053 at 1617H eng'd 3xVC, res: 1xVC KIA. 1625H, BT234059H fired WP rkt at VC evading w/unk res. 1630H BT211070 eng'd 5xVC w/WP rkt w/unk res.
F/8	690503	**80**	(C) 196th Bde, LT Hansen. Request Blue Ghost. (1) Purpose: VR & fire for fire. Target area: UL BT1612 – LR BT2009. Time: 041600H-041700H May 69. (2). UL BT1209- LR BT1206 at 051600H – 051700H May 69. (3). Same area as no 1. Time 061600H – 061700H May 69. En Intel: En act in area. Call sign: Legal locker 95, Freq 40.55 req: 56.85. Approved by MAJ Wagner 030915H. passed to 1-1 Cav, SGT Evans 0930H. Passed to 196th Bde, SP Franklin, at 040110H.
F/8	690504	**5**	(U) 1-1 Cav, Sgt Evans. F/8th, BT174234 at 0710H eng'd 1xMAM, res: 1xVC KIA.
F/8	690504	**28**	(U) 1-1 Cav, Sgt Neal. F/8, BT288398 at 1620H 1xchild (5-8 yrs old) & 1 MAM dtn. Evac to Hawk Hill
F/8	690504	**37**	(U) 196th Bde, Sp Reese, F/8 Cav and 1-46 Inf, BT163107 at 1520H. Obsr freshly built bnkrs and huts, also obsr khaki and green uniforms drying, no movement was obsr, eng area w/W.P. rkts.
F/8	690505	**5**	(U) 1-1 CAV, SGT Evans, F/8th CAV, BT183481 at 0740H. Eng 1XMAM evading. Res: 1XVC KIA Neg military equip.
F/8	690505	**6**	(U) 1-1 CAV, SGT Evans, F/8th CAV, BT163521 at 0740H. Eng 1XMAM evading. Res: unk.

F/8	690505	**32**	(C) 196th Bde, Sgt Neroes. F/8th/3-21, BT144252 at 1000H-1004H obsr tools in a wooded area. Neg movement obsr, neg action taken. 1002H, BT142248 obsr fresh cut timber that had been stripped. Neg movement obsr, neg action taken. 1005H, BT156256 obsr 4xair vents which believed to lead to under-ground bunker. Also obsr cam hut. Neg movemetn obsr, neg action taken.
F/8	690505	**65**	(C) III MAF, LTC Owens, CTG 7, 9, 4. Msg #050350Z May 69. Request ext to AO ext #76. From: BT168496 to BT160496 to BT180460 then east along 46 grid line to prexent AO. Time: 051400H – 142400H May 69. Passed to 1-1st Cav sgt Evans 051320H. Approved by Maj Merthens, approved by Maj Wagner Note: F/8th will only provide contact msn, medevac. Passed to III MAF LTC Owens. From III MAF, cancell AO ext Maj Powell. Cancellation acknowledged by CTG 7,6,4. Msg #050730Z May 69. FSE Cpt Crawford.
F/8	690506	**35**	(U) 1-1 Cav, Sgt Evans. F/8, BT195470 at 1305H results of BDA. Dest 15xhuts, 15xbunkers & 2xVC KIA.
F/8	690506	**43**	(C) AMCAL G3, MAJ Powell. ARVN forces on Barrier Island, rec hvy & intense AWF fm intrenched VC fm following grids: BT157507 N along river to BT158523. Time of incident: 051700H. Note: Hoi An would not clear grids. Passed to 1-1 Cav, Sgt Evans. F/8 to check area at 1st opportunity. (Info only)
F/8	690506	**44**	(U) 196th Bde, SP Reese. F/8th/1-46th, BT123061 at 1530H obsr 6xVC/NVA in green unif. Eng w/M-60. VC/NVA evaded in all directions.
F/8	690507	**16**	(U) 1-1 Cav, Sgt Evans. F/8, BT165464 at 0920H evac 4XDET to Hawk Hill.
F/8	690507	**32**	(U) 1-1 Cav, Sgt Evans. F/8, BT178483 at 1320H eng 1xVC, res: 1xVC KIA. Dest 19xhuts in area.
F/8	690507	**37**	(U) 1-1 Cav, Sgt Neal. F/8, BT156240 at 1435H dest cam hut w/WP rkt.
F/8	690508	**19**	(C) 196th Bde, Sgt Neroes. 3-21 Inf, Blue Ghost request. Purpose VR, Request fire for fire, Time: 090800H-090900H May 69. Target area: BT115241. En Intel: susp VC pos. Frd Intel: will use smoke when Blue Ghost arrives. Contact: Witty Pacers 41. Freq: 60.45. Frd grid coord: None. Approved: G3, MAJ Wagner. Passed to: 1-1 Cav, Sgt Evans: 196th Bde, Sgt Neroes.
F/8	690508	**39**	(U) 196th Bde, SP Reese. F/8 Cav/1-46, BT123060 at 1755H. 2xdays ago in this same area. F/8th obsr VC sqd. Since that time, en activity has increased. Trails have been heavily used. Bunkers are being built at this location. Will fire H&I on grid tonight.
F/8	690508	**53**	(C) 196th Bde, Sp Reese, 3-21 Inf. Request Blue Ghost VR, request fire for fire. Time: 080900H-1000H May 69, 1 hour – F/8 committed until 0830H, passed as change to Sp Reese 196th Bde. Area: AT9813-BT0213-BT0211-BT9811. Reason: suspect NVA elements in area. Friendly Pos: numerous south of 10 E-W grid line, and west of 98 N-S grid line. Contact: Witty Pacers 11, freq: 60.45, passed to 1-1 Cav Pappenheimer 072215H. Passed to 196th Bde as approved, Sp Reese 072230H. Approved G3 Cpt Smith.
F/8	690509	**24**	(C) 198th Bde, CPT Gaffney. 3/6 ARVN, BS701800 at 0645H Co fm 3/6 ARVN is in contact. Requests G/S. None available, Blue Ghost VR diverted to contact. US Advisor is with ground unit. AAE notified 0630H. Call sign: Render Coats C. Freq: 67.05. G/S fm F/8 diverted fm VR. Eng 1xplat VC w/SA & AW. Res: 2xARVN KIA. 7xWIA(E), 8xVC KIA, 7xindiv dtn w/1xM-1, 2xK-44 CIA. (Info only)

F/8	690509	**30**	(U) 196th Bde, Sgt Neroes. F/8, BT110224 at 0950H eng 2xVC evad into hut, dest hut. VC evad S to bunker, re-eng. VC evad S. Neg en assessment. 0955H, BT110244 obsr 3xtunnel complexes; dest. 1000H, BT098231 obsr 1xVC evad S. Eng w/SAF. Res: 1xVC KIA, neg wpn or ID.
F/8	690509	**41**	(C) DTOC, CPT Kaunitz, Div Cml, APD msn by Div Cml/Blue Ghost in area bounded by BS4068-BS5768-BS5765-BS4056. Time of msn: 091200H-091400H. Hot spots at BS467598, BS449631, BS451628. BS470598. The second & third hot spots may not be valid as there was smoke in the area. Sighted 2xsampans w/2 people in each, vic BS390668. Sighted 3-4 cam huts along W side of stream fm BS439603-BS431613. Passed to G2 Air, MAJ Smith.
F/8	690509	**42**	(U) 1-1 Cav, Sgt Neal. F/8 Cav, BT180496 to BT171494 to BT169493 at 1240H obsr heavily used trail. had been recently used.
F/8	690509	**65**	(U) 196th Bde, SP Neroes. Blue Ghost request. 3-21, Purpose: VR. Time: 100800H, duration: 2 hourrs. Target Area: AT9513-AT9509-BT0113-BT1009. En Intel: suspected en pos. Friendly sit: will pop smoke. Call Sign: Witty Pacer, freq; 60.45. Approved: G3 Maj Wagner, passed to 1-1 Cav, Collins at 1525H. Passed to 196th Bde Sp Trogdon at 1725H.
F/8	690509	**66**	(C) 196th Bde, Sgt Neroes. Blue Ghost request for 3-21. Purpose: VR. Time:101400H – May 69. Target area: UL BT0628, LR BT1321. Duration of Msn: 1 hour. En Intel: suspected en pos. Friendly will pop smoke, Call Sign: Witty Pacer 41, freq: 60.45. Approved G3 Maj Wagner, run in coordination with 1-46 Inf request. Passed to 1-1 Cav, Collins at 1525H. Passed to 196th Bde Sp Trogden at 1725H.
F/8	690509	**76**	(C) 198th Bde, Sp Eisenbarth. VR and snatch request: Warlords or Blue Ghosts. Time: 110800 May 1969. Area: BS4378 to BS5478 to BS5474 to BS4374. Snatch Area; prefer vic center of mass BS5075. Contact: Cascade Pulley, freq: 55.20 Request: Div make coordination necessary with Quang Ngai. Passed to Quang Ngai Shipp at 2025H. Following area approved by Lt Air at 092150H, BS5074 to 5078 to 4474 to 4478. Apprved G3 Cpt Smith. Passed AAE 092235H. Passed to 198th Bde Sp Eisenharth 092230H.
F/8	690510	**38**	(U) 196th Bde, Sgt Neroes, F/8th Cav, AT951130 at 0900H. Eng 6xhuts w/rockets and dest. Appeared to be a VC base camp. At 0910H obsr 2xcam huts & well used trails at AT935115. At 0915H obsr trail on sand bar & trail running N to S trail in use recently. Neg action taken.
F/8	690510	**55**	(U) 196th Bde, Sgt Neroes. Blueghost Request for 3-21 Inf. Purpose: VR. Times: 111100H May 69. Duration of msn: 1 hr. Tgt area: LL BT0922; UR BT1429. En intel: susp en build-up area. Frd: none in area. Gnd contact: “Witty Pacer 41; freq (P): 60.45. Disap by G-3 MAJ Wagner.
F/8	690510	**69**	(U) 196th Bde, Sp Reese, F/8 Cav, BT095235 at 1400H. Obsr 3 tunnels and 1 hut, eng and dest. BT082253, 1445H, obsr 1 hut w/2 NVA packs in door-way, dest. BT070260, 1450H, obsr 2 huts and 2 tunnels and 8” tube, 2’ long, poss rocket launcher. BT070260, 1510H, BT101260, obsr 1 VC, eng. Res: 1 VC KIA, eng 2 huts w/2 secondary explosions, smoke rose 200 feet in air.
F/8	690510	**70**	196th Bde, Sp Reese, F/8 Cav, at 1525H, Eng 1 MAM, BT213072. Res: 1 VC KIA, also 2 huts dest, 1555H, BT228064 dest camouflaged hut. 1605H, BT215071, dest camouflaged hut, 10‘ trenchline and bunker.

F/8	690511	**15**	(C) 196th Bde, Sgt Neroes. Request Blueghost for 1-46 Inf Bn. Purpose BDA. Time: ASAP. Duration of msn: 1 hr. Tgt area: UL BT0902: LR BT1200. En intel: many en sightings. Contact: "Gaudy Teams 41"; freq: 59.20(P) – 35.90(A). Appr, MAJ Wagner G-3. Find out from Cav TOT. Passed to 1-1 Cav, Sgt Neal at 0934H. Appr by Cpt Estes, TOT: 1050H.
F/8	690511	**38**	(U) 196th Bde, Sgt Neroes. Request Blueghost, for 1-46th Inf Bn. Purpose: VR. Time 121800H May 69. Duration of msn: ½ Hr. Tgt area: UL BT2012, LR BT2610. Request fire for fire. En Intel: many en sightings. Tac sit: neg frd in area. Call sign: Gaudy Teams 41; freq: (P) 35.90, (A) 65.95. Appr by G-3 MAJ Wagner, slippage of TOT. NST: 1600 hrs. Passed to 1-1 Cav, Sgt Collins at 1423H. Passed to 196th Bde, Sgt Neroes, 1425H.
F/8	690511	**43**	(C) 196th Bde, Sgt Neroes, F/8, BT119021 at 1005H. Obsr 1xhut & 5-6 bunkers, dest by A/S last night.
F/8	690511	**67**	(C) 196th Bde, MAJ Brice. Request Blueghost for 3-21 Inf Bn. Tgt area: BT1630-1927-2222. Purpose: VR. Time: 120600H-121900H May 69. En intel: en in area (push them to the W) Frd Info: Trps making sweep to E. Gnd contact: Witty Pacer 11; freq: (P) 60.45. Direct coord between units and awaiting recommendation. MAJ Wagner. Blueghost will fly msn periodcally based on other msns they already have, MAJ Wagner. Passed to 196th Bde, PFC Hillman at 1945H.
F/8	690512	**46**	(C) DTOC, CPT Miller. Blueghost to conduct VR of rkt pocket ASAP until further notice. Report on 198th Bde cmd push. Passed to F/8 MAM Watson at 1200H. Est time on station 45 to 60 min. Passed to 198th Bde, acft to be used in rkt pocket only for VR.
F/8	690512	**69**	(U) AAE, MAJ White, F/8th, BT466007 at 1300H. At above grids spotted 8xcylinders w/bunker to S. Spider holes show that work has been done. on them in the last couple of hours.
F/8	690512	**71**	(U) 198th Bde, Sp Rothermel, Blueghost, BT466007 at 1240H. Obsr 8xcard board cylinders & sheets of clear plastic near bunker, called arty will check area later.
F/8	690512	**90**	(U) 1-1 Cav, Sgt Evans, BT452013. Spotted signs of something being dragged. 15 min later at BT446013 trail turned S & up mt, which could have been water buffalo. (Rpt by F/8th Cav)
F/8	690513	**2**	(U) 196th Bde, Sp Reese. Request Blueghost for 1-46 Inf. Bn. Purpose: VR. Time: 131800H. Duration of msn: 30 min. Tgt area: UL BT1612 LR BT2010. En sit: numerous en sightings. Frd: no frd in area. Call sign: Caudy Teams 41: freq: (P) 35.90, (A) 65.95. Appr by G-3 MAJ Wagner. Notify F-8 to fly this between 1600 & 1800H subj to change. Passed to 196th Bde, 1-1 Cav OPCON, Sgt Neroes.
F/8	690513	**112**	(C) 196th Bde, Maj Wagner, 1-46 Inf, LZ Professional at 1900H. Rec unk nox82mm rds vic arty side and VIP pad. 1925H, a ground attack up south side of LZ Professional as of 2030H. Res: 1 KIA, 3 WIA(E), 1 WIA(M), D/O compl at 2010H. Spooky and Blue Ghost supported contact, FAC controlled A/S supported the contact w/artificial illum fm Spooky. (all cas from C/1-14 Arty). En assessment: unk. Notified: G3 LTC Lawrence, G2 LTC Nelson.
F/8	690513	**121**	(C) DTOC, CPT Smith, C-3. Request for Blueghost G/S escort, 1xset of guns to escort 6xhook sorties to LZ Professional at 140715H May 69. Contact: Tornado Crawler Lead (UHF 310.10) at Arty Hill. Passed to F/8. Sp Guilty at 2335H. Appr G-3, MAJ Wagner. Passed to AAE for Info: LT Lyons.
F/8	690516	**32**	(C) 196th Bde, SP Reese. Request Blueghost for 3-21 Inf. Req fire for fire. Purpose: VR. Time: any time today. Tgt area: BT0812 to BT1425 to BT1423 to BT0823. En intel: acft flying over this area have reported spotting 20-30 VC. Contact: Witty Pacer's 99; freq: 32.90. Appr by G-3 MAJ Wagner. Passed to: AAE, WO Bearah; 196th Bde, SP Reese.

F/8	690517	**78**	(C) 196th Bde, SP Reese. Request Blueghost for 3-21 Inf. Purpose: VR. Request fire for fire. Time: 180800H - 181200H. No of msns: 2. 1st msn: tgt area: BT065212 NE to BT157237 SE to BT160216 SW to BT083196. 2d msn tgt area: BT095293 SE to BT152270 SW to BT154236 NW to BT095293. En intel: en activity has been obsr in this area. Frd intel: Recon on LZ East, OP on Hill 352, OP on hill 407. Contact: 3-21 Inf prior & after msn. Call sign: Witty Pacers 41; freq: 63.50. Call sign for Recon on LZ East: Witty Pacers P; call sign for OP at Hill 352: Queen Empire T-45; call sign for OP at Hill 407: Queen Empire T-55; freq for all: 63.50. Passed to AAE, CPT McCreary & 196th Bde, Sgt Liporto.
F/8	690518	**32**	(U) 196th Bde, SP Reese, F/8, BT109215 at 1015H. F/8 working for 3-21 obsr 1xVC evading S. Eng. Res: 1xVC KIA. 1020H, obsr 1xVC evading S, eng. Res: 1xVC KIA at BT082211.
F/8	690518	**39**	(U) 123d Avn, Blueghost at 1245H. (1) 1120, BT129270 at 50; obsr 2xdozen 82mm mort rds. Notified: LT Hansen S-2, 196th Bde. (2) 1135H, BT228152 at 50' obsr 50 cal mg pos. Notified: LT Hansen S-2, 196th Bde.
F/8	690518	**43**	(U) 196th Bde, SP Reese, F/8. (1) 1045H, BT129215, dest hut w/5xgreen unif drying. Res: 1xsecondary explosion. (2) 1100H, BT159252, eng 1xVC evading S w/pack. Res: 1xVC KIA.
F/8	690518	**61**	(C) 196th Bde, Sgt Liporto. Request Blueghost for 2-1 Inf. Purpose: VR. TOT: 191000H May 69. Duration of msn: 1 hr. Frd intel: no frd w/in 3000m. Contact: Mickey Valley 41; freq: 52.40. Tgt area: BT070475 SE to BT082465 SW to BT021404 NW to BT001425 NE to BT070475. Appr by G-3, MAJ Wagner. Passed to: AAE, MAJ White; 196th Bde, Sgt Liporto.
F/8	690519	**22**	(C) Co G, 75th Ranger, SP Pack, LRRP Oklahoma, BS292983 at 0700H. LRRP was obsr by 3xVC moving south. The VC after spotting the team moved north. The team attempted to relocate but was unable to do so because of en activity in area. 0820. Team was eng by UNSEF. Res: 1xVC KIA, wpn not recovered, 1xUS KIA. Team was extracted 0905H vic BS292983. Extraction ship rec hv fire, taking unk no of hits. F/8/123d Avn, 0900H, BS287983 during extraction eng est 3xplats to 1xCo of NVA trps. FSE notified: CPT Crawford, arty fired in area w/unk res. Notified 198th Bde, CPT Quinoes. Notified: C/S, Sgt Drosdick; G-3, SP Baucum; G-2, LTC Nelson; FSE, CPT Crawford; 198th Bde.
F/8	690519	**46**	(U) 196th Bde, SP Reese, F/8, BT067470 at 1116H. (1) Eng 1xVC evading. Res: 1xVC KIA. (2) 1125H, BT072471. Eng 1xVC evading. Res: 1xVC KIA. (3) 1135H, BT064463. Eng 5xVC. Res: 5xVC KIA. (4) 1155H, BT055448. Obsr trench line around high grd at this loc. Bunker on NW side. Notified: C/S, SP Johnson; G-3, SP Baucum; G-2, LTC Nelson; III MAF, CPL Stanton; USARV, CPT Fields.
F/8	690519	**61**	(U) 196th Bde, Sgt Liporto, F/8 Cav, BT040412 at 1540 - 1555H. Eng 1xhut w/rocket. Res: 1xhut dest, also obsr several bunkers at 1547H. Obsr 5xVC evading into the brush at BT040413. The VC dropped rice bags, neg action taken. 1555H, obsr 2xVC in woodline at BT083463, eng w/M-60. Res: 2xVC KIA.
F/8	690519	**64**	(C) 196th Bde, SP Reese, Blue Ghost for 3-21 Inf. Purpose: VR, request fire for fire. Time: 200800H May 69. Duration of msn: 2 hours. Target area: LL BT2315, UR BT2618. Nearest friendlies: A,C,D/3-21 Inf at Nui Yon. A,B/2-1 Inf at BT242182. Contact - Call sign: Witty Pacer 41; freq: 60.45. Approved G-3, MAJ Wagner. Pass to AAE, MAJ White. Passed to 196th Bde, LT Matazinski 201211H.
F/8	690519	**65**	(C) 196th Bde, LT McFadden. Request Blue Ghost for 2-1 Bn. Purpose: VR. TOT: ASAP. Duration of msn: 1 hour. Target area: BT089478 to BT086470. En intel: morning VR results, 7xVC KIA, would like to check area further. Call sign: Mickey Valley 41; freq: 52.40. Approved: G-3, Maj Wagner. Passed to AAE, CPT McCleary. Passed to 196th Bde.
F/8	690520	**25**	(U) 196th Bde, SP Reese, F/8, BT084205 at 0915H. (1) Eng 1xVC evading E. Res: 1xVC KIA. (2) 1000H, BT147240. Eng 1xVC. Res: 1xVC KIA.
F/8	690520	**53**	(U) 123d Avn, LT Bedell, F/8 Cav, 1000H, BT138228. At 50' obsr 1xgreen unif on hut and one antenna wire leading to a make shift antenna. Eng w/G/S. Res: 1xhut dest.
F/8	690520	**75**	(C) 196th Bde, Sgt Liporto. VR for 2-1 Inf. Blueghost. Area: BT1349 NE to BT148527 E to BT170523 S along west side of river to BT170490 SW to BT150430. Desired TOT 211600H. Duration of msn: 1 hour. Enemy intel: suspected en staging area. Tactical sit: suspected two companies of VC in this area. Ground contact: Oiled Lizard 52; freq: 52.40. Report to unit before starting. Appr G-3, MAJ Wagner. Passed to AAE, MAJ White. Passed to 196th Bde, Sgt Liporto.

F/8	690520	**85**	(C) 196th Bde, Sgt Liporto. Sniffer msn and VR for 3-21 Inf. Blueghost. Area: BT0928, BT1428, BT0824, BT1423. Sniffer msn followed by VR, desired TOT: of sniffer 210700H - 0800H. VR: 0830H - 0930H. Total time of msn: 2-1/2 hours. Enemy intel: suspect large en movement, no friendlies in area. Ground contact: call sign Witty Pacers 52; freq: 60.45. Sniffer ship report to LZ Baldy at fixed-wing turn-around pad no later than 0645H for briefing and pick up sniffer. VR ships contact 196th Bde on Intel Net, call sign: Scanty Gasline 52; freq: 43.05 for res of sniffer. A/C requirements: 2xslicks and 2xguns. Slicks released after sniffer. Approved G-3, MAJ Wagner, check with AAE on time-MAJ White. Passed to 196th Bde, Sgt Liporto.
F/8	690520	**86**	(C) DTOC, CPT Kaunitz, Div Cml at 1825H. APD msn by Div Cml/Blueghost in area bounded by BS3084, 4084, 4077, 3077. Time of msn: 1645H - 1800H. Neg hot spots. Sighted 2xcamouflaged hootches. BS388784, sighted trail that showed signs of recent use from BS306801 - 309799. Passed to G-2 Air.
F/8	690521	**53**	(C) 196th Bde, SP Reese, request for Blueghost. Dtg: 221800H - 221930H May 69. Msn: VR of area & request fire for fire. Area: fr AT820240 to AT818275. Also Box: UL AT8325; LR AT8719. En intel: en sighted during evening hours. Note: 1st Mar Div has been informed of this VR. Appr by G-3, MAJ Wagner. Passed to: AAE. LT Lyons; 196th Bde, Sgt Liporto.
F/8	690521	**56**	(C) 196th Bde, Sgt Liporto, Blueghost request. Purpose: VR. Time: 221300H to EENY. Briefing will be at LZ Baldy at 1300H. Contact: Scanty Gasline; freq: 66.25. Appr by G-3, MAJ Wagner. Passed to 196th Bde, Sgt Liporto.
F/8	690521	**61**	(U) 123 Avn, WO Harty, F/8, 1635H, BT154507 at 50' obsr 1xMAM evading, eng with G/S. Res: 1xVC KIA. 1655H, BT159500 at 50' obsr 1xMAM, snatched and taken to LZ Baldy.
F/8	690521	**62**	(U) 196th Bde, Sgt Liporto, F/8th, BT145494 at 1616H. Obsr 1xVC that was to be snatched, he evaded, eng. Res: 1xVC KIA.
F/8	690521	**66**	(U) 196th Bde, Sgt Liporto, F/8 Cav, BT159500 at 1650H. Detained 1xMAM, evac to LZ Baldy.
F/8	690522	**47**	(U) 198th Bde, SP Taylor, F/8, BS705896 at 1430H. Eng 15xMAM evading into hut, eng w/rkts, dest hut w/secondary explo. Dtn 3xMAM & 1xfemale. 1xMAM WIA evac to 312 Evac, other 3xDet evac to LZ Bayonet. Notified: IPW, CPT Stitt.
F/8	690522	**53**	(C) 198th Bde, LT Serrano. Request acft, Blueghost. Purpose: VR & snatch. Time: BMNT - 231200H May 69. Report to LZ Bayonet for briefing. Contact: Leather Ground 29; freq: 63.25. App: G-3, MAJ Wagner. Passed to: AAE, WO Beard; 198th Bde, SP Ball.
F/8	690522	**54**	(C) G-2 Air, MAJ Smith, 0930H. Request for APD msn to be conducted by Div Cml (Blueghost). Time: 231330H - 121530H May 69. Tgt area: BT2902, BT3602, BS3494, BS2294, BT2902. Acft requirements, 2xG/S, 1xslick, & 1xLOH. Pilot briefing: 231300H May 69. Request to rtn fire for fire. Passed to 198th Bde. Appr by Deputy G-3/G-3 Ops, MAJ Wagner. Passed to WO Beard. Passed to Div Cml.
F/8	690522	**58**	(U) 196th Bde, Sgt Liporto, F/8. (1) 1640H, AT802262, obsr bunker & hut & 3xNVA in green unif, eng w/unk res. (2) 1635H, AT830240, eng 1xVC. Res: 1xVC KIA & 1xpack dest.
F/8	690522	**61**	(U) 196th Bde, Sgt Liporto, F/8, 1317H to 1400H. 1320H, BT119382, dtn 1xVN male for questioning, neg ID or mil equip. He had mil type haircut. 1545H, BT044413, obsr 2xMAM going into woodline, eng w/unk res.
F/8	690523	**22**	(U) 198th Bde, Sgt Fults, F/8, 0830H, BS499795, 1xVC evaded, eng. Res: 1xVC KIA. BS493798 1xMAM dtn. BS500846, 1xMAM w/pack & green unif was dtn. Evac both Det to LZ Bayonet.
F/8	690523	**31**	(U) 198th Bde, SP Asbill, F/8, BS598848 at 1015H. Dtn 1xMAM w/ID. 1020, BS595842, dtn 1xMAM w/ID. 1021, BS595842, eng 1xVC evading. Res: 1xVC KIA, neg wpn or ID. 1040, BS521878, dtn 1xMAM w/docu & a map of area he was dtn in.
F/8	690523	**53**	(C) DTOC, CPT Kaunitz, Div Cml. APD msn from 231325H - 231415H by Div Cml/Blue Ghost in area bounded by BT3602-BS3294-BS2294-BT2902. Hot spots at: BS272949, BS275949, BS323977, BS325979, BS328980. Continuous hot readings: from BS288956-294959; from BS306967-314960-319962-323969; from BS331982-BS343989; from BS333008-326016-327024. Sighted 2x camouflaged hootches at BS283952. Passed to G-2 Air.
F/8	690524	**16**	(U) 198th Bde, SP Eisenbarth, F/8, 0645H-0715H.) 1) Blueghost at BS555892 snatched 1xMAM, evac to LZ Bayonet. (2) At BS495835 snatched 1xfemale, evac to LZ Bayonet. (3) At BS515792 obsr & eng 2xVC evading. Res: 1xVC KIA. (5) At BS550799 eng 2xVC evading. Res: 1xVC KIA. (6) At BS556795 snatched 1xMAM (40-50 yrs old), neg ID, taken to LZ Bayonet. (7) At BS569802 snatched 1xMAM (20 yrs old), neg ID, US C-ration in his possession. (8) At BS574791 eng 1xVC. Res: 1xVC KIA. (9) BS486782 eng 1xVC. Res: 1xVC KIA.

F/8	690526	**8**	(dlyd) Co G 75th Ranger, CPT McWilliams, F/8, BS357962 at 251740H May 69. Acft on LRRP msn crashed vic above grid, fr apparent loss of power, crew & pax are all right. Acft secured. The down acft is a UH-1H. D/O enroute with a hook for extraction of crew & pax. Notified: C/S, Sgt Drosdick; G-3, MAJ Wagner; G-2, MAJ Ogelsby; AAE, MAJ White; III MAF, CPL Stanton.
F/8	690526	**43**	(dlyd) (C) 196th Bde, MAJ Brice. Blue Ghost request 27 May 69, from BMNT to 1200H. Report to LZ Baldy for briefing. Ground contact: Scanty Gasline 52; freq: 43.05. Purpose: VR, APD. Approved G-3, MAJ Wagner. Passed to AAE, CPT Mohrenweiser. Passed to 196th Bde, SP Trogdon.
F/8	690526	**45**	(C) 198th Bde, LT Stovall. Blue Ghost Request. Purpose: snatch and VR. Time: 271200H - EENT May 69. Report to LZ Bayonet for briefing on msn. Call sign: Leather Ground 29; freq: 63.25. Approved G-3, MAJ Wagner. Passed to AAE, CPT Mohrenweiser. Passed to 198th Bde, CPT Please.
F/8	690527	**39**	(U) 196th Bde, SP Reese, F/8, BT084288 at 1050H. Eng 1xVC. Res: 1xVC KIA.
F/8	690527	**51**	(U) 198th Bde, CPT Mohrenweiser, F/8, BS688927 at 1440H. LOH shot down by SAF. B/C eng & killed 2xVC in area. Neg frd cas. (2) Acft secured by Inf on grd. Acft not a combat loss. (3) LOH was extracted at 1550H, cptr: 1xIW. Obsr equip in area. Notified: III MAF, CPT Phillips.
F/8	690528	**24**	(U) 198th Bde, SP Ball, F/8, BS638939 at 1025H. Eng 1xVC. Res: 1xVC KIA. At 1040H, BS632935 2xDet evac to LZ Bayonet, 1xwas WIA. BS646926 at 1050H, dtn 1xMAM, evac to LZ Bayonet.
F/8	690528	**37**	(U) 198th Bde, SP Ball, F/8, BS653941 at 1115H. Dropped WP on hut, 20-30 VC evaded, eng. Res" 2xVC KIA.
F/8	690528	**77**	(C) 198th Bde, Sgt Edmunson, F/8th Cav, BS466892 at 1600H. Obsr 1xVC evading, eng. Res: 1xVC KIA. 281640H, BS657943, obsr 1xVC evading, eng. Res: 1xVC KIA.
F/8	690529	**36**	(U) 198th Bde, Sgt Edmunson, F/8, BS650973 at 1010H. Eng 1xMAM evading. Res: 1xVC KIA.
F/8	690531	**19**	(U) 198th Bde, SP Rothermel, F/8, 0700-0747H. (1) BS556806 eng 3xVC. Res: 3xVC KIA. (2) BS565805 eng 5xVC. Res: 5xVC KIA. Eng 1xVC evading into hut. (3) BS568806 eng 2xVC. Res: 2xVC KIA. (4) BS571800 eng 1xVC. Res: 1xVC KIA. (5) BS573785 eng 5xVC. Res: 5xVC KIA. (6) BS584802 eng 1xVC. Res: 1xVC KIA. (7) 0747H, ship, BS570820, rec SAF, rtn fire w/unk res. Neg hits to acft. Notified: C/S, SP Johnson; G-3, SP Baucum; G-2, SSM Lillard; III MAF, CPT Williams; USARV, MAJ Fitzgerald.
F/8	690531	**27**	(C) 198th Bde, SP Ball, B/1-52, 0900H - 1000H. (1) BS495764, Blue Ghost eng 3xVC w/M-79 fire, rec secondary explo. Res: 3xVC KIA & 1xRPG launcher CIA. (2) BS495764, Blue Ghost rec 5-10xrds SAF. Res: NCD. (3) BS489755, Blue Ghost eng 1xNVA & 1xVC. Res: 1xNVA KIA & 1xVC KIA. (4) BS481766 Blue Ghost eng 1xVC evading. Res: 1xVC KIA. (5) BS548821, Blue Ghost eng 1xVC. Res: 1xVC KIA. (6) BS584802, Blue Ghost eng 2xNVA. Res: 2xNVA KIA, neg wpns. (7) BS485765, G/S rec SAF, rtn fire w/unk res. (8) 1015H, vic BS488763, rec hv SA & AWF. Res: 2xUS WIA (E), 1xUS KIA. A/S called, compl at 1130. Still rec SAF & sweeping area.
F/8	690531	**49**	(U) 198th Bde, Sgt Edmunson, F/8. See DJF entry #27 0900H-1000H 31 May 69. Change 1xRPG launcher to read, 1xRPG rd.
F/8	690531	**54**	(C) 196th Bde, SP Reese. F/8, Air Cav request. Purpose: screening opn. Time: BMNT - 011200H 1 Jun 69. Report to LZ Baldy for briefing, call sign: Puffy Plants 30, freq: 65.95. Approved G-3, MAJ Wagner. Passed to AAE, CPT Mohrenweiser. Passed to SP Reese, 196th Bde at 311530H.
F/8	690531	**55**	(C) 198th Bde, SP Stoia, Air Cav. Conduct: CA (airmobile assault opns vic LZ Stinson). 01 June 69, 1330H - EENT, 4xguns and aero rifle plat. Aero rifle platoon will be inserted into several objectives. If warranted by contact 1-52 Inf will reinforce using Bde and Air Cav capabilities. Request Air Cav unit be assigned from 1330H - EENT 1 June 69. Approved by G-3, MAJ Wagner with the following exception: 198th Bde has priority msn. F/8th within their capabilities can fly the msn. F/8th Bde will have to provide 1xslick to F/8. Passed to AAE, CPT Mohrenweiser. Passed to 198th Bde, CPT Gaffney at 1920H.

These are the Americal Division S2/S3 entries for May 1970:

unit	Date	Entry	Text
F/8	700501	81	196th Bde, Sp Goodfriend, vic AT9124 at 010600H-011930H May 70. Totals of contact: 94xVC/NVA KIA, 4xARVN KIA, 14xARVN WIA, 9xAK-47 CIA, 1xM2 Cbn CIA, 1xM-1 CIA, 1x.75mm RR CIA, 1x50 cal MG CIA. 44xKIA credited to 5th ARVN, 46xKIA credited to 71st AHC, 4xKIA credited to F/8th.
F/8	700502	42	196th Bde, Sp Goodfriend, F/8th Cav, BS894235 at 1250H. Obsr 2xVC in black PJ's carrying a tube 4xft long & 4xinches in diameter, moving N into a village.
F/8	700503	7	196th Bde, Sgt Boquard, C/4-31, AT940229 at 0300H-0313H May 70. Rec SAF & 1x60mm mort rd w/NCD. Rtn SA & AWF w/unk res. Then rec SAF, 25xChicom H/gren, 5xRPG rds, 2x82mm mort rds f rest plat of NVA. G/S on station. Res: 2xUS WIA(M). At 0845H: Swept the area & fnd 5xNVA KIA (credit to F/8th Cav), 150xrds of 30xcal ammo & 34xhomemade H/gren.
F/8	700506	4	1115 (DELAYED) 196th Bde, Sgt Yockey, F/8th Night Hawk, BT133336 at 0520H May 70. Rec AWF at 800xft w/NCD. Rtn fire w/unk res. Ntfy AAE, LT Tomlin.
F/8	700508	62	Div Avn, CPT Fisher, AAE at 0730H. F/8th Cav at BT420023 obsr & eng 1xVC. Res: 1xVC KIA. Ten minutes later they checked the area & the body was missing. At BT416038: Obsr 1x122mm rkt. Also other signs of en actv in the area so F/8th did not insert the Blues. Eng general area to try to dest 122mm rkt rd w/neg res. (See DSJ #153)
F/8	700508	153	SFC Shaw, Ref DJF #62. Change fr F/8th to D/1-1.
F/8	700509	43	Div Avn, CPT Fisher, F/8th Cav, AT920271 at 1200H. Rec 51xcal fire fr the above grid w/NCD & neg hits. Eng area. Res: 1x51 cal dest.
F/8	700510	27	Div Avn, CPT Fisher, AAE, at 0850H. F/8th inserted Blues at AT803195 to check out a cam shelter & green uniforms. Fnd 100xlbs of conr in the shelter (believed to be a supply point). Also obsr & eng 1xMAM evading w/SAF w/neg res. Dest shelter & corn. At AT805197: Dest 1xbnkr. Fnd in it, 1xpack w/green uniforms, batteries, time fuses & blasting caps. Extracted to Chu Lai. Blues extracted at 0929H.
F/8	700510	47	196th Bde, Sp Goodfriend, F/8th Cav, BT118333. Blue Ghost on sta at 1105H. Obsr 7xVC/NVA evading SW & rec unk amt of SAF w/neg hits or cas. At 1132H: Blues inserted at BT120336. Fnd 3xgreen uniforms. Also dtn 1xVN male (age 17xyrs) & 1xVN female (age 22xyrs) w/3xchildren (ages 10-12xyrs). Extracted to Hawk Hill. Blues extracted at 1200H using 2xSlicks. Ntfy AAE, CPT Fisher.
F/8	700511	83	196th Bde, Sp Goodfriend, F/8th Blues inserted 111110H, BT103353 & BT099356 (2xSlicks), obsr 7 VC/NVA. Eng w/SAF w/unk res. 1125H, R/2-1 compl reaction CA vic BT103353, obsr 11xVC/NVA, eng w/SAF. Res: 1xNVA KIA, 3xUS WIA(M) fr R/2-1. Blues extracted 1445H & R/2-1 ARMV to OP Legionnaire.
F/8	700516	22	11th Bde, Sgt Clough, F/8th Cav, BS662519 at 1105H. Obsr a large bnkr & tunnel complex. Also obsr & eng 1xNVA. Res: 1xNVA KIA.
F/8	700517	45	11th Bde, Sgt Zimmer, F/8th Cav at 0800H-0900H. BS655540: Obsr recently used trails & grass in area is packed down. BS638586: Obsr trail fr E to W approx 1-2xdays old. BS660523: Obsr fighting pos. BS660532: Obsr 50xcal pos (3'x3') w/cam cover. BS660530: Obsr trail leading into bush area. BS657533: Obsr campfires & well used trails. BS653527: Obsr several fighting pos. Ntfy G-2 Air, MSG Morreale.

F/8	700517	60	11th Bde, Sgt Zimmer, F/8th Cav at 1030H. BS595496: Obsr reinforced bnkrs. BS597495: Obsr 2xgraves 7xdays old. BS603485: Obsr campfire on a trail (not burning). BS601481: Obsr new fighting pos & bnkrs. BS599479: Obsr cam bnkr. BS603477: Obsr cam bnkr. BS604477: Obsr campfire on a trail (not burning). Ntfy G-2 Air, CPT Galster.
F/8	700518	63	196th Bde, Sgt Boquard, F/8th Cav at 1400H-1530H. Obsr several structures w/4xVN. AT968198: Obsr several structures w/4xVN. AT973197: Obs several bnkrs (cam). AT966175: Obsr several cam shelters. Ntfy G-2 Air, Sgt Wilson.
F/8	700518	66	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, F/8th Cav at 0830H-0925H. BS491834: Eng 1xbnkr. Res: bnkr dest. BS452838: Obsr trenchline (4'x3'x10m long). BS464842: Obsr 3-4xbnkrs (3'x5'). BS465847: Obsr cam pit for 50xcal MG. BS468838: Obsr 1xbnkr (10'x10') w/a 20xft tunnel. BS490830: Obsr & dest 1xbnkr (8'x4'). BS468810: Obsr a trenchline (1'x3'x30m long).
F/8	700519	14	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, F/8th Cav, BT431007 at 0645H. Obsr campfire & bnkr in woodline. In vic of BS427953: Obsr 1xcampfire.
F/8	700519	75	198th Bde, Sp Pleten, F/8th Cav, BT362083 at 1850H, LOH rec SAF w/unk no of hits. Rtn to Chu Lai. G/S eng the area w/neg res. Ntfy AAE, CPT Fisher.
F/8	700519	76	198th Bde, Sp Pleten, F/8th Cav, BT362083 at 1850H, LOH rec SAF w/unk no of hits. Rtn to Chu Lai. G/S eng the area w/neg res. Ntfy AAE, CPT Fisher. 198th Bde, Sp Pleten, Ha Thanh SF/CIDG, BS349691 at 1500H-1545H, rec SAF fr UNSEF. Res: 2xCIDG WIA(E) (fr pungi stakes). BS343695 at 1410H, eng UNSEF. Res: 2xVC KIA, 2xChicom H/gren CIA.
F/8	700519	105	11th Bde, CPT Robertson, F/8th Night Hawk, BS604506 at 2233H. Rec SAF fr 6xloc. Eng the area. Res: 1xVC KIA. Obsr campfires at BS615582, 603497, 613549, 614515, 608482 & 605506. Alt: 500xft. Speed: 50xknots. Could not eng the area w/arty due to proximity of built up area.
F/8	700520	7	(DELAYED) 123d Avn, CPT Tucker, F/8th Cav, AT945273 at 191500H May 70. Eng 1xVC evading. Res: 1xVC KIA.
F/8	700520	10	198th Bde, Sp Pleten, F/8th Night Hawk, at 0221H-0247H. Obsr campfires at the following grids: BS666917, 663915, 682930 & 681897. Did not engage due to frd vil in the area.
F/8	700520	21	198th Bde, CPT Borretti, F/8th Cav, BT362108 at 0650H. LOH is down at the above grid fr mech trouble w/neg cas. Blues inserted at 0706H to secure acft. LOH was extracted at 0755H. Blues extracted at 0755H.
F/8	700521	116	198th Bde, Sp Pleten, F/8th Cav, BT437010 at 1820H, rec 1xtracer fr above grid. Eng w/unk res. Alt: 1000', at 100k. On last light VR.
F/8	700522	6	(DELAYED) AAE, LT Tomlin, F/8th Night Hawk, AT847219 at 212335H May 70. Rec SAF. Eng the area. Res: 1xNVA KIA.
F/8	700522	7	AAE, LT Tomlin, F/8th Night Hawk, BS340685 at 0605H. Rec SAF fr UNSEF. Eng the area. Res: 3xVC KIA.
F/8	700522	42	196th Bde, Sp Goodfriend, F/8th Cav at 1145H. While on a VR; at BT217168: Obsr 1xsteel bridge. AT845233: Obsr 1xcam structure. AT818227: Obsr 1xlookout tower.
F/8	700522	66	Div Avn, CPT Fisher, F/8th Cav. T 1636H, AT948189: Obsr bnkr complex & 1xVN evading into them. Blues inserted at 1640H w/neg findings. Blues extracted at 1656H. At 1645H, AT950183: obsr fresh footprints & signs of recent hv traffic.

F/8	700523	107	TMF, Sgt Lewis, String #9, BT432031 between 231903H-1947H, detected 30 en total. There was a check fire in the rkt pocket for IR msn. At 1915H, F/8th Cav VR vic BT413033, rec SAF. NCD. At 2108H, Arty fired 53 rds 155mm HE, 14 rds 4.2" HE & 46 rds 105mm HE. Also at 2110H, an intel grid was fired vic BT4103, 60xrds 105mm HE. 2140H, String #9 detected 10 stationary en. Fired 15xrds 155mm VT. 2145H, Radar on Hill 76, vic BT440023, detected 25-30xen. Arty fired. 2150H, increased fire in the northern rkt pocket was req & granted.
F/8	700524	7	AAE, WO1 Petrucci, F/8th Night Hawk, AT847218 at 0220H. Obsr 1xVC running around a hut trying to evad. Eng VC resulting in 1xVC KIA.
F/8	700524	26	198th Bde, CPT Borretti, CAP 1-4-2, BS779866 at 0730H. At 0730H obsr a 40-50xft boat in water at the above grid. Req Air Cav to check it out. At 0750H called LTJG Davis, DaNang Coastal Surveillance, requesting a check of the boat. At approx the same time, F/8th Cav sent a tm to check it out. At 0830H, LTJG Davis reported that Run Patrol Boats searched the boat finding no irregularities except that it had engine troubles. The boat had been in the area for 1xmo & it is reported to be a US boat. Ntfy: CG, LT Carlton; C/S, Col Hume; G-3, MAJ Broome.
F/8	700524	48	198th Be, Sgt Lark, F/8th Cav, BS779866 at 0925H. An F/8th LOH went down at LZ Minuteman fr mech failure. At 0930H: F/8th inserted the Blues to secure the LOH (1-1 Cav). At 0940H: Blues extracted & LOH flew to Chu Lai under its own power.
F/8	700525	46	196th Bde, Sgt Fox, F/8th Cav, BT202260 at 1235H. Obsr 6xNVA in the open. Eng w/AWF. NVA evaded NE into woodline. Res: unk.
F/8	700526	75	196th Bde, Sp Goodfriend, F/8th Cav, BT132272 at 1402H. While cdt VR, obsr 1xVC evading N. Eng w/organic wpns. Res: 1xVC KIA.
F/8	700527	11	198th Bde, Sp Pleten, F/8th Night Hawk, BS480822 at 0230H. Obsr 1xVC evading into a hut. Eng w/organic wpns. Res: 1xVC KIA. Obsr 1xVC evading along a trail. Eng w/organic wpns. Res: 1xVC KIA. Ntfy C/S Sp Roat.
F/8	700527	30	196th Bde, Sgt Fox, F/8th Cav, AT792301 at 0935H. AH-1G rec 1xrd of SAF w/neg hits. Speed: 60xknots. Alt: 800xft. Eng the area w/AWF w/unk res. Ntfy: C/S, Sp Roat; AAE, CPT Sturdevant.
F/8	700527	49	Div Avn, CPT Sturdevant, AAE, F/8th Blues were inserted at 1030H at BT278081. At BT275083: Rec hv SAF w/NCD. Rtn SAF. Res: 2xVC KIA. Blues were extracted at 1240H. Ntfy C/S, COL Hume.
F/8	700528	9	196th Bde, Sgt Parrott, F/8th Night Hawk BT843236 at 0043H. Rec AWF w/NCD. Rtn fire w/unk res.
F/8	700528	11	198th Bde, Sp Pleten, F/8th Night Hawk, BS6788, BS6888 at 280515H. Obsr numerous campfires and people. Turned on his light and people evaded into shelters or held their arms stretched out. He obsr several MAM, VN females and children. People were in groups of 2 or 3, and stayed in vic of shelters & campfires. Did not eng because arty clas area as populated village. Did not rec hostile grnd fire.
F/8	700528	26	196th Bde, Sgt Fox, F/8th Cav, AT844209 at 0920H. LOH rec SAF while at 50xft w/neg hits. Acft dropped smoke & cont to take SAF w/neg hits. Arty eng suspected en loc w/unk res.

F/8	700529	10	198th Bde, Sp Pleten, F/8th Night Hawk at 0450H. While in Box #36: At BS488821: Rec unk type fire fr 1xMAM who evaded into a bnkr. Eng w/Neg res. Res: NCD. At BS489822: Rec fire fr 2xVC in structure. Eng the area. Res: 2xVC KIA.
F/8	700529	11	196th Bde, Sgt Parrott, F/8th Night Hawk, BT075245 at 0455H. While in Box #13, rec unk amt of SAF. Gimlet OP obsr the same contact. Night Hawk left Box & OP eng w/81mm mort w/unk res.
F/8	700529	17	196th Bde, Sgt Fox, F/8th Night Hawk, BT156232 at 0325H-0425H. Rec SAF fr the above grid. Eng the area. Res: 1xVC KIA. At BT158222: Rec SAF. Eng the area. Res: 1xVC KIA. At BT172228: Rec SAF. Eng the area. Res: 1xVC KIA.
F/8	700529	46	196th Bde, Sgt Fox, F/8th Cav, BT173321 at 1115H. Inserted Blues at the above time & grid. Searched the area & fnd 3xfighting pos. Blues extracted at 1135H.
F/8	700529	52	196th Bde, Sgt Fox, F/8th Cav, AT971239 at 1230H. Obsr 7xV C/NVA in the open. Arty fired w/unk res.
F/8	700529	60	DIV AVN, CPT Sturdevant, F/8th Cav at 0823H at BT105305 inserted Blues. Had obsr'd grn unif, 2xMAM, 2xfem, 2xchild evade. Swept area w/neg res. At BT103305, fnd 1xpackage containing uniforms & eating utensils. Obsr 2xMAM evade. Blues extr at 0925H. Blues inserted at 0935H at BT160319 to secure Cobra G/S (AH-1G) that made a precautionary landing. Aircraft returned to Chu Lai under own power. Blues extracted at 1000H.
F/8	700529	65	Div Avn, CPT Sturdevant, AAE, F/8th Cav at 1115H, at BT176323 inserted Blues to check cam shelter. Swept w/neg res. Blues extr 1135H.
F/8	700529	76	196th Bde, Sp Goodfriend, F/8th Cav at 1450H-1620H. While on a VR msn, at AT798173 at 1450H: Obsr a hut (5'x5') well cam. At AT838210: At 1500H obsr 1xindiv going into a hut. Eng the indiv & rec AK-47 fire f rest 3xAK-47. Eng the area w/unk res. Also fired arty w/unk res. Ntfy AAE, CPT Sturdevant.
F/8	700530	2	(DELAYED) 196th Bde, Sp Fahnstock, F/8th Cav, BT159235 & 159242 (en grids) at 292310H May 70. Rec SAF w/NCD. Alt: 900xft. Speed: 80xknots. Eng w/AWF w/unk res.
F/8	700530	14	196th Bde, LT Ballard, F/8th Cav, AT843210 at 0820H. LOH rec hv 30xcal fire w/neg hits. G/S eng the area w/AWF & rec SAF. Res: 2xhits & 1xUS WIA(M). LOH obsr a bnkr in the vic of the fire. Ntfy AAE, CPT Fisher.
F/8	700531	34	196th Bde, Sgr Fox, F/8th Cav, AT842209 at 0830H-0935H. VR results (Box #105) obsr 2-3 bnkrs, eng w/rkts w/unk res.
F/8	700531	46	196th Bde, Sgt Fox, F/8th Cav, at BT087321 at 1017H, obsr 4xcam structures & clothes drying. At BT186228, obsr fresh .50 cal pit.
F/8	700531	72	196th Bde, Sp Goodfriend, F/8th Cav, BT095348 at 1345H. Obsr suspected en loc. Inserted 14xBlues. Blues encountered lt SAF after insertion w/NCD. Fnd a rest area for appox 15xpers. Also fnd rice cooking & rice growing in a stream bed. Blues were extracted at 1440H.

These are the Americal Division S2/S3 entries for May 1971:

unit	Date	Entry	Text
F/8	710503	54	196th Bde, Sgt Jones, F/8 Cav, 1820H-1920H. Air Cav Box #13. AT855645 checked possible rkt launch site w/neg res. AT862648 obsr smoke which indicated a recent launch. AT855645 obsr 2-4xrkts being launched, eng area w/2xsecondary explosions. Rearmed and rtn to same area. Obsr and eng 4-6xmore rkts launched. Eng w/8-10xsecondary explosions. Fired arty w/unk res.
F/8	710504	51	196th Bde, LT Smith, F/8 Cav, (en) AT910346 at 1740H-1810H. Air Cav Box #14. Obsr a corral 10' diameter. Approx 2xwks ago there were 10xbuffalo in it, but not today. Neg eng.
F/8	710506	19	196th Bde, LT Lajoie, F/8 Cav, AT888637 at 0810H-0910H. Air Cav Box #25. Obsr rec used trail.
F/8	710506	38	196th Bde, LT Lajoie, F/8 Cav, (en) AT964544 at 1455H. Air Cav Box #15. Eng & dest 1xbeached sampan.
F/8	710509	33	196th Bde, LT Lajoie, F/8 Cav, 1216H-1320H. Air Cav Box #15: AT934519 obsr 2xbnkrs w/neg signs rec use. AT931523 obsr 1xbnkr w/neg signs rec use. AT934524 obsr 1xspider hole w/signs of rec use.
F/8	710511	19	196th Bde, LT Lajoie, F/8 Cav, AC 21, Text at 110915H-1030H. ZC211388 dest 2xbnkrs; AT799288-AT792280 obsr 1xtrail E-W, rec use; ZC218298 dest 1xstruc 10'x20'.
F/8	710511	39	196th Bde, LT Lajoie, F/8 Cav, Text: 111235H-1325H. At YC991409 obsr trail w/signs of rec use. At YC985408 obsr open field along QL#14 w/signs of rec use.
F/8	710511	53	196th Bde, LT Lajoie, F/8 Cav, Text: 111400H-1510H. Obsr 6xstruc 40'x40'. Possible base camp site. Eng & partially dest them. Area was UL ZC130443, LR ZC130448.
F/8	710511	80	123d Avn, CPT Parr, F/8 Cav, BT434182 at 111630H, an OH-6A had an electrical fire and was forced to land on the beach. At 1650H, Blues inserted to secure area, neg cas. At 1722H Blues & acft extr to CHL, arrived CHL 1745H.
F/8	710512	16	196th Bde, LT Lajoie, F/8 Cav, at 834635, 120850H-0920H. Blue Ghost 20 in AC Box #11 obsr a trail w/recent activity.
F/8	710512	26	196th Bde, LT Lajoie, F/8 Cav AC 23. 120952H-121119H. ZC130440 obsr 10xstruc and 1xbnkr. Req A/S. ZC143445 obsr hvy used trail.
F/8	710512	38	196th Bde, LT Lajoie, F/8 Cav, ZC025430, 121430H-1510H. Flying Air Cav Box #22, eng & dest 1xstruc (5'x8').
F/8	710513	17	196th Bde, LT Lajoie, F/8 Cav, ZC192658 at 130740H. Obsr 30xfighting pos w/signs of rec use.
F/8	710513	30	196th Bde, LT Lajoie, F/8 Cav, 131020H-131115H. While in Box #22 at ZC130446 to ZC135455 to ZC143456 to ZC137446. Obsr 50xstruc & 50xbnkrs. Struc were 10'x10' to 10'x20'. Bnkrs 5'x5' to 8'x10'. G/S eng the area w/minor dam. Res: neg.
F/8	710513	50	196th Bde, LT Lajoie, F/8 AC23, ZC049495, 131315H. Obsr 1xtrail prox 1 ½' wide.

F/8	710514	24	196th Bde, Sp Puleo, F/8 Cav, at 140940H-1110H. Flying Air Cav Box #24, AT994511, obsr trail to NW w/signs of rec actv. At AT998515 eng & dest 4xstruc (5'x8') and eng 1xMAM w/unk res.
F/8	710514	45	196th Bde, LT Lajoie, F/8 Air Cav 22, 141315H. YC967372 dest 3xstruc 10'x10', 3xbnkr 5'x5'. YC864360 dest 1xstruc.
F/8	710514	48	196th Bde, LT Lajoie, F/8 Cav, ZC180480 at 141430H. Blue Ghost 12 (LOH) rec AWF (unk amt). Res: 1xhit thru fuel cell w/neg cas. Alt 1500', 80k. Ship went to Duc Duc.
F/8	710515	17	196th Bde, LT Lajoie, Tm Chicago, 75th Rangers, AT979429, 151030H. Rec SAF. Rtn fire. Req to divert Air Cav, MAJ Helton appr. F/8 diverted. Contact broken 1110H. Will insert Blues. Blues inserted 1205H. Swept w/neg findings. Blues & remaining LRRP extr 1415H. Res: 1xUS KIA, 1xUS WIA(E). D/O compl to DNG 1135H.
F/8	710515	62	196th Bde, Sgt Kech, F/8 Cav, 151815-1900H. While working Air Cav Box #15: AT984530 obsr 1x5'x5' bnkr; AT984537 obsr 1xtunnel; AT985538 obsr 1xbnkr w/2'x2' opening; AT985533 obsr 3xstruc under const; AT967537 obsr 2xstruc 10'x10'; AT973528 obsr 1xstruc 5'x5'; AT976535 obsr 1xstruc 5'x5'; AT969528 obsr 1xbnkr w/a 2'x2' opening.
F/8	710516	26	196th Bde, LT Lajoie, F/8 Cav, 160900H-1015H. At ZC064567 obsr 1xold bridge, neg sign rec use. At ZC075576 obsr trail N-S w/sign of rec use. At ZC047566, obsr trail N-S w/sign rec use. Flying Air Cav Box #23.
F/8	710517	12	196th Bde, LT LaJoy, F/8 at 0745H-0845H. Air Cav Box #11: ZC126734 obsr 1xbridge, 1xtrail. ZC134737 obsr 1xbridge, 1xtrail w/signs of rec use.
F/8	710517	18	196th Bde, LT LaJoy, F/8 Cav, ZC210463 at 0905H-1005H. Obsr trail w/signs rec use. Also rec unk amt SAF & 30xcal fire at 1500', 90k. 1xhit, neg cas. Arty fired w/unk res. Flying Air Cav #25.
F/8	710517	36	196th Bde, LT LaJoy, F/8 Cav at 1250H. While in Air Cav Box #21, AT814623 eng & dest 1x5'x8' struc & 6xbnkrs. AT812617 eng & dest 5xsleeping platforms. AT828632 obsr a trail w/rec activity.
F/8	710517	43	196th Bde, LT LaJoy, F/8 Cav at 1350H-1515H. Air Cav Box #22: YC933472 obsr 2xstruc 10'x15' w/signs rec use, dest. Eng 3xVC who evad into woodline. YC933484 obsr 2xstruc 10'x20', dest.
F/8	710518	56	196th Bde, LT Lajoie, F/8 AC#23, 181300H-1350H. ZC169468 obsr 1xtrail E-W, signs of rec use. ZC188448 obsr 1xtrail E-W, signs rec use. ZC184445 obsr 1xtrail E-W, signs rec use.
F/8	710518	58	196th Bde, LT Lajoie, F/8 Cav, 181435H-1525H. Flying Air Cav #11 at ZC194320 eng & dest 1xstruc (8'x10'); at ZC190305 obsr trail N-S w/signs rec use. ; ZC201320 eng & dest 3xstruc (5'x8'). AT800315 obsr 2xbnkrs (5'x5'). At AT800315 obsr 2xbnkrs (5'x5') and trail E-W. At AT812315 eng & dest 1xstruc (5'x5') w/signs rec use.

F/8	710519	6	196th Bde, LT Lajoie, F/8 Cav, AT827604, flying Air Cav #26, obsr 1xtrail E-W w/signs of rec activity.
F/8	710519	36	196th Bde, LT Lajoie, F/8 Cav, 191215H-1340H. While in Air Cav #21 at AT970554, eng & dest 1x struc 5'x10'; AT975553, obsr cult fields; AT971555, eng & dest 1xbnkr 2'x2'; AT972556, eng & dest 1xbnkr 5'x5'; AT975554, eng & dest 1xbnkr 10'x10'.
F/8	710520	10	196th Bde, LT LaJoie, F/8 Cav, AT916637, 200745-0830H. Obsr trail NW-SE w/signs of use in last 24 hrs. Air Cav Box #21.
F/8	710520	24	196th Bde, LT Lajoie, F/8 Cav, 200850H-1000H. Flying Air Cav #14 at AT883860, obsr 2xholes (3'x5') & trail w/signs rec use. AT878855, trail E-W w/neg rec use. AT868835, trail N-S w/signs of rec use.
F/8	710520	49	196th Bde, LT Lajoie, F/8 Cav, AC 23, 201300H-1415H. AT968556 obsr & dest bnkr (2'x2'). AT975557 obsr tobacco drying on racks, dest. AT974563 obsr & dest 3xstacks of bamboo.
F/8	710521	20	196th Bde, LT LaJoie, F/8 Cav, 210755H-0850H. Flying Air Cav Box #22, ZC208627, eng & dest 1xbnkr (2'x3'), 2xstruc (5'x8'). At AT792626, eng & dest 1xfighting pos (2'x3'), 1xstruc (8'x10').
F/8	710521	44	196th Bde, LT LaJoie, B/3-21, AT985375, 211215H. Rec 3xB40 rkts, 15xrds SAF. Arty fired. F/8 Cav on station & expended on sus en loc. Broke sta 1530H. B/3-21 swept area w/neg findings.
F/8	710522	21	196th Bde, LT LaJoie, F/8 Cav, 220740H-0840H. While in Air Cav Box 21 at ZC106665 area has rec actv. At ZC140620, eng & dest 3xbnkrs (5'x5') w/rec actv.
F/8	710522	29	196th Bde, LT LaJoie, F/8 Cav, AC22, 220905H-1020H. BT050403 obsr 1xcleared area. BT050407, obsr 1xfoxhole. BT034419, obsr 1xtrail E-W, 1xbridge signs of rec use BT047422 obsr 1xcleared area. BT047419, BT045416, obsr cleared areas.
F/8	710522	56	196th Bde, LT LaJoie, F/8 Cav, 221400H-1515H. AT976525 eng & dest 1xstruc. AT974578 obsr 2xbnkrs w/signs of rec actv. AT982532 eng & dest 1xstruc. AT978525 tobacco drying, dest. AT978523 eng 1xVC evad to bnkr w/unk res.
F/8	710523	7	196th Bde, LT Smith, F/8 Cav, Flying Night Hawk 14, obsr & eng 1xbnkr at AT905352. Bnkr dest. Also obsr & eng 1xstruc & dest.
F/8	710523	17	196th Bde, LT LaJoie, F/8 Cav, 230800H-0900H. While working Air Cav Box #12 at ZC133706, eng & dest 2xstruc 5'x8'. At ZC138707 eng & dest 2xlean-to's.
F/8	710523	59	196th Bde, LT LaPuc, 366 TAC Fighter Wing 20 TASS, AT987460 231630H-1645H. 2xF-4's dropped 9x500lb bombs & 8x750lb Napalm Bombs res in 1xlarge struc dest, 4xbnkrs dest, 4xbnkrs dam, 3xlarge sec explo. Believed to be small arms cache. B/2-1 will sweep area in morning. F/8 conducted BDA, fd 2xbnkrs dest. Broke sta 1915H.
F/8	710524	19	196th Bde, LT LaJoie, F/8 AC21, 240930H-1015H. ZC039508 dest 1xbnkr. ZC034507 dest 1xstruc 15'x20'. ZC023510-ZC034508 obsr 1xtrail. All showed signs of rec use.

F/8	710524	32	196th Bde, LT LaJoie, F/8 AC29, 241040H-1145H. AT932315, obsr 1xtrail. AT932283 obsr 1xtrail. AT925282 dest 1xstruc 20'x20', 3xbnkrs. AT924278 dest 2xbnkrs. All showed signs of rec use.
F/8	710524	36	196th Bde, LT LaJoie, C/1-1, AT988558, 241205H. Rec 2xB40 rkts, NCD, rtn cannon fire. F/8 on station, VC are loc in bnkrs. Swept 1xbnkr fd 4xVC KIA, blk PJ's, body searched, neg unit ID. CIA, 2xAK47, 1xB40 launcher, 2xB40 rkts. VNAF, A/S compl 1615H. 2/51 ARVN swept area & fd 5xNVA KBA/S (VNAF). Ntfy: CofS; XXIV Corps, Sp Runyan.
F/8	710524	74	196th Bde, LT Smith, F/8 Cav, AT926281, 241547-241715H flying Air Cav Msn #29. Inserted Blues at 1547H at AT926281. Fd 3xcam struc cont misc med supplies, 1xcam bnkr and 3-5xspider holes. Dtn 1xVNF age 25, she was evac to DNG Blues extr 1715H. Classified Civ Def.
F/8	710525	45	196th Bde, LT LaJoie, F/8 Cav, 251410H-1510H. While in Air Cav Box 29, obsr, eng and dest 1xstruc 5'x8' at AT949309. Obsr, eng & dest 2xstruc 10'x20' w/rec actv at AT949312.
F/8	710526	18	196th Bde, LT LaJoie, F/8 Cav, 260900H. At AT953312 at 260900H. Obsr 1xstruc, inserted Blues, fd & dtn 1xfem & 3xchildren w/neg ID. Extr Blues at 0945H. Evac dtn to DNG. Dest struc. At AT954322 obsr trail E to W w/signs of rec actv. Dtn classified as refugee.
F/8	710526	35	196th Bde, LT LaJoie, F/8 AC 13, 261305H-1350H. AT793488 dest 1xstruc 10'x20', signs of rec use. AT793487, obsr 1xtrail signs of use.
F/8	710527	25	196th Bde, LT LaJoie, F/8 Cav, 270825H-0930H. Flying Air Cav Box 25, ZC026579 obsr fresh footprints. At ZC023577 eng & dest 1xcam struc (40'x80'). At ZC015583 eng & dest 2xbnkrs (2'x3'). At ZC035572 eng & dest 3xbnkrs (2'x3').
F/8	710527	34	196th Bde, LT LaJoie, F/8 Cav, 270955H-1050H. While in AC Box #24 at ZC189433, obsr & eng & dest 2xbnkr w/signs of rec actv. ZC198432 obsr a cleared area w/rec actv. ZC210440 obsr 1xbnkr 2'x3' w/no rec actv.
F/8	710527	45	196th Bde, LT LaJoie, F/8 OH-6A, ZC066440, 271445H. While pointing out a target for A/S, rec unk amt SAF w/NCD or hits at 1500', 80k. A/S was compl. Res: 5xstruc dest & 1xsec explo.
F/8	710528	25	196th Bde, Sgt Jones, F/8 Cav, ZC922615. While in Air Cav Box #11, obsr a cleared cut area w/signs of rec use Inserted Blues at 281050H w/neg findings. Extr Blues at 1105H, cold.
F/8	710528	64	196th Bde, Sgt Jones, F/8 Cav, 281500H-1628H. Fr ZC155476-159471 obsr trail E-W w/signs of rec use. At ZC177467 obsr 1xstruc & 1xbnkr w/trails leading in all directions, signs of rec use. At ZC174456 obsr 6-8 freshly cut trees & obsr 1xbnkr. Eng w/unk res. At ZC174456 obsr 4-5xVC/NVA evad between rocks & eng w/unk res.

F/8	710528	73	196th Bde, LT Smith, F/8 Cav, AT864294, 281650H-1740H. While in Air Cav Box #20: obsr at AT864294 1xstruc 5'x5', at AT863300 1xbnkr 10'x10', at AT861299-881303 obsr trail w/neg rec use, at AT869300 1xbnkr 10'x10', at AT870308 obsr trail w/neg rec use. Obsr at AT887310 15xbnkrs 10'x10'. Arty processed w/unk res. (Had to leave before arty came)
F/8	710529	21	196th Bde, LT LaJoie, F/8, 290820H. While in Air Cav Box #21 at ZC080428 obsr 4xstruc 10'x10' w/signs of rec actv. At ZC075418 obsr trail running E-W w/signs of rec actv. At ZC080420 obsr 1xstruc 10'x10', eng w/rkts & dest. At ZC042438 obsr trail running N-S w/signs of rec use.
F/8	710529	56	196th Bde, LT LaJoie, F/8 Cav. While in Air Cav Box #22 AT788317 at 291045H, inserted Blues to check sus en loc. Obsr several VC in bnkr, Blues told them to come out, but they did not. Blues eng bnkr w/1xconcussion gren. Res: 4xMAF & 1xMAM WIA(E). D/O compl 1130H to DNG. Also, 1xSKS CIA 1100H. At AT786316 eng 1xVC w/SAF evad. Res: 1xVC KIA at 1330H. 1/A/1-46 PZ fr Hill 65 on Eagle Flight to assist F/8. LZ at 1345H, LZ's at AT788317. The Blues fd tunnel complex, inside fd 2xSKS, med supplies, misc mil equip. Blues extr at 1520H & 1/A/1-46 extr at 1525H. All CIA extr to DNG.
F/8	710530	26	196th Bde, LT LaJoie, F/8 Cav, Air Cav Box #13: YC885405, 300750-0925H. Obsr 1xtrai N-S, neg signs rec use.
F/8	710530	34	196th Bde, LT LaJoie, F/8 Cav, 301015H-301100H. ZC034675 obsr footprints 3 to 4 hr old. ZC017675 eng & dest 1xstruc 10'x15'. ZC016672 obsr 6xbnkrs 2'x2'. ZC014694 eng & dest 8xbnkr 4'4', 1xstruc 20'x30'.
F/8	710530	55	196th Bde, LT LaJoie, F/8 Cav at 1300H-1530H. AT983334 obsr 1xbnkr. AT978353 obsr 1xtunnel, 1xN-S trail, signs of rec use.
F/8	710530	59	196th Bde, LT LaJoie, C/3-21, AT983337 at 1215H. Obsr 5xVC mov W prox 2000m. Arty fired, F/8 VR'd area w/neg res.
F/8	710531	49	196th Bde, LT LaJoie, F/8 Cav #22, 310755H-1030H. Blues inserted 0940H at AT790299 to check bnkr. Checked area w/neg res. Blues extr 1030H.
F/8	710531	79	196th Bde, LT Smith, F/8 Cav, AT983338, 311530H-1645H. While in Air Cav Box #15, obsr 3xVC in grn unif evad into woodline. 1615H inserted Blues in area, swept w/neg res. 1645H Blues extr, cold.

I provided Troop F, 8th Cavalry veteran, Vern Schleyer, a copy of the transcribed Americal Division TOC reports. And he performed extracts of entries from the April 1968, August 1968, September 1968 and February 1969 files. The source files that he started with are available to view or download from the AmericalFoundation.org web-site or from the Texas Tech. University Vietnam Archives through the Americal Division portal.

Men who lost their lives in service with Troop F, 8th Cavalry in Vietnam.

lname	fname	suf	rank	mos	age	incident	casdate	vehicle	event	utm	tourd
AFFLERBACH	**MARK**		CPT	61204	25	03/07/1971	07-Mar-71	AH-1G 69-16438	AH-1G 69-16438 MECH FAILURE 18 KM SW QUANG TRI AFLD	YD187420/ XD191429	11/27/1970
ALLEN	**DANIEL**	**JR**	SP5	67N20	21	03/06/1971	06-Mar-71		ROCKET ATTACK QUANG TRI CBT BASE 19710306 (LAM Son 719)	YD338525	04/19/1970
ANELLA	**JAMES**		CPL	11B10	20	03/05/1970	05-Mar-70		FF FROM ACFT DURING ENGAGEMENT 5 KM EAST OF QUE SON 19700305	BT091340	12/06/1969
ASTORGA	**JOSE**		SP4	-----		04/02/1972	- -	UH-1H 67-17801	UH-1H 67-17801 SHOT DOWN 5KM NORTH OF DONG HA 19720402 **(POW)** BAT21	YD218628	10/07/1971
BERG	**MYRON**		SSG	67N20	19	04/05/1970	08-Apr-70	OH-6A 68-17151	OH-6A 68-17151 10 KM W-NW OF TAM KY AFLD 19700405	BT212207	01/30/1969
BIBBS	**WAYNE**		PFC	67A1F	17	06/11/1972	11-Jun-72	OH-6A 68-17344	OH-6A 68-17344 & OH-6A 67-16275 (SAR) 15 KM W-NW OF HUE SW AFLD 19720611	YD565135	03/22/1972
BRADLEY	**LOUIS**	**JR**	SGT	11B2F	19	05/16/1968	16-May-68	UH-1C 66-00737	"CRATERVILLE" AREA 13 KM E-SE OF QUE SON 19680516	BT159290 /BT159298	12/11/1967
CANAMARE	**GEORGE**		SGT	11B40	25	02/08/1969	08-Feb-69		SECONDARY EXPLOSION IN VC BUNKER 7 KM N-NE OF THANG BINH 19690208	BT203477	08/31/1968

DURDEN	**TROY**		SP4	11B20	19	10/14/1970	14-Oct-70		BOOBY-TRAP DURING BLUES INSERTION AT RICE CACHE 10 KM N-NW OF QUANG NGAI AFLD 19701014	BS570807	03/22/1970
EADS	**DENNIS**		CWO	100B	31	04/23/1970	28-Aug-78	AH-1G 67-15612	NIGHT/BAD WEATHER, HIT MTN 13 KM E-NE OF KHAM DUC AFLD 19700413	ZC113153	12/08/1969
FARRINGTON	**ROBERT**		CPT	61204	25	12/11/1969	11-Dec-69	OH-6A 68-17295	HIT IN FLT BY S/A FIRE 8 KM S-SW OF TAM KY AFLD 19691211	BT273116	09/07/1969
FLORES	**JERRY**		SP5	-----	20	03/06/1971	06-Mar-71		ROCKET ATTACK QUANG TRI CBT BASE 19710306 Lam Son 719	YD302532	03/30/1970
FRINK	**JOHN**		WO	100B	20	04/02/1972	02-Apr-72	UH-1H 67-17801	UH-1H 67-17801 SHOT DOWN 5KM NORTH OF DONG HA 19720402 (Bat 21)	YD218628	
GRAVER	**RAYMOND**	**JR**	SP4	68F20	20	04/05/1970	05-Apr-70	OH-6A 68-17151	OH-6A 68-17151 10 KM W-NW OF TAM KY AFLD 19700405	BT212207	04/29/1969
HACKETT	**JAMES**		SP4	11D2F	19	06/11/1972	11-Jun-72	OH-6A 67-16275	OH-6A 68-17344 & OH-6A 67-16275 (SAR) 15 KM W-NW OF HUE SW AFLD 19720611	YD562138	09/07/1971
HARDIN	**JAMES**		SP4	67N20	21	02/19/1970	19-Feb-70	UH-1H 68-16327	DURING EXTRACTION OF AERO	BT121225 /BT122227	07/13/1969

									RIFLE PLT 9 KM NORTH OF TIEN PHUOC 19700219		
HOLM	**ARNOLD**	**JR**	CPT	1981	28	06/11/1972	11-Jun-72	OH-6A 68-17344	OH-6A 68-17344 & OH-6A 67-16275 (SAR) 15 KM W-NW OF HUE SW AFLD 19720611	YD565135	12/07/1971
HOWISON	**GRAHAM**		SFC	11D2F	41	07/13/1969	13-Jul-69	OH-6A 68-17165	SOUTH BANK OF CUA DAI RIVER 6 KM E-SE OF HOI AN 19690713 OP Frederick Hill	BT198540	03/16/1969
KULLAND	**BYRON**		1LT	1981	24	04/02/1972	02-Apr-72	UH-1H 67-17801	UH-1H 67-17801 SHOT DOWN 5KM NORTH OF DONG HA 19720402 (Bat 21)	YD218628	07/18/1971
MARTIN	**WILLIAM**		WO	100B	21	07/13/1969	13-Jul-69	OH-6A 68-17165	SOUTH BANK OF CUA DAI RIVER 6 KM E-SE OF HOI AN 19690713 OP Frederick Hill	BT198540	02/06/1969
MCCLANAHAN	**TERRY**		SP5	67Y20	20	03/06/1971	06-Mar-71		ROCKET ATTACK QUANG TRI CBT BASE 19710306 OP Lam Son 719	YD338525	04/11/1970
MCQUADE	**JAMES**		1LT	1981	23	06/11/1972	11-Jun-72	OH-6A 67-16275	OH-6A 68-17344 & OH-6A 67-16275 (SAR) 15 KM W-NW OF HUE SW AFLD 19720611	YD562138	11/24/1971
MILLER	**PAUL**		PFC	67U20	20	06/03/1969	03-Jun-69	OH-6A 67-16049	OH-6A 67-16049 & REACTION	BS513880 /BS512872	10/20/1968

									FORCE 10 KM WSW BINH SON 19690603		
MURPHY	**LARRON**		CPT	1981	29	04/23/1970	11-Oct-73	AH-1G 67-15612	NIGHT/BAD WEATHER, HIT MTN 13 KM E-NE OF KHAM DUC AFLD 19700413	ZC113153	06/17/1969
MYERS	**JIMMY**		SFC	11E4H	36	02/08/1969	24-Feb-69		SECONDARY EXPLOSION IN VC BUNKER 7 KM N-NE OF THANG BINH 19690208	BT203477	10/20/1968
PASCHALL	**RONALD**		SP5	67N20	21	04/02/1972	02-Apr-72	UH-1H 67-17801	UH-1H 67-17801 SHOT DOWN 5KM NORTH OF DONG HA 19720402 (Bat 21)	YD218628	10/25/1971
PERRY	**ELMER**		SGT	11B40	21	03/05/1970	05-Mar-70		FF FROM ACFT DURING ENGAGEMENT 5 KM EAST OF QUE SON 19700305	BT091340	10/22/1969
PONCE	**BENITO**		SP4	11D2F	23	03/12/1970	12-Mar-70	OH-6A 68-17179	OH-6A 68-17179 7 KM WEST OF HIEP DUC VILLAGE	AT830240 /AT837249	05/07/1969
PORT	**HYRUM**		CWO	100B	23	03/07/1971	07-Mar-71	AH-1G 69-16438	AH-1G 69-16438 MECH FAILURE 18 KM SW QUANG TRI AFLD	YD187420 /XC191429	07/20/1970
SAITO	**SAMUEL**		CWO	100B	20	11/24/1970	24-Nov-70	UH-1H 67-17840	UH-1H 67-17840 ENGINE FAILURE 4 KM N-NW OF CHU LAI AFLD	BT523095	05/02/1970
WATSON	**RICHARD**		CPT	1204	24	06/03/1969	03-Jun-69	OH-6A 67-16049	OH-6A 67-16049 & REACTION FORCE 10 KM	BS513880 /BS512872	05/14/1968

									WSW BINH SON 19690603		
WEEKLEY	**CLIFFORD**		SP5	67N20	24	07/13/1969	13-Jul-69	OH-6A 68-17165	SOUTH BANK OF CUA DAI RIVER 6 KM E-SE OF HOI AN 19690713 OP Frederick Hill	BT198540	06/25/1968
WILEY	**RICHARD**		SP4	67A1F	20	06/12/1972	12-Jun-72	OH-6A 68-17338	OH-6A 68-17338 12 KM NORTH OF LZ VEGHEL	YD544152	
WRIGHT	**HARVEY**		SP4	68G20	22	03/06/1971	06-Mar-71		ROCKET ATTACK QUANG TRI CBT BASE 19710306 (Lam Son 719)	YD338525	03/11/1970
YEAKLEY	**ROBIN**		SP4	11D2F	23	06/11/1972	11-Jun-72	OH-6A 68-17344	OH-6A 68-17344 & OH-6A 67-16275 (SAR) 15 KM W-NW OF HUE SW AFLD 19720611	YD565135	08/26/1971
ZIMPFER	**FRED**		PFC	11B10	26	02/15/1970	15-Feb-70		BLUES ASSAULT BUNKER COMPLEX 8 KM NORTH OF TIEN PHUOC 19700215 (Aero Rifle)	BT105218	12/05/1969

There is a wonderful web-site (Blueghosts.com) for F/8th Cavalry with history, stories and photos and connections to the veterans of Troop F, 8th Cavalry (also C Troop, 7 Squadron, 17th Cavalry). As an example of what might be found at this web-site is this nose art from Carl Mumaw circa 1969: