23rd Military Police Company and related materials compiled from the Americal Division Veteran's Association (ADVA) database.

This is a photo of the HQ for the 3rd platoon of the 23rd MP Company provided by John "Dutch DeGroot" a veteran of the unit.

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 the 23rd Military Police Company and other Americal Division Veterans from the ADVA Historical Data Base.

No military yearbook has been located for the 23rd Military Police Company for their service in Vietnam. Although, there were a two pages in the 1971 196th LIB yearbook, that may have been of 23rd MP company servicemen. These two pages have been inserted into this document.

There is a newsletter named the "Blotter" that has been published for a number of years by the Association's Military Police Chapter. The ADVA historian has 42 digital issues of the "Blotter" available that can be shared with the 23rd Military Police Company Veterans or Americal Division Veterans.

There are articles about the 23rd MP company that were published in the Americal Division Veteran's "Newsletter" and "Journal". These are available via flash drive from the historian and are now also available online in the "Americal Division Portal" in the Vietnam Archives on the Texas Tech. University Web-site.

There has been a great connection between the Military Police Veterans of the Americal Division Veterans Association and non-Military Police Veterans.

The Americal Division Veteran's really did appreciate the difficult job and essential job performed by the military police.

This is a page from the 23rd MP newsletter, "The Blotter".

Mementos placed on the Wall by 23rd MP Company Veterans at the 20th Anniversary in 2002. Included are a list of 23rd MP Co. fallen soldiers carved in slate.

Meet at Wall
continued from Page 1

For reservations at the special rate of $99 per night plus tax (double occupancy) for the first 200 rooms, call the Doubletree Hotel at 800-222-8733 or 703-416-4100. To get the rate, tell the hotel it's for "LZ/DC 4." For additional information about the hotel and the activity schedule, go to www.americal.org/lzdc25.shtml.

The detailed schedule for that weekend has not yet been announced. However, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Foundation, which built the Memorial and continues to "operate" it in conjunction with the National Parks Service, has announced that General L. Colin Powell USA (Ret.), an Americal Division veteran, will provide the keynote address on Sunday, November 11.

Beginning on November 7, there will also be a public reading of all 58,256 names. For more information, go to www.vvmf.org/index.cfm?SectionID=1.

The Gunslingers
The 23rd Military Police Company Rides Again

By Allen Feser

"The 23rd MP Company comes out when the nation is in crisis. They are the 9-11 of MP units in a case that says, 'break glass in case of emergency'."

These words, spoken by CSM Jeffrey Butler, the Regimental Command Sergeant Major of the Military Police Corps, at the 23rd MP Company Memorial dedication ceremony at Ft. Leonard Wood, MO, epitomize the history of the 23rd MP Company as it fought in three wars.

In October 2005 the 23rd MP Company (ABN) was reactivated as part of the 503rd MP BN (ABN), 16th MP BDE (ABN) at Ft. Bragg, NC. The lost guidon that led the company in Vietnam was located in a museum warehouse in Anniston, AL and was used in the activation ceremony, passed from CPT Ron Sunderland to the new Company Commander, CPT Karl Reuter.

They trained up and built up under the command of CPT Reuter and 1SGT William Griffin for one year and were nicknamed "The Gunslingers," taking the motto "Born For War." In October 2006, they deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Four Vietnam-era 23rd MPs, COL Vern Pike, CPT Ron Sunderland, CPT Ralph Stiles and SGT Al Feser, were present that evening at "The Green Ramp," Pope Air Force Base, NC to watch them embark.

They were initially deployed to Camp Falcon, a forward operating base in the Baghdad area of operations under the operational control of the 92nd MP BN. The Warrior Police were assigned to assist and support the Iraqi Police (IPs) in Combined Force Security and Police Patrol Operations in order to stiffen the resolve of the newly recruited IPs and train them in proper police procedures.

In April 2007 there was both a change of command and redeployment. CPT Frank Jennings took over as the CO and CPT Reuter was reassigned to BN HQ after an 18-month command. Simultaneously the company was forward deployed out of Camp Falcon as part of the troop surge and took over operational control of five Iraqi Police stations in several different districts.

Once again, as in Vietnam, the Platoons were dispersed to different locations.

Living and working throughout the Baghdad area of operations in order to stabilize these districts by the 24 hour continued presence of the Warrior Police, they have recruited and trained several thousand new IPs.

The 23rd MPs have sustained several WIAs as a result of indirect fires directed at Camp Falcon, and IEDs targeting their Armored Security Vehicles, the modern version of our V-100s.

The company is scheduled to return home in late 2007 or early 2008 with a possible reassignment in CONUS to Ft. Drum, NY where they will support the 10th Mountain Division as part of the 91st MP BN.

The 23rd MP Company is "out of the case" again with our nation in crisis and carrying on the proud traditions of a company "Born For War." At the Memorial Dedication CSM Butler further remarked:

"I can only hope that we can place them back in the inactive book soon, but only because that would mean that the war on terror has been won and the threat against our nation defeated."

Al Feser is an active member of the chapter and served in Vietnam from 1968-1969.

Reactivation of 23rd MP Company, October 2005

Stanton Order of Battle Vietnam reference book documentation on the 23rd Military Police Company.

23rd MP Divisional – Americal Division – 8 Dec. 67 – 29 Jun. 72

Unit size	1968	1970
23rd MP	126	189

[Historian Note: Obviously the 23rd MP Company could not have remained in Vietnam with the Americal Division until 29 June 1972 when the Americal Division stood down from Vietnam in November 1971. I could use some enlightenment from a veteran of the unit and time frame. The last record I have shows the 23rd MP Company still part of the Americal Division in October 1971. I suspect that the 23rd MP stayed in with Vietnam continuing on with the 196th LIB. There was an article in an issue of the 196th LIB newsletter published 24MAR72 about the 23rd MP Company serving with the 196th LIB. Also, I have seen a 196th LIB Infantry pocket patch with the 23rd Military Police emblem on it. And finally there are photos of MP in the 196th LIB yearbook from 1971 which I have inserted below:

SP4 Phillips - Gate Guard

SP4 Steeber - Gate Guard

SGT Zeno - Processing

Motor Patrol:
SP4 Clarr, PFC Hanson, National Police

Convey Escort:
SP4 Osterman & Boulware

PFC Morgan - Strike Force

SP4 Carpenter - Gate Guard

SP4 Barwicke - Gate Guard

SSG WATSON

SSG KING

SP4 BOULWARE,R.

SP4 COBB

SP4 HOFFMAN

SP4 MOORE

PFC BLACK

PFC HANSON

SP4 WIGGINS

PFC SMITH

SP4 MINOR

SP4 HUGHLEY

SP4 WOOD

SP4 OSTERMAN

SP4 SYLWIE

PFC PERRY

SP4 FINLEY

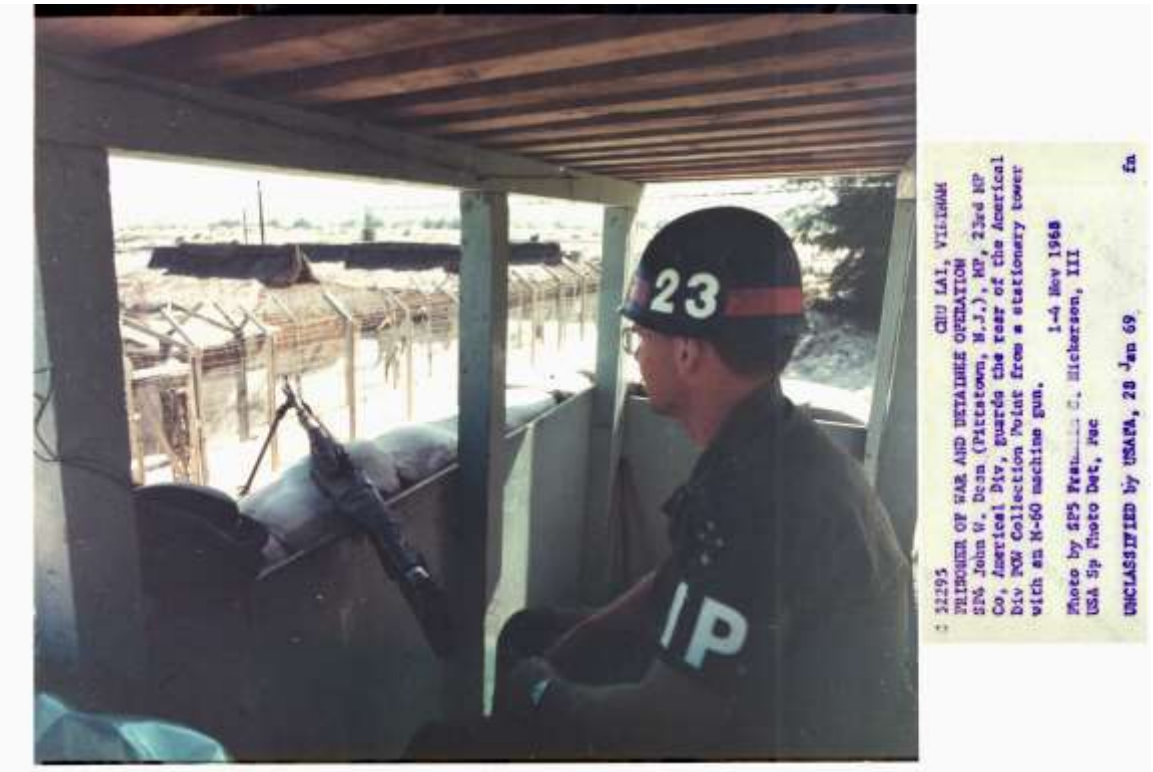
SP4 WHERLEY

SGT ANDRESAKIS

SP4 Morgan & Allmon, members of the MP Strike Force

SP4 CLARK

Past National Commander (PNC) of the ADVA Larry Swank obtained some 25-30 photos from the National Archives which document activities by MP at the Prisoner of War compound at LZ Bayonet. I will insert of one of more than twenty examples here:



UNIT CITATIONS AWARDED
23rd Military Police Co

SOURCE: **Department of the Army Pamphlet 762-3**

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

Awards:

RVNGC24 Aug 69 - 31 Dec 69 DAGO 42, 1972
RVNGC31 Mar 70 - 30 Jun 70 DAGO 42, 1972
RVNGC1 Apr 71 - 30 Jun 71 DAGO 6, 1974
2nd Platoon, 23rd MP Co
VUA11-31 Aug 69 DAGO 43, 1972

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

file-68ammag1.rvn

Americal Division Magazine - May, 1968

This is the inaugural issue of the Americal Division Magazine. There were only two issues in 1968. This first issue has a different format from the subsequent issues. This issue appears to use 8"x10" paper folded over like a pamphlet. Nearly all the photos are B&W, unlike subsequent issues that had a full 8"x10" size and used a lot of color photos and graphics.

Base - The example of this issue was provided by Jack Rogers. Jack served with A Troop, 1st/1st Cav. in 1968-69.

M i l i t a r y P o l i c e m e n
E n f o r c e L a w

The **23rd Military Police Company**, the law enforcement branch of the Americal Division, was activated December 8, 1967

On April 13, 1967, half of the 148th Platoon of the 18th MP Brigade and half of the 544th Platoon of the 196th Infantry Brigade came to Chu Lai with Task Force Oregon. Under the operational control of the Provost Marshal's office, the platoons became one, eventually to become the 23rd MP Company.

Attached to the company are about 55 Marine and Navy personnel. Besides headquarters security, the MP's are responsible for traffic control and security at the connection point where civilian employees enter the compound each day. The **MP**'s have also shown their interest in civil affairs by becoming sponsors of a village school north of Chu Lai.

Working closely with the Vietnamese military police, Americal MP's, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Warren J. Lucas, make sure that law enforcement and security continue in the Americal Division.

(Continued)

(Continued)

B&W photo - Caption -An Americal MP Directs Traffic Near The Division Headquarters Area In Chu Lai. Photo credit - guerrant

file-68AMMAG2.rvn
Americal Division Magazine - Fall, 1968

From Spit and Polish To A Dented Helmet.....
Photo caption- MP seen through portal in bunker next to field phone. Americal MP identification clearly shown on the man's shoulder. photo credit - Eilers.

PAGE 21 **THE COMBAT MP**

Just after nightfall in the quiet, inland waters of Truong Giang, a wooden boat silently glides through the reflected moonlight. A Vietnamese with a long, bamboo pole eyes the lush undergrowth warily. Beneath his catch of fish are hidden three 122mm rockets. Suddenly, from that same undergrowth, a machinegun growls and tracers blaze across the craft's bow. A military police-man comes aboard.

A gray, crowded minibus on its way from Quang Ngai to Tam Ky bounces merrily along Highway One. Its dozen passengers include children, pregnant women, chickens, roosters, and a man with a green-canvas totebag
Just past the village of Chau Tu the bus veers sharply to the right and stops on the shoulder. A shout is heard and the passengers reluctantly emerge, poultry and all. The man hastily stuffs the bag behind a seat and follows
the others out. A National Police-**MP** inspection team is waiting.

The incidents described are but two of the countless situations in which a military policeman of the 198th Inf. Bde. may find himself. He is a new kind of soldier-a combat M.P.

Eilers

MP "River Rats" skim across the water during a searching operation along a southern I Corps waterway.

Page 22 photo captions - MP "River Rats" skim across the water during a searching operation along a southern I Corps waterway.

PFC Lloyd E. Richmond, assisted by a Vietnamese National Policeman, checks the identification of a fisherman during the water Eilers

PFC Lloyd E. Richmond, assisted by a Vietnamese National Policeman, checks the identification of a fisherman during the water patrol. Photo credits - Eilers

The "Brave and Bold" **MPs** have three primary functions: river patrol, highway patrol, and detention of captured enemy soldiers and suspected enemy sympathizers. But in the words of brigade provost marshal, MAJ Gordon Moody "You get a little bit of everything, tactical operations, police work, and civic affairs."

The waterborne military policemen patrol the An Tan and Tra Bong River complexes in 16-foot Boston whalers outfitted with 80- and 85-horsepower motors and M-60 machineguns.

SP4 Jerry D. Lear, who has been patrolling the network of waterways north and south of Chu Lai for six months commented on the challenging role played by the combat MP. "Here there's a job to do. Back in the States we were a lot of spit and polish, but over here we're in combat, "Lear said.

A young MP, Lear has not issued a single DR since he has been in Vietnam. Instead he sports a steel helmet that has a large dent in it-a dent that came from an enemy AK-47 round during a firefight on the Tra Bong River.

Dubbed the "River Rats," the 198th MPs man an outpost on each of the two rivers they patrol. It is a 24-hour job. At night, the "River Rats" set up floating ambushes to catch unwary Viet Cong sampans. No one is supposed to be on the rivers after dark, but often there are local fishermen trying to improve upon the day's catch. The MPs must be careful to separate friend from foe.

"We use two boats on a patrol," Lear said. "The first boat stops the sampans and junks while the second boat lags a short distance behind for security. Our boats are the fastest on the river. A Vietnamese national policeman from district headquarters accompanies the roving water patrols and checks identification cards and picks up draft dodgers."

"Security is the most important thing during river patrols," says PFC Kenneth C. Irvin, who is a machinegunner in the security boat during patrolling. "It's a challenge to be a combat MP. You've got to deal with a lot of different situations, the Vietnamese, the soldiers, and even the VC. You have to be alert at all times."

On road patrolling missions, the 198th MPs use quarter-ton gunjeeps with specially mounted M-60 machineguns. They patrol 32 miles of Highway One from Bridge 444 near Quang Ngai in the south to Tam Ky in the north, and all the towns, villages, and hamlets, with the exception of An Tan, in between.

"They are the eyes and ears of the Brigade," says MAJ Moody. "The men get to know the people in the area and learn who's missing, who has just arrived, who is scared, and of what!"

The patrols on the highway are so situated that they can get anywhere within a reasonable response time. Whether it's a serious traffic accident, lost soldiers land mine, or spotcheck, a gunjeep will be close at hand.

Checkpoints are set up in conjunction with the National Police to stop everything from a five-ton truck to a small motor scooter. The results of a recent check revealed 3,000 sticks of marijuana, hundreds of C-rations, cartons of American cigarettes, and cans of cooking oil. The roadside checkpoints have stopped most of the north-south flow of contraband and illegal goods along the 198th's portion of Highway One.

Gunjeeps are used by 198th Inf. Bde. MPs to patrol Highway One and enforce checkpoint security. SP4 Jack J. Anders mans the M-60 machine gun, while PFC Ronald E. Arvai drives to a roadside spot check point, where he searches a Lambretta for contraband and illegal shipments by local civilians.

Eilers

photo captions- Gunjeeps are used by 198th Inf. Bde. **MPs** to patrol Highway One and enforce checkpoint security. SP4 Jack J. Anders mans the M-60 machine gun, while PFC Ronald E. Arvai drives to a roadside spot check point, where he searches a Lambretta for contraband and illegal shipments by local civilians. Photo credits by Eilers.

Eilers

The third major function of the brigade MPs is control of the 198th detention facility. The large cage, in which personnel picked up mainly by combat units are detained, is manned around the clock. The detainees are fed and clothed there, and then examined by Military Intelligence.

Intelligence classifies the detainees as a prisoner of war (POW), civil defendant (CD), or innocent civilian (IC). The POWs then are transported to the division detention facility for further interrogation, while the CDs are turned over to the National Police and the ICs are set free.

Other duties of the 198th MPs carry them to the fire bases, far from brigade headquarters. This may involve a routine nighttime check of the neighboring villages or special tactical missions. They may act as a blocking force for the infantry during a sweep or swoop down in helicopters from a resources-control investigation. Such raids into remote areas often have uncovered illegal drugs and contraband, as well as stragglers and AWOLs.

The new look in being a military policeman in the 198th Inf. Bde. is definitely the look of combat. From skimming across the Tra Bong River to intercept a VC sampan, to bursting through an enemy ambush, the 198th combat **MPs** are adding a new dimension to the Military Police Corps.

file-ambook.rvn
The Americal Division History - published in 1971.

mp 23

The **23rd Military Police Company** was constituted April 3, 1943 as the Military Police Platoon, Americal Division. For its participation in World War II, the unit received three campaign ribbons, one with arrow head. The Platoon was inactivated following the armistice and remained so except for a short period in the mid 1950's. The **Americal Division Military Police** perform not only the well publicized police functions with which they are usually associated, but also a variety of other essential combat tasks. Specialists in the field of physical security survey units continually advise commanders of their findings. The military policemen provide general security of the division command post and the detaining and processing of enemy suspects. In coordination with local authorities they monitor and suppress black market activities. In the final result, the military policeman is called upon to be a soldier, diplomat, detective and clerk.

file-6706ar.aml
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Sp4 Maury Moser.....Staff Writer
Sp4 Rod Challenger.....Staff Writer

17Jun67-**MPs, Vietnam Police Seize US Currency**

CHU LAI, (196th INF-IO) - Thirty-one Vietnamese were detained and more than $750 in Military Payment Certificates were confiscated when the 196th Light Infantry Brigade's Military Police platoon and Chu Lai area Vietnamese National Police conducted a "Checkmate" operation recently.

Military Police from Task Force Oregon, the III Marine Amphibious Force, and personnel from the brigade's 569th Military Intelligence Detachment also participated in the operation, which took place in the hamlet of Diem Pho, near the main gate of the 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry's base camp.

The purpose of the Checkmate was to screen the villagers for identification cards and possession of American money, illegal by Vietnamese law, and to check the shops for contraband and black market goods.

"The operation was one of the most successful we have had." said Maj. Lincoln F. Brigham, brigade provost marshal who headed the combined forces.

Illegal items confiscated included $764 in MPC, $5 in American greenbacks, 22 cartons of American cigarettes, 19 rolls of 35mm film, 15 boxes of detergent, and ten bottles of American whiskey.

Those detained were held for lack of identification cards, selling black market goods, and other violations of Vietnamese law.

The job of the MPs in the operations is to assist and advise the National Police, who are the only ones who do the actual checking and searching. The platoon's gun jeeps provide security.

The operations are used to intercept the flow of supplies to the VC, stop the operation of black markets, insert more National Police control over areas that have been primarily VC dominated, and identify known VC and draft dodgers.

file-6708ar.aml

19Aug67-**Cool Villagers Warm Up To Abn Medics**

DUC PHO, (101st ABN-IO) - Accepting the initially cool reception, a Medical Civil Action (MEDCAP) team from the 101st Airborne Division recently entered a small fishing village southeast of here and left six hours later with the gratitude and friendship of the villagers.

"It usually works that way in areas where Americans haven't had contact with the people before," said SSgt. Dannie E. Bailey. "At first the Vietnamese are wary of your presence, but when they see you're there to help they accept you."

The paratroopers of the 2nd Battalion, 327th Infantry were the first Americans to offer assistance to the village.

The civil affairs action is part of the overall mission of destroying enemy influence in the I Corps area as part of Task Force Oregon.

The division's **military police** and the Vietnamese National Police, who escorted the MEDCAP team, suspected enemy presence in the area.

"The people didn't come out of their homes at first," explained Sgt. William Page. "Sometimes that means Viet Cong might be hidden in nearby ambush positions."

This was not the case, however, as interpreters with the American team soon had villagers seeking treatment.

Mothers brought their babies and the elderly hobbled towards the doctor's jeep. Soon the line grew to more than 50 persons.

The majority of the people were treated for malaria and numerous skin infections.

"Soap and water would eliminate most of these sores," said Capt. Richard Porter, a battalion doctor. "We have to teach the people the basics of personnel hygiene before we can expect any permanent improvements.

Some of the people crowded around the MP's and National Police, displaying various afflictions as if anyone in uniform could give treatment.

"It sure made me feel useless not to be able to help these people," said a paratrooper. "The doctors and medics handled the treatments, but I wish I had the training to help."

More than 170 patients were treated during the team's visit. Candy, cigarettes, and soap also were distributed.

19Aug67-**Viet MPs Aid 101st**

DUC PHO, (101st ABN-IO) A platoon of Vietnamese National Police was attached to the 101st Airborne Division's MP platoon here recently to assist in Operation Malheur II.

The Vietnamese under the command of Lt. Le Duc Doais are trained combat policemen. The 40 man platoon is divided into six teams and a headquarters sections to be deployed with the brigade's fighting units.

The will assist with actions involving civilian law violators and identification of Vietnamese within the area of operations.

Doais, pointing to the Screaming Eagle patch on his left shoulder, said, "I'm sure we can be of much help in working with the civilians encountered during American operations here.

file-6711ar.rvn **THE ARMY REPORTER** is published weekly under the supervision of the Information Office.

25Nov67-MPs Have Unique Role In 196th Inf

CHU LAI, (18th MP-IO) - A platoon of MPs attached to the 196th Light Infantry Brigade have traded their shiny MP helmet liners for camouflaged steel pots.

The 18th Military Police Brigade's northernmost MP element serves in a 100 per cent combat role.

Specialists Four Ray L. Polgos and Joseph P. Ireian recently demonstrated the nature of their unique role.

They were transported by helicopter to the scene of a fire fight to take charge of 18 VC suspects. The two MPs moved quickly and efficiently to evacuate the detainees.

In another instance, Viet Cong elements brought fire on the base camp. Within twenty minutes the MPs stationed at the camp had secured the major access road and affected an overall defense plan.

Each of the MPs assigned to the Chu Lai Provost Marshall's office performs two months of field duty with one of the four battalions of the 196th.

Normally there will be only two MPs sharing the responsibility for administrative and combat controls, physical security, and convoy escorts within each battalion.

The remainder of the platoon, stationed at the base camp, provides security for three bridges, mans the bunker defense, runs convoy escorts, maintains a combat ambush control, and provides base camp checkpoints and general security.

The activities of the platoon branch into the area of civic action.

In a recent instance they helped to relocate a village of 6000 people from Tuyet Diem I on Son Tra I.

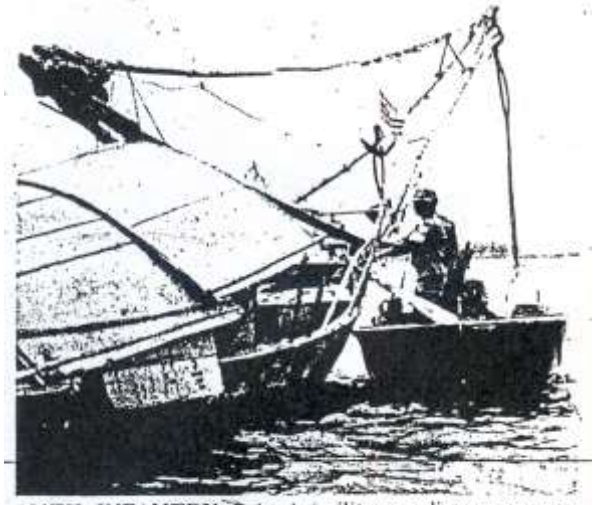
In the largest program of its kind undertaken in the area to date, 20 of the platoon's military policemen escorted the villagers and their possessions along the eight mile relocation route.

file-6810AR.rvn
12Oct68-**198th's combat MPs have no time for DRs**
CHU LAI, (AMERICAL) Photo Captions:

PFC Lloyd E. Richmond, assisted by a Vietnamese National Policeman, checks the identification of a fisherman during the water

Ellers

Photo 1 - A VIETNAMESE National Policeman assists Pfc. Lloyd E. Richmond in checking the identification of a Vietnamese.



198TH INFANTRY Brigade military police prepare to board and check a fishing junk during a water patrol.

Photo 2 - 198th INFANTRY Brigade military police prepare to board and check a fishing junk during a water patrol.

Gunjeeps are used by 198th Inf. Bde. MPs to patrol Highway One and enforce checkpoint security. SP4 Jack J. Anders mans the M-60 machine gun, while PFC Ronald E. Arvai drives to a roadside spot check point, where he searches a Lambretta for contraband and illegal shipments by local civilians.

Eilers

Photo 3 - A GUN JEEP moves along Highway One to a checkpoint south of Chu Lai in the Americal Division area. Pfc. Ronald E. Arvai drives while Spec. 4 Jack J. Anders mans the M-60 machine gun.

THE SECURITY boat covers the lead boat during a 198th Infantry Brigade pat- "River Rats" work in pairs when patrolling.

Photo 4 - THE SECURITY boat covers the lead boat during a 198th Infantry Brigade patrol. On alert is Pfc. Ivan D Hyde. The "River Rats" work in pairs when patrolling.

file-6810AR.rvn
12Oct68-**198th's combat MPs have no time for DRs**

"MP" to most soldiers rings the bell of road guard, traffic cop and DR giver-outer. This impression is far from the truth in the daily activities of combat **miliary policemen** of the Americal Division's 198th Infantry Brigade who patrol Viet Cong infested rivers and roadways north and south of here.

Whether patrolling the rivers in 16-foot Boston Whalers or cruising the highways in gun-jeeps, the 198th MP's are combat geared for action and have fought their way through numerous enemy engagements.

Stop the flow

The major missions of the 40-man **MP** force are patrolling two major river complexes (An Tan and Tra Bong) and Highway One from Tam Ky to Binh Son. "We stop the flow of U.S. materials and black market goods going to the VC," said Spec. 4 Jerry D. Lear.

Lear, who has been patrolling the network of waterways north and south of Chu Lai for six months, said that combat MPs have a more challenging role. "Here there's a job to do. Back in the States we were a lot of spit and polish, but over here we're in combat," Lear said.

A young **MP**, Lear has not issued a single DR since he's been in Vietnam. Instead he sports a steel helmet that has a large dent in it - a dent that came from an enemy AK-47 round during a firefight on the Tra Bong River.

To patrol the miles of wandering rivers north and south of here the combat policemen use 16-foot Boston Whalers outfitted with 80 and 85 horsepower motors and M-60 machine guns.

Dubbed the "River Rats," the **198th MPs** man an outpost on each of the two rivers and patrol the water 24 hours a day. During the hours of darkness the "River Rates" set up floating ambushes to catch unwary Viet Cong sampans.

"We use two boats on a patrol," Lear said. "The first boat stops the sampans and junks while the second boat lags a short distance behind for security. Our boats are the fastest ones on the river."

A Vietnamese National Policeman from district headquarters accompanies the roving water patrols and checks identification cards and picks up Vietnamese draft dodgers.

Security first

"Security is the most important thing during the river patrols," said Pfc. Kenneth C. Irvin. Irvin, who rides machine-gunner in the security boat during patrolling, said, "It's a lot of different situations - the Vietnamese, the soldiers, and even the VC. You have to be aware and alert at all times.

file-6901AR.rvn

27Jan69-Conexes can hold world of treasure

CHU LAI - GI ingenuity in Vietnam has turned a Korean War experiment in logistics into a 1,500-pound treasure chest with a myriad of uses.

The treasure chest is officially labeled as an Army-Air Force Conex Container, and they rank along with sand bags, helmets and weapons as the most plentiful items used by today's soldier.

Statistically, a conex is a steel box, eight-feet, six-inches in length, six-feet, three-inches wide, eight-feet, ten-inches high, and is used for shipping everything and anything from tape recorders to M16's.

A Conex Container weighs 1,542 pounds when empty and will transport a maximum load of 9,000-pounds. The cost of a single container is estimated to be $800.

Once the two doors on the container are properly secured, the conex becomes a veritable vault, practically impossible to be broken into. This automatically reduces a lot of pilferage.

"We use the containers mainly for the shipment of critical items such as tape recorders, watches and camera equipment," said James E. White, warehouse manager for the Chu Lai post exchange facilities here.

"If it weren't for the containers, half of the merchandise would probably be damaged beyond repair by the time we received it," Mr. White claimed.

The experimental use of conex containers began during the Korean War. Part of the success of the experiments was the fact that the containers could be dropped to field troops by parachute with a minimum amount of damage to their contents.

Sand bags stacked around a conex will make one of the most durable bunkers to be found in Vietnam. An air-conditioner placed inside a conex turns it into a booth for delicate machines that might be damaged by the heat.

Military Policemen in Vietnam have been known to use conex containers as temporary stockades for confining prisoners.

Some of the steel boxes, with appropriate equipment added, have become passable photography darkrooms, while other serve as secure storerooms.

A few minor adjustments to a conex, and you have a dandy kennel for Army Scout Dogs. Almost every company in Vietnam uses a conex for an arms and ammunition room.

When you think about it, a conex container is a great deal like a birthday present. You never know what you will find when you open it.

file-6903AR.rvn
17Mar69-**Put bite on Charlie**

River rat call it quits

CHU LAI - "That's it," the **MP** said as the boat glided slowly into the beach. "Yeah, our last trip," agreed the infantryman, reaching back to turn off the powerful outboard motor. The River Rats had finished work.

At both River North (the Truong Giang) and the River South (the Song Tra Bong), the mouths of large rivers near here, the patrols of the Americal Division's 198th Light Infantry Bde. **MP platoon** recently beached their boats for the last time. The MPs and their infantryman boat drivers were getting out of the river patrol business.

The River Rats began checking the rivers in September 1967, when the brigade arrived in Vietnam. Now the job has been turned over to U.S. Marines.

"The river patrols were designed to deny the enemy access to inland waterways and prevent him from transporting weapons, supplies and men," explained Sfc. Robert A. Wiles, operations sergeant.

The patrols of two boats each operated 24 hours a day in all types of weather, stopping sampans, checking the Vietnamese aboard for proper identification and searching for contraband. On a typical day, the stopped and searched 41 boats and checked out more than 180 people. In one three-month period, they confiscated more than 3,000 pounds of rice, 1,000 pounds of salt, ponchos, poncho liners, cartons of C-rations, cigarettes and $1,380 MPC that would have gotten to the Viet Cong or onto the black market.

Riding along with the **MPs** and infantrymen were Vietnamese National Police and Popular Force members.

It has been a dangerous job but the patrols carried a lot of fire power. Each 16-foot "Boston Whaler" had a mounted M-60 machinegun, an M-79 grenade launcher, two M-72 anti-tank weapons, hand grenades and the crewman's individual M-16 rifles. They also had support from Army artillery and 81mm mortars from Navy Swift boats.

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23 June 1969 - **Army nurse killed by enemy rocket**

CHU LAI - An enemy 122mm rocket fired at the sprawling military complex here struck down the first Army nurse to die as a result of hostile fire in the Vietnam conflict.

The rocket impacted near a heavily populated 312th Evacuation Hospital ward and also killed a Vietnamese child, while wounding 25 other Vietnamese civilians, a **military policeman**, and a medic.

The Army nurse, Lt. Sharon A. Lane, 25, had arrived at the 325-bed 44th Medical Brigade facility on April 29, and immediately assumed duties as a staff nurse in the Vietnamese ward.

"The ward consists of two Quonset-type huts shaped like the letter "H,'", said Capt. John D. Medlin, Jr., commanding officer of the 312th Evacuation Hospital Detachment. "The rocket exploded in the open area between the sides of the "H" and tossed shrapnel through both walls."

The impact came at 5:55 a.m., one hour and five minutes before the nurse's 12-hour 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. night shift would end. "All the patients were sleeping," said Lt. Patricia E. Carr, the staff nurse who shared night duty with Lt. Lane.

"We were just relaxing before staring to wake the patients up at 6 a.m.. I was sitting behind the desk and Lt. Lane was sitting on an empty bed when the rocket hit,"

Three other rockets landed one mile south in the South China Sea, while another exploded in an empty field nearby.

Maj. Bruce Lippman was the first doctor on the scene. "I was walking to get some early coffee when I heard the explosion. I couldn't tell where the rocket had landed until I saw a number of Vietnamese running around crying. Then Lt. Carr took my arm, and we went into the shattered ward.

"Nurse Lane dies within seconds of being hit by a piece of shrapnel which entered through the throat," the medical officer added.

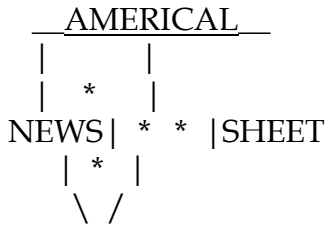
Lt. Lane's immediate superior at the hospital, Capt. Lorraine W. Monte, said the blonde, brown-eyed girl was an excellent nurse. "She was always so kind to people and listened to them with compassion. She liked the Vietnamese, and they appreciated her tenderness and concern for them.

"After she had worked in the Vietnamese ward for about six weeks, I asked "Missy Lane" (That was her nickname) if she would like a transfer," remarked the head nurse. "She replied that she liked it here and wanted to stay."

The chief nurse at the 312th, Lt. Col. Minnie Sue Walker, reiterated that the petite Lt. Lane was a very good nurse.

"Lieutenant Lane served of the staff of Fitzsimmons Army Hospital in Denver before coming to Vietnam, the chief nurse said. "She fit in beautifully. She was sweet, quiet, and willing to work."

file-news6809
Entered Nov. 1996
Vol. 2 No. 139 THURSDAY September 5, 1968



MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT
FRIDAY
Cloudy skies with light
rain the morning decreasing
in the afternoon.
High 85, low 70.
Winds northeast at 10 knots to
20 knots. (B-6)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action remained scattered during yesterday in the Americal Division's southern I Corps Tactical zone as Division forces accounted for 19 VC and two NVA killed and one weapon captured.

Increased action in the Quang Ngai Province yesterday resulted in 15 VC killed and 16 suspects detained by 11th Inf. Bde's "Jungle Warriors".

A company of the 4th Bn., 3rd Inf. had a big day yesterday as the "Old Guard" soldiers killed one evading VC and detained 16 suspects 12 miles west of Quang Ngai City. The command and control helicopter of the battalion killed another three VC carrying packs in a river ten miles west of QuangNgai City.

Four VC bodies were found yesterday in a hut four miles southeast of Duc Pho by troops of a (A Company) 1st Bn., 20th Inf. company The four dead VC were killed in a contact Tuesday night which netted eight other VC. In that contact a secondary explosion resulted from the attack by hand grenades and M-79 fire. Another 1st Bn., 20th Inf. company killed one VC near Sa Huynh yesterday.

Soldiers of a 3rd Bn., 1st Inf. company found the bodies of four VC in freshly dug graves near a trail six miles west of Quang Ngai City yesterday.

The four VC died of wounds from white phosphorous. Tuesday night another company of the battalion killed one VC near the same site.

The 11th Inf. Bde's **Military Police** killed an evading VC in a tunnel yesterday and found one M-26 hand grenade, money, and a radio in a hut nearby, eight miles north of the "Jungle Warriors" home.

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.

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., 52d Inf. company led by 1LT Stephen J. Olsen (Minneapolis) detained two VC suspects yesterday morning. Neither of the suspects had ID cards.

Another 1st Bn., 52d Inf. "Ready Rifles" company led by 1LT Michael J. Deal (Arlington, Va.) detained one VC suspect in the same area.

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. 193 Tuesday October 29, 1968
MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT WEDNESDAY Cloudy to Mostly Cloudy Rain
High 85 low 70 no Moonlight-- 0132H-1436H

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Ten NVA and 13 VC were killed, 19 individual weapons were captured, and 15 suspects were detained in southern I Corps yesterday.

"Jungle Warriors" of the 11th Inf. Bde. accounted for eight NVA and four VC killed, 13 suspects detained, and 19 individual weapons captured.

Troops of a 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company found three NVA killed by air strikes 11 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn., working with troops of the 4th Bn., 3d Inf., killed five NVA 13 miles west of Duc Pho.

A reconnaissance element of the 4th Bn., 3d Inf. found a cache of 17 individual weapons in a hole 11 miles northwest of Duc Pho. The haul included eight SKS rifles, six M-1 carbines, two French grease guns, one AK-47 rifle and 300 pounds of rice.

Near the Song Tra Khuc, eight miles west of Quang Ngai City, F Trp., 1st Cav. killed one VC.

A 3d Bn., 1st Inf. reconnaissance element killed two VC by a trail 17 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Troops of a 1st Bn., 20th Inf. company killed one VC among huts three miles north of Duc Pho.

The 1st Bn., 20th Inf. command and control element detained a total of six VC suspects in three incidents southeast of Duc Pho.

Another 1st Bn., 20th Inf. company detained three VC suspects in the same area.

MPs of the 11th Bd. and the **National Police** detained four military - age male VC suspects on Highway 1 four miles north of Duc Pho.

Under the Voluntary Informant Program (VIP), 11th Inf. Bde. soldiers received two LAWs, two 105mm howitzer rounds, five 4.2" mortar rounds, one 81mm mortar round, four 60mm mortar rounds, five M-26 grenades, 27 M-79 rounds, and over 250 rounds of small arms ammo from Vietnamese civilians.

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The Division suffered one killed and nine wounded and evacuated for medical treatment.

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Vol. 3. No. 34 MONDAY February 3, 1969
MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT
TUESDAY
Tommorrow's forecast calls for partly cloudy skys. 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 southtern 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 latyer, engaged eight VC nearby and killed four. Co. I wa scleaning up behind Cos. K and M, 3-26 Regt. which moved to the norhtern edge of the peninsula Saturday.

Co. C, 4-3 Inf. found and M-72 nine miles northeast of Quang Ngai Cioty and , two hours later, found the body of a VC killed several days ago by small arms fire nearby. Anotther 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 mters 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.

file-Lamar.nor

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Headquarters 1st Brigade 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile)
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96383

AVDG-AA-C 15 September 1969

SUBJECT: Combat Operations After Action Report, Operation LAMAR PLAIN (U)

Commanding General
101st Airborne Division (Airmobile)
ATTN: ACofS, G3
APO 96383

1. (C) Name and Type of Operation: Operation LAMAR PLAIN.
2. (C) Dates of Operation: 15 May - 14 Aug 69
3. (C) Location: TAN PHUOC Dist and HAU DUC Dist, TAM KY (P), RVN (Maps: Vietnam 1:50,000 series L7014).
4. (U) Control Headquarters: 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile)
5. (U) Reporting Officer: Colonel Frank L. Dietrich.
6. (C) Task Organization:

	Bde Control
1-46 Inf	2-320 Arty (-)
1-501 Inf	C/1-14
1-502 Inf	A/4-77 ARA (-)
	B/2-17 Cav
	A/326 Engr (-)
	A/501 Sig (-)
	A/101 AHB
	Sec/C/159/ ASHB
	Sec/D/AHB
	1st FSSE
	A/326 Med
	B/601 Maint
	Plat/426 SxS
	HHC(-), 1st Bde
	42d Inf Plat (SDT)
	1/265 RRU
	1/101 MID
	TACP 20 TASS
	1/101 MP
	Weather Det

b. **PMO** - Military Police supported the Brigade by investigating traffic accidents and incidents

involving Brigade personnel. The Military Police also operated three sentry gate posts for control of personnel and traffic and provided prisoner of war collecting points. The prisoner of war collection point processed 799 personnel; categorized as follows:

VC	10
NVA	6
Civilian Detainees	61
Innocent Civilians	278
HOI CHANH	3
Detainees	2
Children	439

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b. Services:

(1) Maintenance. Field level maintenance was provided by Company, 801st Maintenance Battalion, the DS unit normally supporting the 1st Brigade. ?SL ?? were brought from Camp Eagle as part of the unit move and replacements were ? be requested through 723rd Maintenance Battalion, Americal Division. ??? the operation the bulk of repair parts continued to be provided by HQS, 801st Maintenance Battalion, particularly major assemblies. Support for signal and artillery repair parts from 723rd Maintenance Battalion was good. ?ale parts (tires, tubes, magnetos, and starters) and the Case M450 Mini-dozer parts, ?ota airmobile items, were critical resulting in extended periods of down time and lack of equipment for essential jobs. Organizational maintenance for the infantry units was good. The artillery, military police, engineers, support and service, radio research unit, and signal units did not bring maintenance personnel with them requiring the 1st Brigade motor pool to provide organizational maintenance. ???? ??? the resources of the motor pool. Ancillary units must bring one mechanic to provide support, these individuals would then be placed for duty with the HHC. Frequent use of road side spot check teams consisting of two (2) maintenance men and one (1) MP (Motor Pool) provided the tool necessary to check on unit maintenance. User maintenance showed a definite improvement with command interest being expressed. The Brigade HHC motor pool requires more knowledge and supervision than can be expected from an E5 motor sergeant. The authorized vehicles for a HHC is 17-1/4 ton, 8-3/4 ton, 6-1/2 ton platform, 1-2 1/2 ton plus support to units habitually attached to the headquarters such as Combat Tracker Team, and Scout Dog platoon, an additional 2-1/2 ton, 4-3/4 ton, 4-2/1/2 ton bringing the total vehicles assigned for maintenance to 42.

In comparison an Infantry battalion with a total of 50 vehicles is authorized an E6 motor sergeant and a maintenance technical MOS 631A.

(2) Medical Service. The use of medevac helicopters taking patients directly to hospitals from the field with the resulting reduction in triage makes it apparent that the Brigade aid station provided by A Company 326th Medical Battalion can be reduced in size and staffing. The ability to handle emergencies and routine sick call is sufficient.

file-TET_198.CAR

1st Bn, 52d Inf. took over 1st Bn, 6th Inf AO and the 198th Bde (Lt) conducted normal combat operations in the Chu Lai TAOR & MUSCATINE AO (the area immediately south of Chu Lai TAOR) with two battalions. The 198th secured Highway #1 and bridges, conducted river patrols by the military police, and provided reaction forces to installations and bases as re quired. 1st Bn, 14th Arty provided artillery support and counter mortar/ rocket fires.

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On 3 February the 198th LIB continued search and destroy operations in the Chu Lai TAOR and operation MUSCATINE with TF BARKER and 4-3 Inf OPCON. TF BARKER reported scattered light contact with 7 VC KIA. 4-3 Inf reported 1 VC KIA in light contact. 1st Bn, 52d Inf reported light contact with negative results. 1st Bn, 46th Inf received 2 x 81 or 82mm mortar rounds on Hill 54. Nothing was damaged and there were no casualties. The 1st Bn, 6th Inf reported light contact with negative results. The military police continued with river patrols and B/26 Engr Bn continued with road clearing and assigned projects.

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3. (C) Training: None.
4. (C) Intelligence:
a. Subject: Utilization of Provincial Reconnaissance Units and **National Police**.

(1) Observation: A successful operation can be accomplished by conducting cordon and search operations with the incorporation of PRU's and **NP** into overall tactical plan.

(2) Evaluation: Results of combat operations, including the cordon and search of a village, are considerably improved when Provincial Reconnaissance units (PRU) and **National Police** (NP) are incorporated into the scheme of maneuver. After US and/or GVN troops have effectively cordoned a village, the PRU's should be assigned the mission of sweeping into the cordoned area and conducting methodical search. The **NP** are then inserted to conduct the interrogation and separate those who require further questioning. The added presence of an IPW Team reinforces the intelligence gathering operation.

(3) Recommendation: Make maximum use of PRU's and **NP** in cordon and search missions especially for searches and interrogation.

file-71_182AR.orl (Artillery)

(5) The battalion closed in Dong Ha at 0300 hours on 30 January 1971 at which time it became detached from the 23d Infantry Division and attached to the 1st Brigade, 5th Mechanized Division.
NOTE: The period of detachment, from 0300 hours 30 January 1971 through 0800 hours 8 April 1971 is covered in a separate report. This report continues from the time of rejoining 23 Infantry Division following:

1. On April 1971 at approximately 0800 hours the 1st Bn, 82nd Fld Arty was detached from the 101st Airborne Division and released to the 23d Infantry Division. This also marked the initiation of the road march back to Chu Lai and ultimately LZ Hurricane. The return trip was marred by long delays, one death and serious injury. An enlisted man assigned to Battery C died of injuries sustained when he fell from a vehicle, and a second enlisted man assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Battery sustained head and upper extremity injuries when he fell from a moving vehicle. Moving during daylight hours, especially through populated areas proved to be an encumbrance almost insurmountable. There was an apparent lack of coordination and/or aggressiveness on the part of **Military Policemen** which caused massive traffic jams congestions and confusion. Allowing for these incidents and situations the battalion finally closed into Chu Lai at 0030 hours on 9 April 1971.

(1) Maintenance and inventory was the first order of business. The firing batteries moved into their previously designated staging areas. Advance parties had made preparations for hot meals showers, Post Exchange access privileges, billeting and the establishment of priorities.

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DEBRIEFING REPORT
MG CHARLES M. GETTYS
CG, AMERICAL DIVISION, JUNE 1968-MAY 1969

INTELLIGENCE AND COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE

PART III - INTELLIGENCE AND COUNTERINTELLIGENCE

A. Americal Division Efforts

The current intelligence effort has made possible more meaningful operations by the Division through the Implementation of filing systems enabling the quick retrieval and dissemination of past and current information derived from PW, document translation, and agent reports. The primary tool in assembling and maintaining information on enemy units in logistics, combat effectiveness, and other miscellaneous data. Each folder provides a concise summary of items of intelligence interest on one unit, thus greatly reducing the time required to evaluate new reports on a unit in light of past information or to produce a comprehensive evaluation of the unit for further dissemination. In addition, the maintenance of all source plots on overlays of the entire Americal TAOI for all incidents, anti-aircraft fire, visual reconnaissance sightings, readings, and agent reports has made available substantial evidence of these overlays has provided the information necessary for the execution of successful preemptive operations. The same techniques have provided intelligence justification for B-52 strikes and for the employment of artillery fire, in a harassing and interdictory role; the widespread and rapid dissemination of evaluated intelligence to field units has produced effective results by keeping subordinate elements of the Division informed of the latest developments relevant to the enemy's capabilities and probable courses of action.

Exploitation of detainees and captured documents has continually produced valued intelligence. Close coordination between interrogation and counterintelligence personnel has enhanced the VCI collection effort, both in compilation of blacklist material and VCI elimination data. Prior to conducting interrogations, blacklists are screened for available data to be used in verifying detainees statements. Position lists are provided to insure maximum VCI personality collection. Coordination is also effected with source handling elements of the counterintelligence section to exploit any possible opportunity for verifying or supplementing agent reports.
Interrogation and document reports are found to provide both highly reliable current tactical information and input for a broad Order of Battle data base. Tactical use is frequently made of returnees/exploitable detainees in conjunction with interrogation teams and combat elements. In the past months, Americal units have located a number of weapons caches including small arms, mortar rounds, B40 Rkts, 122mm Rkts and assorted demolition material. On 29 Mar 69, Americal troops were led by a detainee to a cache which contained 22,000 AK47 Rds, 100 RPG Rds, 9 60mm Mort Rds and 3 B40 Rkts. Returnees are found to provide valuable information with particular frequency. In addition to caches, a number of hospitals and

dispensaries have been located, particularly in the northern portion of the TAOI.

Close integration of the 8th ARVN MID officer personnel assigned to the Division has been executed. One ARVN officer is assigned to each of the Brigade interrogation teams. This officer not only conducts interrogations and submits reports, but also works with the section OIC in performing necessary administrative duties and exercising operational supervision. The officer is at the same time an asset to the interrogation section in his capacity as a capable interrogator and also learns the administrative and operational skills which will be required when he controls an interrogation section himself.

The quality and quantity of intelligence information reports continues to increase throughout the Americal Division TAOI. During the four months period, Jan thru Apr 69, 312 reports were submitted by operational personnel in the Division headquarters area alone. Fifty seven percent of these reports were given a numerical evaluation of 3 (possible true) by the Order of Battle Section. Existing agent nets are being expanded throughout the A/CA and two additional agent nets were recently activated in the division headquarters area. Six coded principal agents with an average of fifteen sub-agents in each of their nets are presently employed by CI personnel in the division headquarters area. In the 11th Bde area, CI Team #1 utilizes four coded sources and their nets, while in the 196th Bde area, CI Team #2 is presently engaged in spotting and recruiting potential agents. This is in addition to the casual informants in the area. In the 198th Bde area, CI Team #3 has one coded source and a number of casual informants. One source, although presently being utilized because of his access and capability, is still uncoded pending completion of a favorable investigation. Because of the low quality of potential agents available within the area, only the very basic requirements have been applied in the acquisition of agents. Spotting for higher caliber agents is a continuous requirement levied on operational personnel. Communications problems continue to exist between US operational personnel and their agents and this handicap has a considerable effect on the desired level of training of the agents and the timeliness of the information received. Some of the problems encountered are difficult in using technical and non-technical means of communication because of the low quality of available agents, unsecure conditions in the are (area) which prevent establishment of drops and safehouses, and placing all areas outside of US base perimeters "Off Limits" to US military personnel except Military Police on duty. All other US personnel seen during unusual times and at unusual places will come under scrutiny from inhabitants and opposition agents alike.

The security services provided by the MID have vastly improved over the past year and this is mainly attributed to the consolation of the MI Detachments that were assigned to each brigade. CI support is now provided directly to over 50 separate units within and attached to the Americal Division. CI inspections, surveys, and liaison have vastly improved the security posture of the America Division. Liaison with local GVN officials, at all levels, has increased over 100% in order to obtain more

accurate and timely intelligence information. Joint operations with the **National Police** and other GVN agencies have proven highly successful. On three different occasions joint operations were conducted at the gates to Chu Lai Base to apprehend all draft dodgers being apprehended. As of now, all 86 persons are undergoing military training. All agencies have shown a great enthusiasm and degree of cooperation in working with the Counterintelligence personnel, and this was particularly noted when five CI personnel were recently presented citations from the Quang Tin Province Chief for their cooperation with province security elements. The on-base informant program, which has been fairly dormant in the past, is now showing very favorable results.

During the last quarter, seven VCI were neutralized on post, and several investigations are still in process. Security education has been stressed at all levels of command. Through the cooperation of units employing Vietnamese Nationals, the **PMO** and IRO, the CI Section has been able to implement more stringent control measures over the approximately 6,000 indigenous employees on Chu Lai Base. Through these control measures, security violations concerning indigenous employees have been reduced by 50%. Investigations of espionage and subversion are almost nonexistent. During the last seven months there has been only one reportable incident of sabotage in which an explosive was placed on a moored barge. The Counterintelligence Section of the MID is well aware of the threat imposed by hostile intelligence. Effective measures to thwart the enemy's collection capability, through the use of informants, strict security control measures, liaison, and security education have proven very successful.

The VCI collection effort continues to expand and an extensive blacklist has been compiled and is available to units of the Division for use during operations through hamlets and villages. Interrogation reports, agent reports, ralliers, and other types of detainees provide the largest input to the blacklist. Liaison is maintained with each district to insure that any changes in the blacklist are received and noted for the Division blacklist.

B. GVN Efforts

The VCI has received increasing emphasis from the Americal Division which has placed additional operational requirements upon the Counterintelligence Section. The Phoenix/Phung Hoang Program is supposed to be a civilian GVN program whose primary mission is to attack and defeat the VCI, and as a secondary mission to neutralize the guerilla and para-military threat. The program is supplemented with US DIOCC Advisors, but the primary interest is basically that of the GVN. In most districts, the program has met with relative degrees of success. Among the more successful DIOCC's are Duc Pho, Tam Ky, and Tu Nghia. However, efficient operation of the DIOCCs is still hampered by petty jealousies among Vietnamese staff sections within the DIOCC's or among the GVN civilian agencies, such as the National Police, Static Census Grievance, and the MSS. For example, the S2 in the Tien Phouc DIOCC is very inactive and the DIOCC advisor has to rely on the assistance of the National Police and the District Chief to provide intelligence. There is also a problem of corruption and graft within the Vietnamese agencies. Tra Bong, for example, has had the former CIDG Team Chief replaced for making payoffs to certain Vietnamese agencies. The problem exists at all levels within the GVN structures. The cooperation between the Rural Development Cadre and the Vietnamese seems good, and the pacification effort has been greatly aided when the RDC Teams assist the DIOCC's. The RF/PF units are active within the districts for the most part. Generally speaking, the districts have an average of two to three RF companies and approximately 10 to 15 PF platoons. The amount of counterambush patrolling and night patrols varies from district to district. In some districts, such as Thang Binh, there is aggressive night patrolling and extensive use is made of ambushes to harass the VC movement. However, in some districts, such as Tra Bong, the CIDG and RF/PF units will not go beyond certain areas. It has been stated by the Commanding Officer of the Special Forces Camp at Tra Bong that the CIDG will often report patrol positions several kilometers out from the camp, when in reality the CIDG's are often located in the hamlet at the base of the camp. This criticism has been made by other US Advisors in the DIOCC's. The Provincial Reconnaissance Units seem to be utilized effectively in some DIOCC's such as Duc Pho, but in others they are either unused or not present. In Minh Long there are no PRU's, nor are there any at the new DIOCC at Que Son. The PRU at Tien Phouc has been present for only three weeks and as of 1 May is still in the process of becoming operational. The amount of intelligence produced varies from district to district. The accuracy of the information obtained and the reliability of the source are generally exaggerated in an effort to enhance the value of the report. Also, troop strengths seem to be exaggerated or inflated to lend additional significance to the information. These observations have been cross-checked against Americal Division OB holdings and have also been noted at province level. Due to a particular failing upon the part of the districts as a whole within

*District Intelligence and Operations Coordination Center (DIOCC)

5. Provost Marshal Activities

The Military Police effort in support of the tactical operations of the Americal Division continues with no major problems being encountered. The vehicle accident rate of the Division continues to compare favorably with USARV rates. The highest rate occurs at the Chu Lai Base camp where exposure is also the greatest. More accidents are due to careless practices or misjudgment on the part of the operator. Few accidents are due to maintenance deficiencies of the equipment.

Major discipline, law and order problems area as follows:

a. Narcotics. The proximity of the sources of marijuana to US military forces and the lack of aggressive combative action on the part of local police forces combine to aggravate the narcotics problem. In addition to marijuana, hard narcotics (opium and heroin) have recently started to be introduced into the area. In early March, a strong enforcement program was initiated in the Americal Division by Military Police with cooperation of province level national police. Concurrently, an education program was initiated for commanders. The hard enforcement, combined with strong commander's interest, has resulted in a rapid increase in apprehension of narcotics users. Concurrently, a concentrated effort is being made to locate and identify sources of narcotics. Strong action by the command to reduce exposure of military members to local narcotics sellers has created a drop in drug accessibility.

b. Prostitution. Prostitution is, by itself, a minor problem in the Americal Area of operations and the main threat posed by this activity is the tie-in with pushing of narcotics by prostitutes. A strict off-limits program, and command and control of movement of US Army personnel, have provided effective in combating prostitution.

c. Black Market. Blackmarketing of US goods have never been a problem of any great significance in the Americal AO. Recent controls on commodities allowed to be taken off post by LN's has almost eliminated black market activities in the area. Most black market goods now appearing on the local economy are being brought into the area from Qui Nhon and Da Nang.

Crimes against the person, personal property and government property remain very low in the Division.

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31Mar68-**MPs Sink Fleeing VC Vessel**

CHU LAI, Vietnam (IO) - The 198th Inf. Brigade Military Police sank a 40-feet diesel-powered Viet Cong sampan and killed 13 enemy during actin in the Americal Div. area that resembled a roundup by a western posse.

The posse was made up of two MP "River Rats". Their horses were 16-foot whaleboats with 40 horsepower engines, manned by two MPs, one driver and one Vietnamese.

"We were alerted when the Viet Cong sampan fired on a Marine land position," said Spec. 4 Michael A. Yanek.

Following a call for assistance the MPs responded in hot pursuit, "They were headed out the channel toward the South China Sea and were throwing things over the side," said Spec. 4 Leamon W. Hall, a boat driver.

The two boats were close enough, Spec. 4 Bruce A Smith threw a hand grenade into the sampan, "There were secondary explosions and the sampan sank," Smith said.

27Jul68-198th Inf Assists Survivors Of VC Slaughter at Son Tra

CHU LAI, (AMERICAL-IO)-For almost a year the tiny hamlet of Son Tra lay nestled along the coast of the South China Sea. Its fishing boat put out daily and returned in peace. On the morning of June 29th tragedy struck. When the fishing boats returned to anchor, they were greeted by the remains of a burning hamlet - wreckage, ruble and death. The Viet Cong in one of the boldest terrorist attacks of the war stormed Son Tra that night with one intent - to kill and burn.

As the smoke cleared in the early morning sun the cries of mourning echoed above the flattened grass huts. The VC terrorists had killed 112 innocent civilians, refugees, Popular Forces troops and Revolutionary Development cadre. Another 28 Vietnamese were evacuated to Americal Division's civilian hospital, and 28 more were treated on the spot for burns by **medics of the 198th Infantry Brigade**. A total of 474 homes lay in ashes and smoke in this hamlet five miles south of Chu Lai.

The attack began shortly before midnight, said Staff Sergeant Tommie Taylor, who runs a small **MP** river patrol station on a hill 200 yards from Son Tra. "They lobbed in some mortars, and then a sapper squad jumped the fence and started the fire. The breeze off the sea just carried the blaze right across the hamlet."

"The MPs manned their bunkers on the hill next to the hamlet while Viet Cong kept a deadly concentration of fire on the hilltop position. Company B, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry was airlifted into the **MP** site to backup the defenses at 1:30 a.m.

A handful of medics, headed by Captain Michael Strong, were the first to be airlifted in to help treat and evacuate the mounting Vietnamese casualties.

"There were numerous burn victims," Strong said. "One victim had gunshot wounds through the foot and leg. One woman I treated had five children. She could only get two out of the fire and had to leave three behind to die."

"Once inside the hamlet the VC ran up and down between the huts burning homes and shooting villagers," said Larry Colbert, refugee officer for Quang Ngai Province.

The attack was over in less than an hour and the burning hamlet blazed in the darkness. medics worked throughout the morning to evacuate and treat the wounded.

At daylight **civic action** soldiers from the 198th Infantry Brigade moved into action. Arriving on scene, Major Frederick W. Tonsing, civic action officer for the 198th, coordinated with the hamlet chief and began listing the needs of the 2,000 homeless.

By noon the wounded had been evacuated fresh supplies were pouring in, and a long funeral procession wound through the rubble to bury the last of the victims of the attack.

24Jan69-**Marine-ARVN Cordon Flushes 156 From VC Tunnel Complex**

By J02 DAVE WARSH

S&S Staff Correspondent

SAIGON - Fighting flared near Quang Ngai City along South Vietnam's central coastlands Tuesday as Americal Div. troopers pressed efforts to keep Communists in the area at bay, military spokesmen said.

As GIs, Vietnamese government troops and Marines cautiously tightened a cordon around a Viet Cong-held peninsula about seven miles north of the coastal city of Quang Ngai, two sharp fights flared a few miles away. In the two battles and a dozen smaller clashes, Americal troops and Marines killed at least 87 Red soldiers and captured at least four more.

And about six miles north of Quang Ngai, the 8,00 GIs, Marines and ARVN soldiers of operations "Bold Mariner" and "Russell Beach" slowly searched inside their cordon an a VC-held peninsula.

The circle's most spectacular turn so far came Sunday when 156 persons - including 55 VC militiamen-were flushed from a huge tunnel complex on the peninsula.

Meanwhile .....

In another day of light and scattered fighting around most of South Vietnam, the most noteworthy-according to U.S. headquarters-was the action around Quang Ngai.

The 11th Inf. Brigade, Americal Div. troops who surprised an unknown-size Red force in a supposedly abandoned village Monday kept their hold on the area. So far 17 Reds are known dead in the fighting, while U.S. casualties remain light. About six miles to the north, division military policemen patrolling in boats spotted about 100 Communist soldiers clustered on the shore. The MPs called for a Navy Swift boat, which killed at least 10 Reds with mortar and machine-gun fire.

The MPs landed and captured another four wounded Communists and seven suspects.

Elsewhere.....

file-6910pss.aml
08Oct69-**Leaving Vietnam?**

Meet the Customs Man

PFC STEPHEN WARSH
S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON - "No, sir, you can't take your pet 12-foot boa constrictor on the plane with you," explained the soft-spoken customs inspector to the U.S. Navy commander.

It takes all kinds of people to make a war and the U.S. Armed Forces customs inspectors at Tan Son Nhut civilian terminal see a lot of them - about 2,000 persons a day at the airport and at Camp Alpha, the nearby R&R processing station.

"We're the first ones people see coming into the country and the last ones they see before leaving," said Air Force S. Sgt. Claude Harrison, boss of the 32-man customs inspection, detail at the Tan Son Nhut civilian terminal.

The customs detail, manned jointly by Army MP's from the 716th Military Police Bn., 18th MP Brigade and Air Force patrolmen from the 377th Security Police Sq., inspects about 70 per cent of all BI baggage passing through customs.

For most persons, the customs inspection is just a formality - another long delay in a schedule wrapped in red tape - but then there are others like the Navy commander and his boa constrictor.

Or the private first class masquerading as a sergeant who tried to smuggle a broken-down fully-automatic M2 carbine out of the country in a suit bag. He didn't make it on either count.

Or the Navy river patrol crew-man who had his "war souvenir" confiscated - a 12-foot-long link of .50 cal. machine gun shells.

Or the GI who planned to tote home a 105mm howitzer shell with the primer intact as "just a lawn piece."

Or the grunt who stored two fully-intact 82mm mortars in his suitcase.

Or the civilian, dressed in an overcoat in 90 degree weather, who tried to pass through customs with a live M26 fragmentation grenade in his pocket.

"Weapons are always a hassle - the proper paperwork is often incomplete," said Sgt. Jeff Nelson, head Army MP at Tan Son Nhut.

In order for war souvenir weapons, including knives , cross bows, dart guns and machetes, to be taken out of Vietnam, they must first be cleared for release and registered as such by the provost marshal and be granted an export permit, he said.

War souvenirs or trophies, other than weapons, also require some paperwork, customs officials caution. Items such as Ho Chi Minh sandals, enemy headgear, and Communist web belts must be cleared and screened for intelligence value by local intelligence units.

Unsealed whisky bottles present still another taboo for the homeward bound BI. Alcoholic beverages not in excess of one wine gallon may be hand carried aboard planes en route to the United States, but they must be sealed. However, the soldier who wants to take home a souvenir bottle of b mui ba - Vietnamese beer - is out of luck. He'll end up drinking it all at the gate or he won't get past customs. And no hip flasks either, as one Army captain found out recently.

Pornography is also a no-no and a problem. The Supreme Court has been trying to decide for years just what constitutes pornography. A MACV directive has simplified the definition: if it shows pubic hair, it is obscene.

Pictures showing mangled or mutilated bodies are also prohibited.

An, of course, narcotics are out of the question. The MPs have pretty sensitive noses, and they are adept at sniffing out the grass from the tobacco.

Another headache for custom inspectors comes when GIs try to fly back to the old home town with U.S. government issue equipment - ponchos, poncho liners, knives, machetes - it's no go and the sharp-eyed, well trained custom inspectors don't miss much. All confiscated government-issue equipment is turned over to the investigation section of the security police for further disposition.

Exporting pets poses another problem. Snakes, parrots, dogs or other pets cannot accompany their owner on his flight back to the STates. They must be shipped at the owner's expense as cargo on commercial planes and health certificates must be obtained for all animals. But a recent ruling outlaws shipping pet monkeys to the States.

It can be a long, long wait in the hot sun. The MPs are thorough, and they go through every item of baggage with a fine tooth comb, sniffing tobacco pouches, unrolling socks, peeking into cuffs, feeling the lining of clothes.

But for many of the troops going through, it is just about the last long wait of their service careers.

They're short, they're going home, they've made it - and it would take a lot to really upset them now.

Photo captions

(1) Very little gets past the customs inspectors. Military men leaving Vietnam have their belongings checked carefully (S&S Photos by Michael L. Kopp).

(2) The hands probe, lift. It's your last search and destroy" experience.

(Personal Note - My door gunner was not allowed to leave with an RPG launcher. On my three return trips back to the states from Nam I was amazed at the pile of enemy bayonets, pistols, rifles and etc. that were left in the barracks at Cam Ranh Bay. They didn't have the paper work and they didn't want to be delayed getting out of Nam after their sentence was up.)

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08Nov69-**VC Terrorists Kill 22 Civilians**
S&S Vietnam Bureau
SAIGON -- Twenty-two civilians were killed, 69 others were kidnaped by Viet Cong terrorists, according to late reports from the Vietnamese National Police Thursday. There were 19 terrorist acts reported.
The worst among them was an incident Wednesday 30 miles west southwest of Da Nang in which four persons were killed and seven wounded. Police reported that an estimated six VC terrorists stepped up to the windows of two village homes - one of a Catholic priest and the other a village chief - sprayed the interiors with bullets and then tossed in hand grenades. The 2 a.m. attack left the priest's sister, an unidentified male and two children of the village chief dead.
In another of the atrocities, three civilians were killed and 25 wounded Monday when eight rounds of Communist mortar fire dropped on Dak To, 100 miles Southwest of Da Nang..

18Nov69-**Pilot Foiled Hijacker's Japan Trip**
S&S Vietnam Bureau
SAIGON - The 101st Airborne Div. soldier who attempted to hijack a helicopter from I Corps to Saigon early Friday morning is listed in good condition at Chu Lai's 91st Evacuation Hospital, an Army spokesman said Sunday. His ultimate destination was Japan, the spokesman said.
The soldier, identified only as a private first class belonging to the 2nd Bn., 506th Inf., was shot twice in the abdomen by one of the UH1 Huey's two pilots.
The hijacking attempt began about 2:30 Fridays morning when the trooper began firing his rifle in the vicinity of a helipad at Camp Evans, 65 miles northwest of Da Nang, said the spokesman.
The soldier then entered a mess hall, pointed his M16 at a sergeant and informed him that he would be held as hostage to insure the private's safe passage to Japan, the spokesman said.
He said the sergeant and the private scuffled and the NCO managed to disarm the soldier. The military police were called.
At about 5:30 a.m., the MPs found the soldier in his barracks with another rifle but he managed to escape.
Fleeing , he spotted a Huey belonging to the 158th Aviation Bn. warming up on the helipad. He jumped in, held the rifle on one of the pilots and ordered him to fly to Saigon, the spokesman said.
The crew obeyed and took off. About 9 a.m., when the chopper landed for fuel at Chu Lai, base camp of the Americal Div. 58 miles south of Da Nang, one of the pilots shot the would-be hijacker twice with a 38 cal. revolver.

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05Feb70- **26 Killed In Acts Of Terror**

S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON - Twenty-six civilians were killed, 49 others wounded and 15 kidnaped in an upsurge of terrorist violence in two provinces of I Corps, the National Police reported.

Of 17 reports of Viet Cong activity reaching the police in a 24-hour period ending Tuesday, 14 incidents were in Quang Nam and Quang Ngai provinces.....

In four attacks on villages in the Que Song Valley, 25 miles south of Da Nang, the VC killed 16 civilians and wounded 30 others. Three were killed and one wounded in three attacks in or near Hoi An, 15 miles southeast of Da Nang.

.....

Also in Quang Ngai, the VC kidnaped 15 civilians on Jan. 28 from An Truong hamlet in Duc Pho District, 100 miles southeast of Da Nang, the police said.

THe upsurge in I Corps was part of a sharp upswing throughout Vietnam in the week ending Jan. 28. In 176 incidents reported - up from 123 the previous week -107 civilians were killed, compared with 57 killed the week before .....

12Feb70-**Helo Crash Kills 12**
On Da Nang Run
S&S Vietnam Bureau

DA NANG, Vietnam - An Americal Div. UH1 helicopter enroute from Chu Lai to Da Nang crashed Tuesday in a suburb just west of this port city, killing all 12 persons aboard. It was the second fatal air crash in two days in the Da Nang area.

Monday the pilot of an A4 jet bomber was killed after his plane's nose wheel collapsed after landing at the Da Nang airbase.

The helicopter plunged into a vegetable patch eight feet from a Vietnamese home in a densely populated area of tin-roofed shacks. There were no civilian casualties. Military spokesmen said the crash was not caused by enemy fire, but that the exact cause could not be determined until after an investigation.

Armed forces police cordoned off the site while ordnance disposal teams removed grenades from the charred wreckage.

The aircraft had picked up two soldiers, five sailors and a marine at Chu Lai and was bound for "Freedom Hill" to pick up spare maintenance parts for the division. The chopper had a four-man crew.

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19May70-Pacific Stars & Stripes

24 Cols. in Viet Up for Star

S&S Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON -- President Nixon has nominated 24 Army colonels in Vietnam for temporary promotion to brigadier general.

Included among the selectees, subject to Senate confirmation, are:

Frederic C. Krause, MACV; William J. Maddox, commander, 164th Aviation Group, Vietnam; Albert G. Hume, chief of staff, 23rd Inf. Div. Vietnam; Joseph F.H. Cutrona, chief of information, MACV, and Orlando C. Epp, Commander, 500th Military Intelligence Group, USARPAC.

And Olin E. Smith, Commander, 3rd Brigade, 25th Inf. Div., Vietnam; Tom M. Nicholson, Commander, 1st Cav. Div. Support Command, Vietnam; Homer D. Smith Jr., Commander, Da Nang Support Command, Vietnam; Oliver B. Patton, assistant chief of staff G-2, XXIV Corps, Vietnam; Carter W. Clarke Jr., commander, 2nd Brigade, 1st Cav. Div., Vietnam; Carroll E. Adams Jr., Commander 937th Engineer Group, Vietnam; Patrick W. Powers, deputy assistant chief of staff for operaitons, U.S. Army Vietna; Edward F. Gudgel, Commander, 4th Inf. Div. Arty., Vietnam; Ricarhd G. Fazakerley, MACV comptroller and John E. Sterling, commander 34th Engineer Group, Vietnam;

Also, Donn A. Starry commander, 11th Armored Cav. Regt., Vietnam; Elmer R. Ochs, deputy Commander, 173d Airborne Brigade, Vietnam; Andrew J. Gatsis, senior adviser, 25th ARVN Div. MACV: Louis J. Prost, MACV adjutant general; Henry H. Bolz Jr., Commander, 507th Transportation Group, Vietnam;

And Samuel G. Cockerham, Commande, 34th General Support Group, Vietnam; Wallace K. Wittwer, Commander, 18th Military Police Brigade, Vietnam; Edward C. Meyer, chief of staff, 1st Cav. Div., Vienam, and Joseph K. Bratton, Commander, 159th Engineer Group, Vietnam.

Graphic Art - Soldier firing machine gun mounted on a jeep. Side of jeep has M.P. stenciled on the door..

ENEMY MINE, RIFLE FIRE
FAIL TO STOP BRIGADE MPS

It was the afternoon of what had been a quiet day and a convoy escorted by the first platoon of the 23rd Military Police Company in support of the Americal Division's 11th Infantry Brigade, was moving from Sa Huynh to Duc Pho along Highway 1. Suddenly, a jeep, which was the last vehicle in the convoy, hit a command-detonated mine.

Specialist Four (SP4) Peter A. Jewell (Canaan, Maine), the machinegunner on the jeep, was thrown from his vehicle by the force of the explosion. Enemy small arms fire and automatic weapons fire was immediately directed on the jeep. SP4 Mark S. Jordan (Xenia, Ohio), who was driving, stayed behind the wheel of the jeep for a distance of 100 meters before it swerved off the road and landed in a rice paddy. It was only then he realized the SP4 Jewell was missing.

"I couldn't see Jewell anywhere," the MP said, "Then I looked back at where the explosion had occurred and he was low- (MP CONT ON PAGE 4)

(MPS CONT FROM PAGE 1) crawling through the 100 yards of rice paddies to my position.

When SP4 Jewell reached the damaged jeep, he immediately began firing the M-60 at the enemy position although covered with painful wounds and bruises. Fire from the enemy on both sides of the road was still being directed at him.

While SP4 Jewell manned the machinegun, SP4 Jordan grabbed the radio and began calling for help. Two APCs from E Troop, 1st Cav., answered the call and began placing devastating fire on the enemy positions. The two MPs then boarded one of the APCs and the disabled jeep was extracted from the rice paddy. SP4 Jewell made SGT E-5 the next day.

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11TH INFANTRY BRIGADE
TRIDENT
VOLUME ? NUMBER 16 April 27, 1969

NOTICE TO DOG OWNERS

All pet dogs on LZ Bronco are now required to wear tags indicating that they have had rabies shots according to the Military Police. All dogs not wearing these tags will be destroyed.

Pet owners can have their dogs vaccinated every Monday morning at 1000 by the installation veterinarian at the 59th Infantry Scout Dog kennel. After vaccination, the veterinarian will issue a receipt to the owner and file another copy of it.

Military Police advise all pet owners with unvaccinated dogs to keep them chained or penned up until they can take the animal to get its shot.

Southern Crosses
file-6808_104.scr

SOUTHERN CROSS This is the fourth issue of the Southern Cross. The first issues were published intermittently approximately monthly, then later in 1969 they were published weekly.

01Aug68-Southern Cross Vol. 1 No. 4. Page 3

MP Saves Woman

By Thinking Fast

DUC PHO--Quick thinking and good judgment by an 11th Inf. Bde. military policeman may have saved the life of a Vietnamese woman who was seriously injured recently by a falling brick.

SGT James J. Ellis was on a mission near Sa Huynh when he was stopped by a frantic woman.

"By the way she acted, I understood that someone in the village had been injured, so I followed here," he said.

The woman directed Ellis to a hut where about 50 people had gathered.

As Ellis pushed open the shutters for light, he saw that the woman was covered with blood.

"She had a sandbag tied around here head and a blood-soaked rag under it. When I removed the dressing, I saw there was a deep gash in her head and a vein was broken.

"All I could do was apply direct pressure and rush her to a medical point. I had some men help carry her to a jeep," he said.

The injured woman was rushed to the 264th Trans. Det. aid station at Sa Huynh where SSG Jerry W. Hoggs, a medic, administered further emergency treatment. In a few minutes she was on the way to the 9th Spt. Bn. clearing station at LZ Bronco.

Hoggs, praising Ellis' actions, said: "Had it not been for the quick judgment of SGT Ellis, the woman could have bled to death."

Vietnamese Police Unit Helping 11th

LZ BRONCO--"Jungle Warriors" engaged in intensive search missions are getting help from a new platoon of Vietnamese policemen.

A platoon from the Vietnamese **National Police Field** Force (NPFF), a highly-trained team of combat policemen from Quang Ngai, is currently under the operational control of the 11th Bde.'s provost marshal.

The first 24 NPFF's arrived here recently and underwent a week's training in airmobile operations and an orientation on brigade operations in southern Quang Ngai Province.

Highly Trained

MAJ John L. Pittman, brigade provost marshal, said the policemen are "highly trained and efficient. Their training combines both police work and infantry tactics for functioning in a combat situation, especially in counter-insurgency operations.

"They are not trained or equipped as assault troops, but are intended to work in a supporting role with the infantry."

The platoon's specialists, while remaining under the control fo the provost marshal's office, will be temporarily attached to the brigade's maneuver battalions.

"This won't include regular combat sweeps," Pittman said, "but rather intensified searches of hamlets, villages or other areas, or search and cordon missions."

He said the platoon has specialists in demolitions and psychological warfare, field interrogation teams, intelligence personnel and special search squads.

"These men are also trained in identifying Vietnamese dialects," the Hollywood, Ala., native said.

Tell Location

"By listening to a man speak they can tell what part of South Vietnam is from, or if he is from the north."

SSG Lones R. Warren of Taylors, S.C., NCO adviser to the national police group said brigade MP's have worked with the NPFF before.

"We've had considerable success working together in the past. I've seen them work before, and they're good," he commented.

Vietnamese Girls Serve
As Policewomen, Nurses

LZ BALDY -- When two new "Chargers" landed on the VIP pad here recently, everyone at the 196th Inf. Bde. base camp knew things were looking up.

The pretty new "Chargers" were Miss Hanh and Miss Duoc, National Policewomen from Hoi An.

"These girls spent three weeks in Da Nang getting special training in searching for and confiscating contraband items," said MAJ Frederic F. DeMetrovich (Salt Lake City, Utah), brigade provost marshal.

Female Friskers

The policewomen's main duty is at the base camp gate searching the Vietnamese women who work for the 196th. They perform the same duty by checking and handling women detainees.

"The girls are also available to assist the Provost Marshal's Office both on Baldy and in the surrounding hamlets," added SGT Thieu, **PMO** interpreter.

Charged-Up 'Chargers'

"This is the first time either has gone to the field and both volunteered to work for the 196th," said Thieu, who is responsible for their welfare on Baldy.

The new arrivals are part of a 46-woman group located at Quang Nam Province headquarters in Hoi An and work closely in assisting the area's 2,000-man National Police Field Force.

LZ BAYONET -- Six smiling girls recently received certificates of achievement from the 1st Bn., 6th Inf., 198th Inf. Bde. upon completion of a two-week course in nursing.

The proud young ladies were the first graduates of a program designed to provide trained medical assistance personnel for each of the seven villages in Ly Tin District.

The nurses began training at a brigade fire support base north of Chu Lai.

In the morning they observed sick call at the base camp. In the afternoon they attended two hours of lectures. Their day came to a completion after accompanying the battalion surgeon on a medical assistance visit to one of the local villages.

The girls were excellent students," said CPT Robert Brown (Riverdale, Ill.), the battalion surgeon. "They were very eager to learn, and they helped vault the language obstacles in our MEDCAPS.

"More adults have been attending medical assistance visits since the nurses have been helping. The people have a lot of faith in the nurses!"

The girls were trained to use 15 basic medicines, eight ointments and several injections. Under close supervision they have begun to use the skills learned in the classroom.

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02Mar69-Southern Cross Vol. 2 No. 05 Page 8

MPs Turn In Boats
River Rats Patrol For Last Time
By SFC Herb Nesmith
198th Inf. Bde.

A 198TH INF. BDE. MP, PFC Wayne Lumm (Coshocton, Ohio), and a Vietnamese National Policeman check cargo and identification papers on a boat passing down the Tra Bong River. The MPs recently turned over their two river patrol outposts to U.S. Marines, after a year and a half of patrolling on the waterways near Chu Lai. (Photo by SP4 John Hollenhorst, 198th Inf. Bde.)

Photo Caption: A 198TH INF. BDE. MP, PFC Wayne Lumm (Coshocton, Ohio), and a Vietnamese National Policeman check cargo and identification papers on a boat passing down the Tra Bong River. The MPs recently turned over their two river patrol outposts to U.S. Marines, after a year and a half of patrolling on the waterways near Chu Lai. (Photo by SP4 John Hollenhorst, 198th Inf. Bde.)

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MPs Turn In Boats
River Rats Patrol For Last Time
By SFC Herb Nesmith
198th Inf. Bde.

LZ BAYONET -- "That's it," the MP said, as the boat slowly glided in to the beach. "Yeah, our last trip," agreed the infantryman, reaching back to turn off the powerful 85 hp outboard motor.

The River Rats had finished their job.

At both River North (the Truong Giang) and the River South (The Song Tra Bong), the mouths of large rivers just north and south of Chu Lai, patrols of the 198th Inf. Bde. MP Plt. beached their boats for the lats time.

The MPs, with their infantry boat drivers, were getting out of the riverboat business.

Marines Take Over

The platoon had been checking the rivers since September 1967, when the brigade arrived in Vietnam. Now the job was being turned over to Marines.

"The river patrols were designed to deny the enemy access to inland waterways, and prevent him from transporting weapons, supplies and personnel for the Viet Cong," explained the Operations Sergeant, SFC Robert A. Wiles (Augusta, Ga.).

The patrols operated 24 hours a day, stopping sampans, checking the Vietnamese aboard for proper identification, and searching for contraband.

Risky Business

It has been a dangerous job. Six MPs have been killed and 14 wounded. But Charlie still got the worst of it, suffering 24 confirmed VC deaths and 11 more possibles.

The river patrols have a lot of firepower at their disposal. Each boat, then they always used two per patrol, had a mounted M-60 macheinggun, an M-79 grenade launcher, two M-72 LAW's (Light Anti-Tank Weapon), hand grenades, and crew members' individual M-16 rifles.

Seize Contraband

Even when Charlie was not trying to ambush them, the patrols kept continually busy. On a typical day they stopped and searched 41 boats, and checked out 184 people.

In one three-month period they confiscated more than 3,000 pounds of rice, 1,000 pounds of salt, ponchos, ponhco liners, cartons of C-rations, cigarettes and $1,380 MPC, on its way to the Viet Cong or into the black market.

The boats themselves were 16-foot fiberglass "Boston Whalers", powered mainly by 80 and 85 hp outboard motors, making them the fastest craft on the rivers.

(Continued)

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MPs Turn In Boats
River Rats Patrol For Last Time

Work To Be Done

Now the crews have back to other jobs.

THere's plenty for the MPs to do," said their Platoon Sergeant SFC Claude T. Fox (Junction City, Kan.).

"We've still got our regular military police duties around the 198th Headquarters; we run road patrols, escort convoys, provide security for the LZ, operate the PW collection point, and other normal MP functions."

But the men had grown to like their life on the rivers. It was with some reluctance that the River Rats closed up their shops.

INTERROGATOR THINH OF THE VIETNAMESE National Police Field Force Platoon explains results of his questioning of a VC suspect to SSG Hung, an ARVN interpreter attached to the 11th Inf. Bde. SSG Hung's ability as a translator often gives 11th Bde. units a big jump on the enemy. (Photo by SP5 Al Holloway, 11th IO).

Photo Caption: INTERROGATOR THINH OF THE VIETNAMESE National Police Field Force Platoon explains the results of his questioning of a VC suspect to SSG Hung, an ARVN interpreter attached to the 11th Inf. Bde. SSG Hung's ability as a translator often gives 11th Bde. units a big jump on the enemy. (Photo by SP5 Al Holloway, 11th IO)

Combat In Review

APC SAVES TRAPPED MPs

By SP4 DONALD YOST

DUC PHO--The day had been notably guiet as the first platoon of the 23d Military Police Co. escorted a convoy between Sa Haynh and here along Highway 1.

Suddenly, the last jeep in the convoy struck a command detonated mine, and heavy enemy small arms and automatic weapons fire was directed at the jeep.

SP4 Peter A. Jewell (Canaan. Me.), machinegunner on the jeep, was hurled from the vehicle by the force of the explosion.

SP4 Mark S. Jordan (Xenia, Ohio) stayed behind the wheel of the jeep For 100 yards before it careened off the road and landed upright in a rice paddy. Only then did Jordan realize that Jewell was missing.

Fast answer

"I couldn't see him anywhere," Jordan said, "until I looked back and saw him low-crawling toward me through the rice paddies."

When Jewell reached the damaged jeep under heavy enemy crossfire, he immediately turned the machinegun on the enemy position despite painful bruises and abrasions.

While Jewell manned the machinegun, Jordan grabbed the radio and called help. Two armored personnel carriers of **E Trp., 1st Cav.** responded with devastating fire on the enemy.

The two MPs boarded an APC, and the disabled jeep was extracted from the paddy. "If it hadn't been for those APCs, we'd probably still be out there," said Jewell.

A day later, wrapped in bandages and still in pain, SP4 Jewell became SGT Jewell. **(11th IO)**

Battle Weary, but Proud
by MSG Bonesio

Graphic Art: credited to Sergeant Alfred Anthony Jr.. Ink drawing of two soldiers. One soldier is wearing a jungle hat and a fairly heavy beard. The pose looks like a "Clint Eastwood" shot of the soldier smoking a cigar. The second soldier is a more stateside type pose of PFC carrying an M-16 pointing straight up. The rifle is held in place against his back by the soldier pushing the rifle sling out to the front.

A company returns to its base camp following extended operations in the jungles, mountains and rice paddies of Vietnam.

The men are unshaven, physically and mentally weary, their clothing and equipment bear the stains of the terrain and the sweat of their efforts and toil.

Not visible but doubtlessly present in every one of these men is pride--in his unit and in himself. Each has done his job for the team and the unit has accomplished its mission. They have **SOLDIERED!**

These troopers have three goals in mind, clean up their gear and themselves, to have a good hot meal, and relax.

With weapons and equipment cleaned and oiled, sporting fresh clothing after a shave and bathing, they have in effect "scraped the mud from the silver wreath of their CIB."

The third item, relaxing, will be up to [the] individual; writing home, reading, viewing a movie, sacking out on a bunk, soaking up sun and water at a beach, or a few cold ones at the club.

Unfortunately, there are some people who are immature and believe that soldiering ceases upon coming out of the bush. They feel that they must adhere to the television or Hollywood version of the combat returnee as one who must "tear down" the local bar and "tear up" anyone who doesn't agree with his attitude or actions.

The individual who expresses disdain for authority by deliberate failure to exercise military courtesy and is lax in personal appearance, disregarding uniform regulations, is placing a film of tarnish on "The Badge."

This same person thinks that upon his return to "the world" he must epitomize the combat veteran as one of sloppy appearance -bareheaded with his hat tucked through the shoulder epaulet, uniform coat unbuttoned, tie pulled loose with shirt unfastened at the collar.

Would you believe? A camouflage material bush hat with the Army Green uniform? The same uniform with trousers bloused above jungle boots? Childish, of course! yet these are instances of uniform violations recorded on DR's by military policemen.

There is no excuse for personnel assigned to duties at a static headquarters area presenting an appearance far below par for the course. A combat trooper who does not have the basic comforts, showers, laundry, barbering service, is bound to feel resentment toward a rear area soldier who has these facilities available but does not utilize them.

(Continued)

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Battle Weary, but Proud

Any soldier who appears in public with the attitude that slovenly dress, uncouth actions, and a foul mouth depict a combat veteran only demonstrates a lack of pride in himself and in his unit.

We can only assume this person has failed in his duties or has not produced during the unit's mission.

The next time you stand before a shaving mirror think for a moment and ask yourself these questions. Am I soldiering "all the way?"

Does my appearance, attitude or actions require a corrective application of brasso to remove tarnish from my "Badge". (Note: Brasso is a commercial brand of cleaner used by many soldiers to polish their brass belt buckle, and other brass items for inspections.)

Combat In Review

VC Handicrafts Class

An Explosive Session

LZ BRONCO--An unusual incident outside the main gate of the 11th Bde. headquarters here cost five VC their lives and wounded four others.

The group of nine apparently had an accident as they were making hand grenades in a hootch near the access road connecting the village of Duc Pho to the base camp.

An explosion at noon sent Military Police from the 1st Plt., 23rd MP Co., who were patrolling the village to investigate.

"At first I thought it was an M-79 round that had exploded," commented SP4 David Chrystal (Walker, Iowa), "but when we arrived we knew it must have been a much larger blast."

"We found four still alive and evacuated them to the aid station on LZ Bronco."

SFC Frank Lewis (Geneva, Ala.) and SP5 Paul Patrick (Belle Plain, Kan.) of the 123rd Ordnance Det. were called to the scene.

Lewis remarked, "apparently they were making coke-can type grenades when one went off causing a chain reaction. We recovered two homemade grenades, a small vial of black powder, and six flashlight batteries."

1LT John McNoun (St. Peters, Mo.), Asst. Bde. S-2 stated, "Under interrogation, two wounded suspects claimed they were making grenades to sell to the Volunteer Informant Program, but we believe they had other purposes in mind."

Later two of the wounded suspects confessed to being VC. (11th IO).

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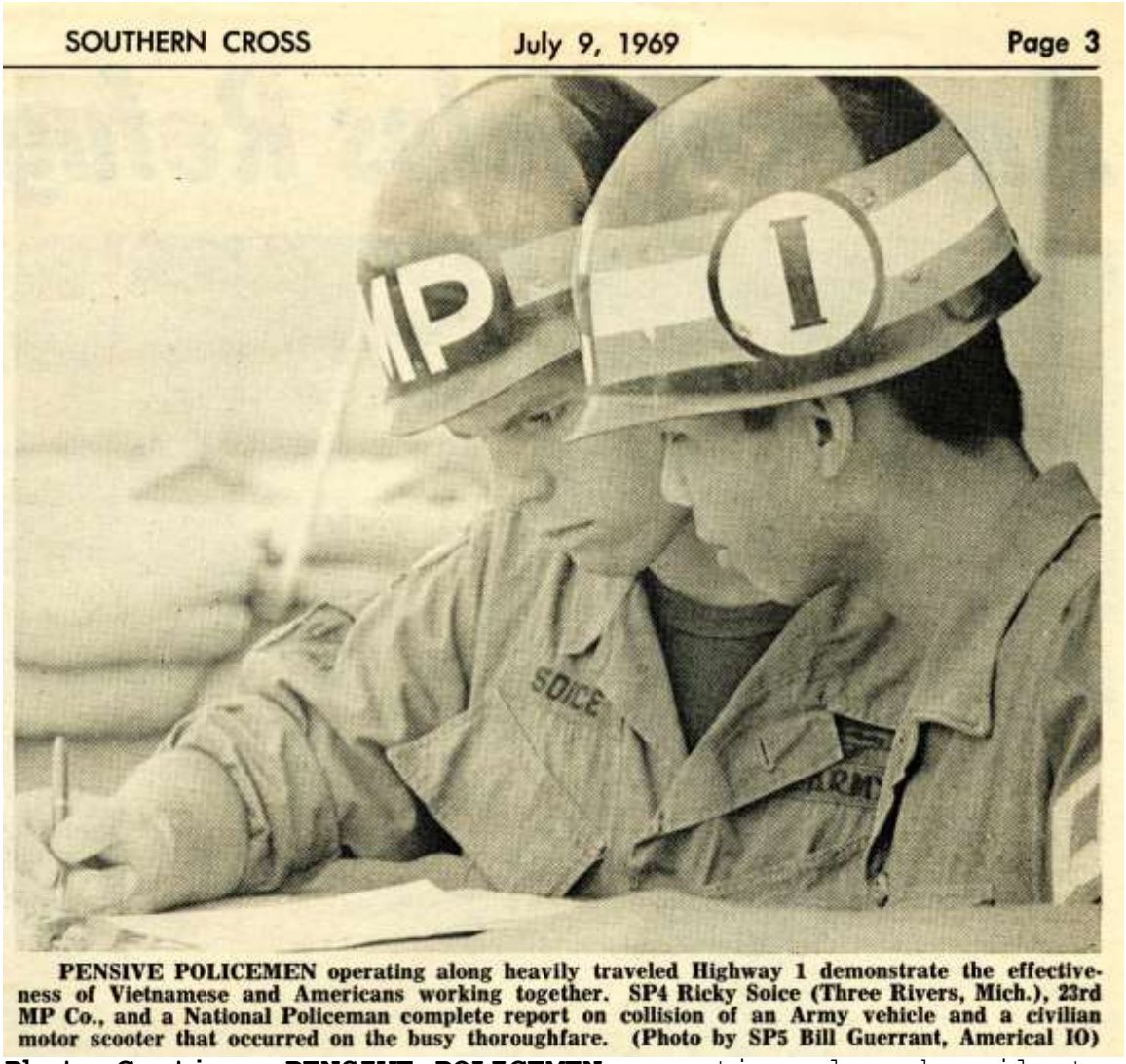

PENSIVE POLICEMEN operating along heavily traveled Highway 1 demonstrate the effectiveness of Vietnamese and Americans working together. SP4 Ricky Soice (Three Rivers, Mich.), 23rd MP Co., and a National Policeman complete report on collision of an Army vehicle and a civilian motor scooter that occurred on the busy thoroughfare. (Photo by SP5 Bill Guerrant, Americal IO)

Photo Caption: PENSIVE POLICEMEN operating along heavily traveled Highway 1 demonstrate the effectiveness of Vietnamese and Americans working together. SP4 Ricky Soice (Three Rivers, Mich.), 23rd MP Co., and a National Policeman complete report on collision of an Army vehicle and a civilian motor scooter that occurred on the busy thoroughfare. (Photo By SP5 Bill Guerrant, Americal IO)

U.S., Viets Work Together
Allied Police Enforce Law

By PFC DENNIS SELBY

CHU LAI--In any war cooperation between allies is a must if their goals are to be achieved.

The Vietnamese-American military and National Police relationship is an excellent example of such teamwork.

The 146th MP platoon, with headquarters at Phu Bai, is under the operational control of the Americal's 23rd MP Co. at Chu Lai.

The unit is concerned with escorting convoys and transporting and guarding prisoners of war.

Two seven-man squads of the 146th, one located at Tam Ky and the other at Quang Ngai, are responsible for maintaining order in the two cities and along Highway 1.

Work Together

Combined ARVN, U.S. MP and National Police patrols take care of any violations they encounter. The patrols consist of an American, an ARVN MP, and a "Canh Sat" or National Policeman.

According to MAJ Lonnie S. Priest (Marion, Ill.), division deputy provost marshal, "a mutual respect of each policeman's responsibilities and abilities is the basis of an excellent working relationship."

One of the major problems encountered by policemen everywhere is the problem of jurisdiction.

In the RVN, military police control their own personnel whereas the National Police have jurisdiction over the civilian populace.

A good example of the benefits of combined patrols is a traffic accident involving both American and Vietnamese personnel.

Language Barrier

An Americal MP arriving on the scene would have trouble trying to discover the extent of injuries or even gather and consolidate the events leading to the accident, simply because of the language barrier.

However, this problem is eliminated when combined patrols are present to speak to people without struggling with a foreign tongue.

1LT Peter S. Tiffany (Carmichael, Calif.), the 146th platoon leader said, "When combined patrols are sent out, we try to let the same men work together as much as possible. This makes for better understanding and friendships also are created." (Americal IO)

Combat In Review

MPs SLOW PROHIBITED TRADE

By SFC HERB NESMITH

SON TINH - day in any day out large civilian trucks weave in and out of the crowded pedestrian motorcycle and bicycle traffic of highway 1 like broken field runners heading for a touchdown.

Near this tiny village three miles northeast of Quang Ngai City the huge trucks - as well as buses, motorcycles, and bicycles - have been stopped in a joint U.S. and South Vietnamese roadblock aimed at slowing down the black market traffic.

After only two days the military policemen of the Americal and their South Vietnamese counterparts moved elsewhere because "too many people knew we were setting up along here and they didn't come this way."

Food Stuffs

But in those two days the roadblock was successful. Confiscated goods found on all sorts of vehicles, from large trucks to bicycles, included 144 cans of dehydrated egg mix, 24 boxes of powered sugar, 29 cans of applesauce, 24 cans of shortening, 12 bottles of vinegar, two cases of egg noodles, 20 sheets, and 240 ballpoint pens.

A MP official explained that a case of soft drink is sold at the post exchange for $2.40 and can be sold illegally to a Vietnamese black marketeer for twice that.

The profiteer in turn sells it to other Vietnamese villagers or fledgling entrepreneurs for a higher price. Finally, one can of the drink is sold for 50 cents on the open market.

CPT James S. Koerner Jr. (Green Bay, Wis.) commander of the **23rd MP Co.'s** 3rd Plt., attached to the 198th Inf. Bde., explained that foodstuffs comprise the largest portion of the black market goods his men find as they patrol their portion of Highway 1, the nation's leading artery of transportation and commerce.

"The goods are confiscated and returned to the U.S. supply system," said CPT Koerner. "In addition, any goods we stop cuts down on supplies which might eventually wind up in the hands of the VC, and it gets the items back to the U.S. serviceman for whom they were intended and it helps check South Vietnam's inflation."

Vietnamese police halt civilian vehicles traveling along the highway, check drivers' and passengers' identification papers to nab possible draft evaders and suspected VC.

They search the vehicles for both illegal arms and ammunition and black market goods. Americal MPs assist in the search, and advise as to what disposition should be taken with illegally acquired items of U.S. origin.

When the joint check points were first set up, about one in every five vehicles was found to be carrying illegal goods. Most of the items were being transported to Quang Ngai City for resale on the economy, or possibly to the VC.

SP4 Charles E. Struder (Jackson, Tenn.), one of the MPs manning a recent checkpoint, said that contraband can be found in all types of vehicles from bicycle to heavy duty trucks and in all quantities.

"One man we found to be carrying 20 brand new sheets and two dozen pens - and he had it all on a motorcycle," Struder said.

"Our first few days' in this area we found all kinds of things," CPT Koerner added. "Even though we changed our location at least once a day and never to the same place two days in a row, apparently the word is out that we're covering this stretch of highway, and there's very little in the way of illegal products coming down the road now."

"So one day suddenly we won't be on the highway - we'll be out on the side roads checking vehicles on likely detour routes."

Aside from finding black market goods, CPT Koerner sees other advantages to the joint- U.S. South Vietnamese checkpoints.

"Sometimes there are misunderstandings between Vietnamese and Americans, and this work helps to solve that. We see how the other man does his job. We learn how to work together and understand each other better." (198th IO)

Search For Illegal Weapons

CHU LAI -- Americal Regulation 210-5 (9 Nov 67) prohibits the possession of privately-owned firearms and dangerous weapons. 1SG Dillard Cannon Jr. (Middlesboro, Ky.) of the 23rd Military Police Co. noted that these prohibited weapons, which include switchblade knives, straight razors, folding knives with blades longer than three inches and any size sheath knife not issued by the unit as well as unauthorized firearms, pose a problem within the Americal Division and have resulted in death and serious injury to friendly troops.

Privately owned firearms, often of inferior quality and improperly maintained, are particularly dangerous to both the owner and his fellow soldiers.

To promote safety and protect-American troops from the un-fortunate incidents that occur when unauthorized weapons are involved, commanders of each unit will conduct frequent shakedown inspections for these prohibited weapons.

Search For Illegal Weapons

CONFISCATED WEAPONS—Pictured above are some of the unauthorized weapons found during recent shake-down inspections in the Americal Division.
(Photo by PFC Paul B. Clark, Spt. Cmd. IO)

Photo Caption: CONFISCATED WEAPONS- Pictured above are some of the unauthorized weapons found during recent shake down inspections in the Americal Division. (Photo by PFC Paul B. Clark, Spt. Cmd. IO)

Anniversary Cake

MG Lloyd B. Ramsey, Americal commander, cuts a cake during a ceremony in honor of the 28th anniversary of the Military Police Corps. The corps was formed on Sept. 26, 1941 by the Department of the Army. Members of the 23rd MP Co. look on.
(U.S. Army Photo)

CHU LAI, VIETNAM October 15, 1969

Photo Caption: Anniversary Cake

MG Lloyd B. Ramsey, Americal commander, cuts a cake during a ceremony in honor of the 28th anniversary of the Military Police Corps. The corps was formed on Sept. 26, 1941 by the Department of the Army. Members of the 23rd MP Co. look on. (U.S. Army Photo)

[Historian Note: A few months later MG Lloyd B. Ramsey would become the Provost Marshall for the U.S. Army. This came about because he was severely injured in a helicopter crash in early 1970. As a result of his injuries he was relieved of his command of the Americal Division. He was then sent stateside to became the Provost Marshall for the U.S. Army until he was medically retired from service due to his injuries.]

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A Day's Activities On Hwy 1 With The 23d Military Police Company

CHU LAI (Americal IO) -- One of the Division's most varied and challenging jobs is carried on by the 23rd **Military Police Company**.

A few of the many tasks of the 23rd MP Co. include the patrolling of roads, the escorting of convoys, the detention and processing of enemy detainees and the control of civilians leaving and entering Division military installations.

For escorting convoys, the MPs use V-100 armored cares and gun jeeps which are mounted with M-60 machineguns. According to Captain Garrett J. Cumpson, 23rd MP Co. executive officer, the MPs travel 400 to 500 miles a week with convoys, usually without incident.

In addition to patrolling roads, the MPs also patrol the towns and villages along Highway 1 and near Division bases. In these patrols the Mps work closely with the Vietnamese National Police.

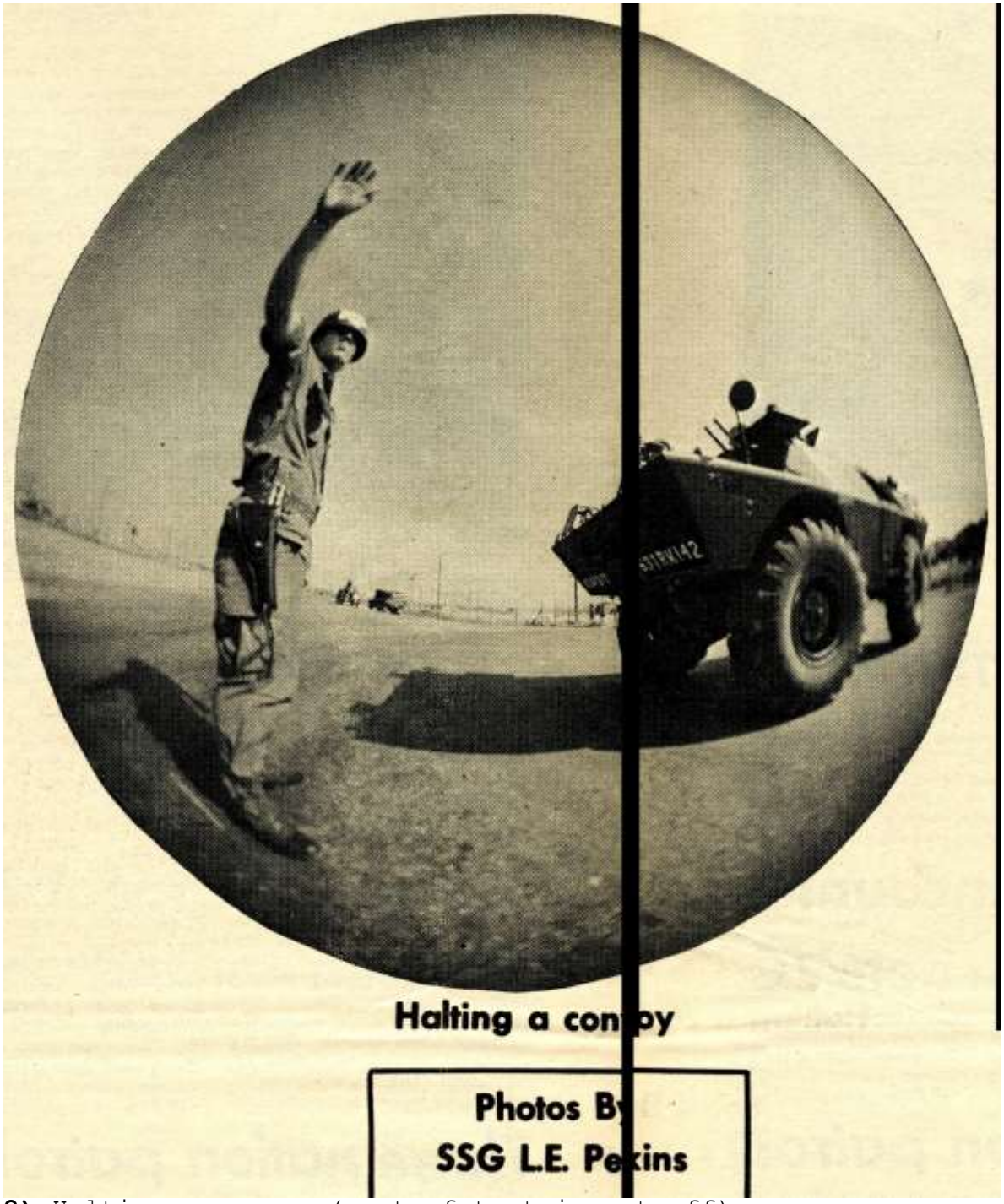
Another important responsibility of the MPs is to control the movement of civilians in and out of Division installations. Each civilian must be searched and have his identification papers checked before entering or leaving a U.S. military installation. MPs process about 5,000 Vietnamese civilians through the gates of Chu Lai everyday.

In spite of the size of the Division and the extent of its area of operations, the 23rd MP Co. is only an average size company. When asked how one company of MPs manages to serve the needs of the Army's largest division, Captain Cumpson replied, "It keeps us hopping."

Photos by L.E. R????s (part of text is cut-off)
Photo Captions:

An MP checks an accident

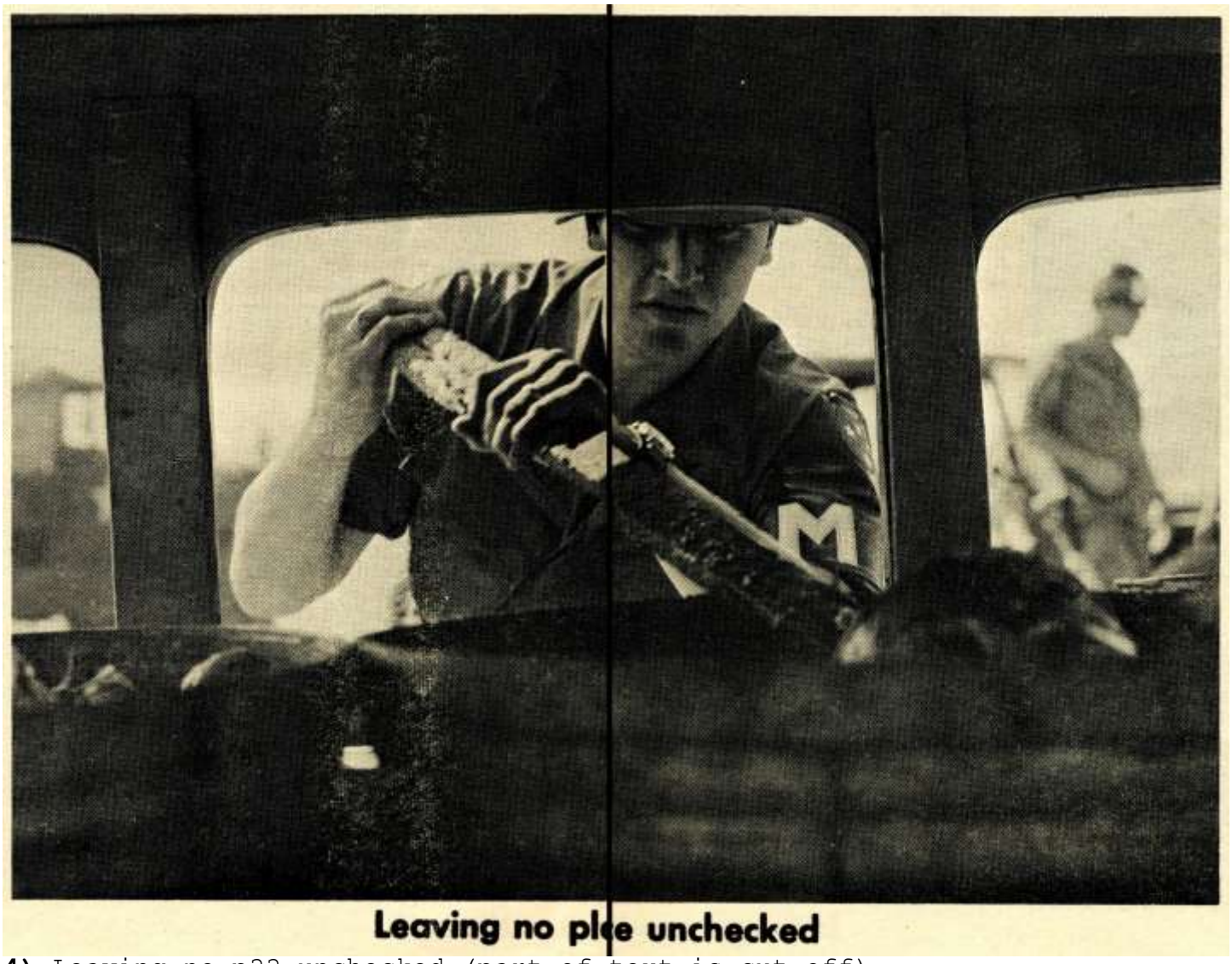
1) An MP checks an accident



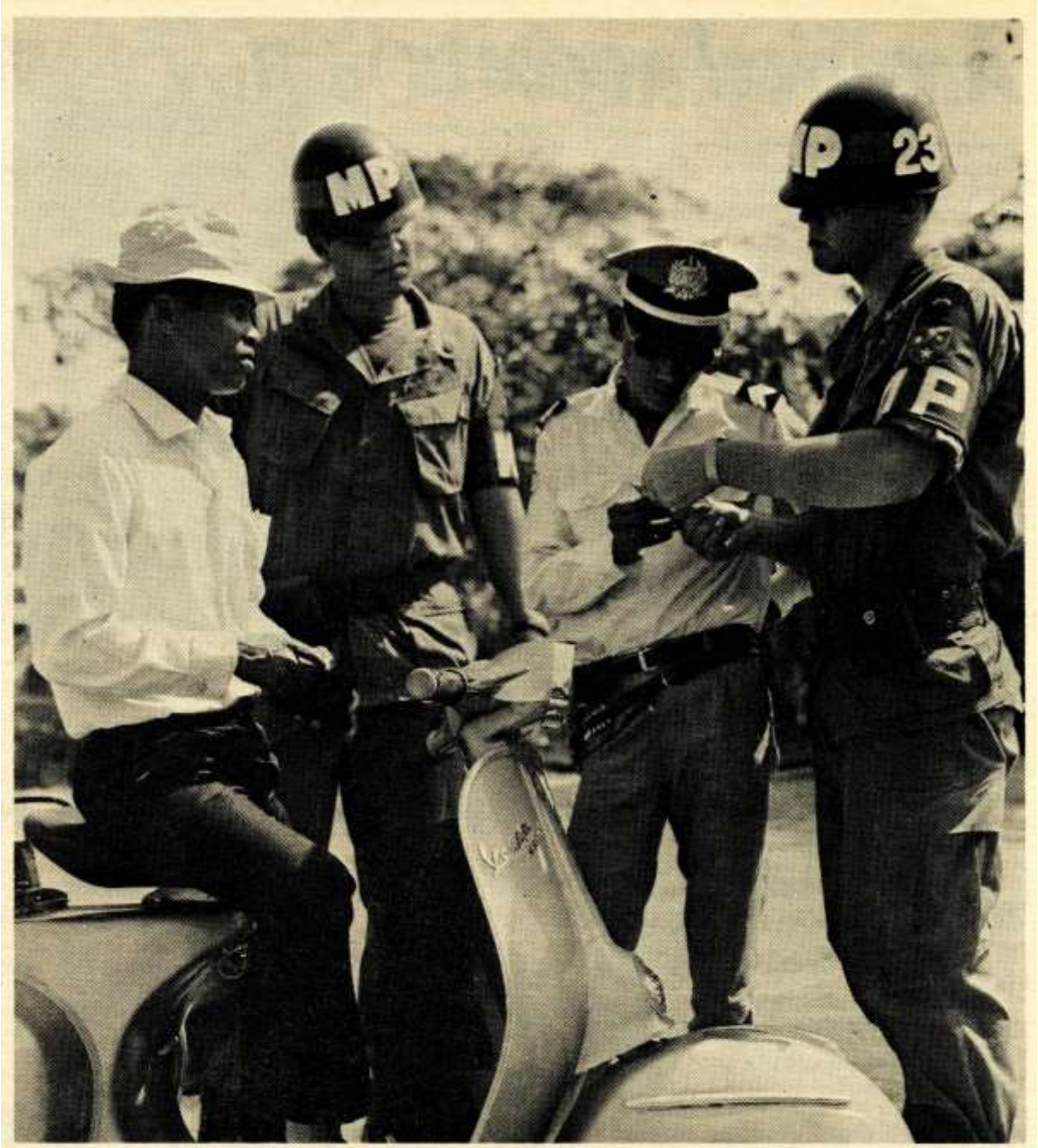
2) Halting a convoy (part of text is cut-off)

Searching for contraband

3) Searching for contraband

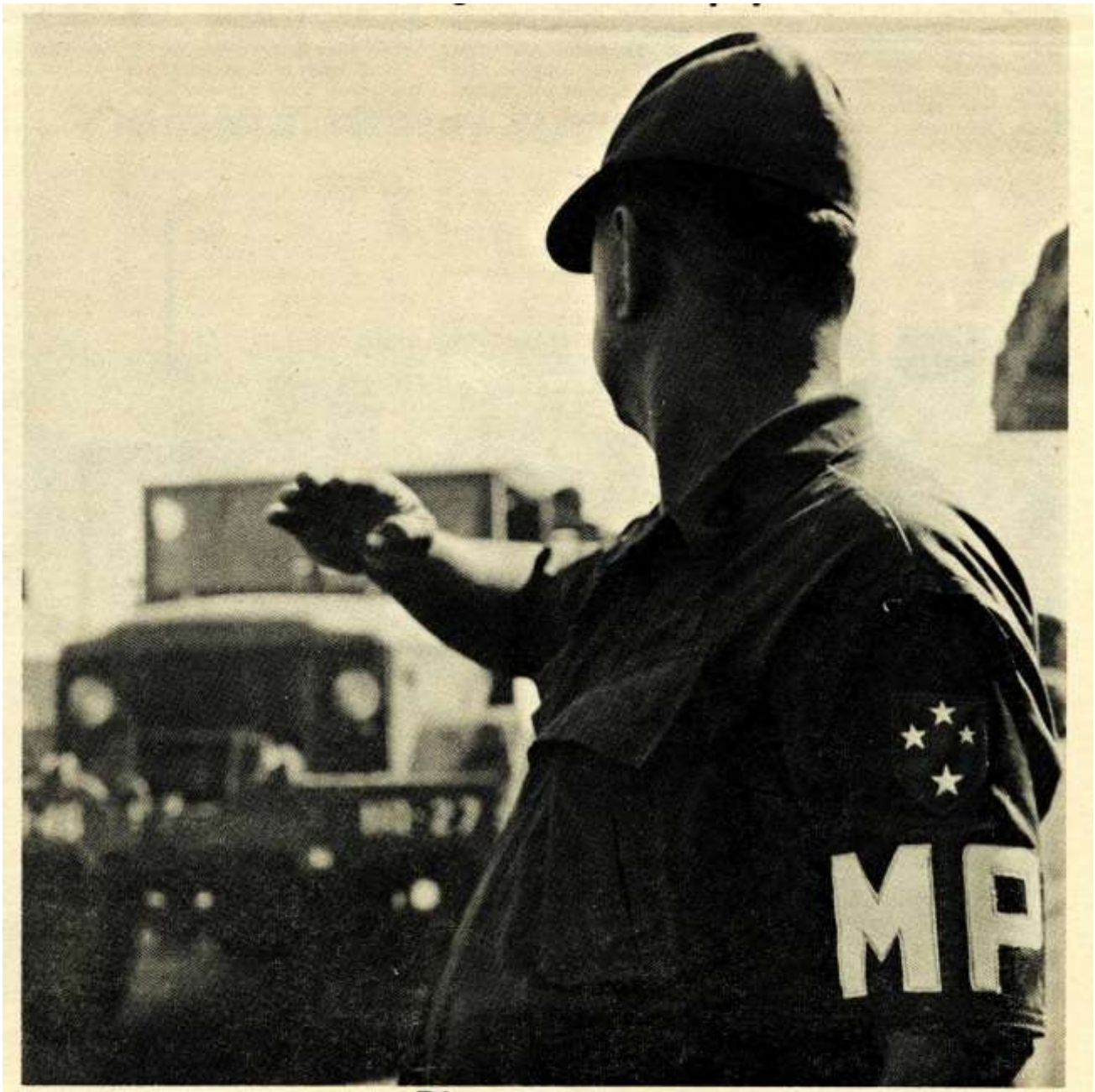


4) Leaving no p?? unchecked (part of text is cut-off)



Checking identification papers

5) Checking identification papers



Directing traffic

6) Directing Traffic

Operation Amnesty helps drug users

By PFC Guy Winkler

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) -- The AMERICAL Division this week launched OPERATION AMNESTY to assist personnel with a drub problem to "come clean" without getting involved in legal action. OPERATION AMNESTY is part of a new DOD Marijuana and Drug Suppression Program.

Conducted jointly through the Division Provost Marshal, Division Chaplain and medical authorities, OPERATION AMNESTY provides help for persons who are abusing drugs and want to stop.

Lieutenant Colonel Everett I. Perrin Jr., Division Provost Marshal, said that person who turn themselves in under OPERATION AMNESTY to either a military policeman, chaplain, doctor or medic will not be subjected to legal penalties as long as they follow two simple steps: 1) voluntarily turn themselves in and, 2) ensure that they are not carrying any drugs in their possession at the time they turn themselves in.

Chaplain (LTC.) Teddy R. Pope Jr., division chaplain, said "We're trying to get all the new men who come through the combat center aware of the fact that such a program is available. If there is a man who is not already under investigation and who feels he wants to help, we have offered to be available twenty-four hours a day, everyday.

MPs take to the air in new helicopter patrols

By SP5 William J. Hayes

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - The Division's 23rd Military Police Company, following the lead of stateside law enforcement agencies, recently began the first helicopter patrols in Vietnam along Highway One in Quang Ngai and Quang Tin Provinces.

The MP officer in the LOH isn't just looking for speeding military vehicles. As a pilot from the division's 123rd Aviation Battalion flies the aircraft, the MP can keep an eye open for persons in off-limits areas, spot sale or transfer of contraband goods in villages, or observe and control convoys anywhere between the sandy coastal areas of northern Quang Tin province to the rich rice fields of southern Quang Ngai Province.

The helicopter patrol concept, developed by Lieutenant Colonel Everett I. Perrin, division provost marshal, augments the company's combined and regular patrols along QL-1 through both provinces that make up the Division's area of operation.

To check vehicles' speeds along the highway, an MP officer in the observer's seat of the LOH times vehicles with a stopwatch as they pass painted markers a known distance apart.

If there is any question of accuracy, or if the violation is a matter of just a few miles per hour, the driver is given the benefit of the doubt.

"Our objective is not to see how many D.R.s we can write up, but rather to get our military drivers to operate their vehicles more slowly and more safely," said Captain Garrett J. Cumpson, deputy provost marshal.

"We've got to get them to slow down," said LTC Perrin. "With areas along the main highway becoming more densely populated, hazards increase right along with the number of persons living there."

The secure areas along main lines of communication in the two provinces have become refuges for persons leaving insecure districts further west. Though the number of persons moving in is tapering off, efforts to develop safe villages between the highway and the South China Sea do not yet keep pace with the influx.

For the protection of the individual soldier, and to minimize the chances for sales of contraband material, all towns, villages and hamlets of the First Military Region are off limits to personnel who are not assigned to official duty there.

An AWOL or off-limits soldier evading a ground MP patrol can be spotted quickly from the air as he evades down paths, streets or alleys-or even fields and the wooded areas dotting the roadside.

If he chooses to lie motionless to avoid detection by the helicopter it is only a matter of minutes before the methodic search pattern of the ground unit turns him up.

With the 23rd MP Company sky patrol, hedgerows and sidestreets are no longer a screen for the illicit activities, and the vehicles along Highway One are slowing down. And slowing right along with them is the accident rate for the more than 90 miles between LZ Baldy in the north to the southern boundary of the First Military Region.

MP's get the job done

By SP4 Tom Mano

LZ HAWK HILL, (196th Inf. Bde. IO) -- Because of their power to enforce laws, "cops" have been despised, ridiculed and even envied. Parallel to civilian police, the protection and benefits afforded by the military policemen are rarely recognized.

Men of the 2nd Platoon, 23rd MP Company are omni-present on Hawk Hill, completing functions which, if left undone, could become disastrous.

The first MP to go on duty in the morning is the gate guard. Processing 400 civilian workers can be a tiring job, but sometimes pleasant, with 250 of them being females. These employees are checked for contraband items such as drugs and explosives.

But the gate guard's duty is not only concerned with pedestrians. Vehicles are checked for destination, number of passengers and appropriate passes.

Another job of the gate guard is to act as an information bureau for Hawk HIll. This entails giving directions, phoning in arrivals of VIPs and releasing times of events.

Twice a day a patrol makes a trip to the garbage dump to inspect the disposal of refuse. They check to see if anyone is dumping ammunition or grenades which could be policed up by local VC. Preventing the transaction of marijuana, heroin and other drugs is another of their responsibilities. But their main duty is to prevent GIs who venture to the dump from getting hurt.

Dog control is on the MP's most important tasks. Getting bit by a rabid dog can cause convulsions accompanied by delirium and nausea. The 196th Brigade policemen believe it's better to prevent rabies than to treat them.

As night creeps on the hill, most people finish up for the day. Not the MPs. There might be larcenies to check on, shootings to investigate or ladies of dubious repute to turn over to the National Police.

The 2nd platoon handles a 20 miles stretch of road on Highway One which runs perpendicular to Hawk Hill's access road. They escort convoys from Da Nang to Chu Lai and back with an M-60 machinegun mounted on their jeep.

Protection as well as investigation is a major part of controlling this stretch of road. More than one GI has felt relief when he saw MPs descending on the scene of an accident in which he was involved to protect him from irate villagers.

The "nerve center" of the platoon is the "desk". From here information is compiled. To achieve the highest degree of coordination and competency, 1st Lieutenant George R. Holland of Holly Springs, Miss., commander of the platoon sleeps in an adjoining room to the "desk". Anytime an emergency arises, he can quickly be aroused to handle the situation.

The creed of the MPs on Hawk Hill was very adeptly summed up by Private First Class John W. Boulware of Los Gates, Calif., a night patrolman for the 196th Infantry Brigade. "If we stop someone and he's honest with us, we'll do everything in our power to help him."

Aids reenlistment

By MSG William Turner

"It's a widely accepted fact that good leaders get reenlistments. It's one of our jobs as career counselors to see that only the most qualified men stay Army." These are the words of Sergeant Major Paul J. Haddox, Career Counselor Supervisor of the 23rd Infantry Division.

Sergeant Major Haddox, a veteran of 25 years of active service has the distinction of serving in the Navy and how the Army. He was assigned to the 23rd Infantry Division from the Recruiting Main Station, Dallas, in September of last year, bringing to the staff valuable administrative and counseling experience.

He served in the Navy from 1942 through 1946. In 1948 he enlisted in the Army after a visit from the local recruiter.

His career has taken him to assignments in France, Korea, Germany and other countries as well as a variety of state-side posts.

A dedicated soldier and one who is sold on the Army reenlistment program, Haddox explained the reenlistment program in the 23rd Infantry Division, some changes designed to enhance the Americal's "Re-up" program, and areas he feels need more emphasis.

The major change in our program are soldiers. They have become more important especially with the "new" Army concept. The young soldier today who wants to make the Army his career has more options and opportunity to do so. However, I find that many men in their division don't know who their unit reenlistment NCO is. This is one man everyone in the unit should know.

"People seem to be afraid to consult the career counselor, but he is able to provide information on service benefits during after service in addition to selling the Army as a career. We present the facts and it's up to the individual to decide if he wants to make the service a career," Haddox explained.

A recent change in reenlistment options are available to American soldiers in Vietnam, especially in the 11 MOS Series who would like to serve as Security Guards, Military Police and Door Gunners. Other options at the completion of foreign service provides reenlistment options for service schools, CONUS station of choice, Overseas areas and Airborne training depending on the soldier's mental and physical qualifications.

SGM Haddox said the variable reenlistment bonus is a big boost to the program even though many men are not aware that their MOS could have a vrb factor of two, three or four, which guarantees a minimum of 1,600 and a maximum of 10,000 upon reenlistment.

"Inorder to do a good job and make our program more meaningful, we have begun a series of reenlistment inspections to bring our program at the unit level up to standard. Examples of this are training conferences for the unit, battalion and brigade career counselors and an incentive awards program," Haddox said.

He further stated that the key to the success of the program within the division is the honest and sincere interest of the commander and the NCOs. Reenlistments are people, and our most precious commodity are good men.

April, traffic safety month

By SP4 Ron Cryderman

CHU LAI (23rd Inf. Div.) -- Due to the mounting number of traffic accidents in the Southern Sector of Military Region 1, the office of the Provost Marshal recently began a Traffic Safety Program for the month of April.

During 1970 a total of 534 traffic accidents resulted in 212 injuries and 40 deaths. In the first two months of 1971, 94 accidents with 63 injuries and 12 deaths have been recorded.

A wide range of accident preventing steps are to be taken by the Provost Marshal in coordination with the 23rd Military Police company.

The program is separated into two parts. The first part in trying to make
vehicle drivers more aware of their driving habits, is to have all commanders conduct traffic safety classes. Brigade Provost Marshals will make tours within their brigades to speak on problems that cause most accidents and what is needed to curb the increase of the casualty rate.

The second part of the safety program is a step-up of the local traffic law enforcement.

"This will include sending more MP patrols on Highway One, intensified LOH (light observation helicopter) patrols of Highway One and spot checks of all vehicle safety equipment", said 1st Lieutenant James M. Brakord (Farmington, Mich.), Provost Marshal operations officer.

Another measure to make all drivers conscious of their driving habits is a display in front of the Provost Marshal building. It consists of a severely damaged jeep parked behind white crosses, each cross representing one death within this year.

Second largest ever
Drug raid valued
at $30 million

By Sp/4 Fred Abatemarco

CHU LAI (23rd Inf. Div. IO) - Using information received from a former drug user and a subsequent investigation, the Criminal Investigation Division (CID) of the 23rd Infantry Division recently conducted a drug raid in Duc Pho which resulted in a seizure of narcotics said to be valued at approximately $30 million.

The joint narcotics squad, which consists of a field force of National Police, Military Police investigators and provincial police, arrested a Vietnamese female believed to be participating in the operation of the primary narcotics source in Quang Ngai Province. One Vietnamese male suspected of being a drug pusher was on the premises at the time of the raid and was also arrested.

The cache is the second largest ever seized by authorities in the Republic of Vietnam. Seventeen pounds of heroin and 20 kilos of marijuana were confiscated along with assorted quantities of opium, morphine, benoctol and immonoctol. A total of 1,650,000 piastres were also seized, suspected of being the profits of drug sales.

The establishment had been under suspicion of drug trafficking for a number of weeks, but it wasn't until the cooperation of a former drug user was solicited by the CID that the necessary search warrants could be acquired. A sketch of the location was provided along with particulars concerning the type of operation. Within three days the strike force of local and military police were able to proceed with the apprehension and seizure.

Imposter salutes 1st Sgt discloses fake identity

By PFC Arnold S. Egan

DA NANG, (196th Inf. Bde IO)-- What does a man do when his brother, who's in the Army plans on going AWOL? Wesley Storer (Yarmouth, Maine), was confronted with that problem and he thought he had the solution. It was really quite simple, he would take his brother's place.

Even thought Wesley was classified 4F, because of a skiing accident, he was ready to give his services for his younger brother, Specialist Four Glen R. Storer. After all, he knew going AWOL was bad business and he thought he could fill in to keep his brother out of trouble.

Of course the guise failed once Wesley arrived at his brother's unit, Reconnaissance Platoon, Company E, 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry, 196th Infantry Brigade at LZ Hawk Hill.

Without his sideburns and with his hair cut the older Storer was able to closely resemble his brother. He even went to considerable effort in memorizing procedures, the phonetic alphabet, and some of the colloquial phrases the Army uses.

By looking at pictures of the younger Storer's friends and through much quizzing and requizzing, Wesley felt confident to start the trip to the Republic of Vietnam.

The trip from California to Tan Son Nhut AFB in Saigon was uneventful, because Wesley was able to evade direct confrontation with other Army personnel. He had passed the first test and began to grow even more confident in his ability to complete the masquerade.

His confidence wasn't dimmed when he arrived at Chu Lai for further movement to the battalion's rear area. He thought the disguise might just work.

But it didn't. Once at Hawk Hill, Wesley quickly became entangled in [the] tight web. "It was the little things which made me believe this man was not Glen Storer," said one of the platoon members. For instance, he didn't know what PFC or Spec Four meant. He asked what the birds and flowers on the collars meant."

"Yeah, said another man. "He even saluted the First Sergeant."

"The real soldier always had a deck of cards with him, but this man didn't. Glen ate like a horse, but this man asked for a single sandwich," said a third platoon member.

Wearing his camouflage jungle fatigues and "bush hat", Wesley Storer was marched to the Adjutant of the 2nd of the 1st, Captain Francis G. Downey (Los Angeles) where he was questioned. Realizing his attempt to cover for his brother had failed, he quickly confessed.

"Well sir, I'm his brother," said Wesley. "I knew Glen was going AWOL and I didn't want him to get into trouble so I took his place. I'd do anything for my brother, sir, anything. I was going to take his place over here until the tour was over and then he would finish up in the states."

The Military Police were informed and took custody of the older brother. He was then transported to higher authorities to return to the United States.

5th Bn., 46th Inf. stands down
Photos by Sp/4 Ron Cryderman

Photo Captions:
1) A truck load of men from 5/46 take a last look at Chu Lai as they begin their trip to Da Nang. (23-23S&T deuce and a half truck)
2) The 5/46 equipment convoy was afforded some powerful escorts as witnessed here. (Armor plated deuce and a half? Truck is named "The LIFER and has art of a sergeant on the side. on the back is "Killing is our business and business is good!" At least two .50 caliber machineguns are top-side.)
3) The endless line of vehicles and equipment belonging to 5/46 begins to form up just prior to departure for Da Nang. (Military Police jeep with mounted M-60 machinegun leads convoy).
4) The last of the convoy makes its way to the gate and "on to Da Nang".

BG Wittwer

CHU LAI (23rd Inf. Div. IO) - Brigadier General Wallace K. Wittwer, USARV Provost Marshal and 18th Military Police Brigade commander, recently visited the 300th Military Police Company here.

The 300th MP's are part of the 18th MP Brigade, and the call by Wittwer was his final visit to the unit prior to his reassignment to the USAREUR Provost Marshal.

During his visit, Wittwer called on Major General James L. Baldwin, commanding general, 23d Infantry Division; the division Provost Marshal's Office and the 300th MP Company.

SP4 Hankins acts speedily to save women beneath truck

BY SP5 Daniel McVann

CHU LAI, (39th Engr. Bn. IO)

- Enroute to a project site at Chu Lai, Specialist Four Laster Hankins (Ft. Benton, Mont.) was instrumental in rescuing a Vietnamese woman beneath the wheels of a 2 1/2 ton truck.

Hankins assigned to the 39th Engineer Battalion's Company A as a bucket leader, was following a cement mixer truck to the work site when the truck stopped and Specialist Four Richard Magill (Chicago, Ill.) also of Company A, raced back to Hankins on the bucket loader and explained the crisis.

A Vietnamese woman was pinned beneath the duals of a 2 1/2 ton truck, could he help? Acting instinctively, Hankins wheeled the bucket loader around the cement truck with Magill still clinging to the ladder on the bucket loader.

By approaching from the rear of the truck, Hankins was able to raise the trucks' dual tires clear of the seriously injured woman with the lifting "Teeth" of his loader. Two unidentified GIs pulled the woman from beneath the truck and rendered first aid until the ambulance arrived.

The miliary police arrived within minutes, taking charge of the incident. Hankins was just beginning to realize it had been his actions that had been the deciding factor in rescuing the woman.

Call 69 Mhz for MP aid

By MSG Bill Pickett

CHU LAI, (23d Div. IO -- Military Police (MP) monitoring stations have been established at seven Military Region 1 locations to give persons outside the MP organization access by radio to the nearest MP station.

According to the XXIV Corps Provost Marshal Office, personnel with radios who observe or become aware of a crime in progress may now contact the nearest MP station through a common administrative radio frequency. Suspected transactions in narcotics or dangerous drugs, off limits violations, traffic accidents or any other emergency may be reported.

The corps provost marshal noted that this capability will be particularly useful to helicopter pilots, should they observe a reportable incident from the air.

The common frequency assigned is 69.00 Mhz, and will be used for Military Police related transmissions only. Monitoring stations, operating around the clock, are manned by Americal Division personnel at Chu Lai, Hoi An, Tam Ky and Quang Ngai.

The 504th MP Battalion will monitor the same frequency in the areas of Quang Tri, Phu Bai and Da Nang.

Should an individual desire to notify MPs of his observations by radio, he simply switches to the common frequency and makes his report. He gives his own identification, type of incident, location, and an indication of special considerations involved, such as serious injury or an armed assailant in a crime.

A message will go out from the control station to the MP patrol nearest the scene, and in a matter of minutes the area can be covered.

Anyone with a radio, from a back pack to one mounted in a helicopter, can assist in crime control and prevention, and the Military Police can respond rapidly for the protection of the potential victims and the apprehension of law breakers.

All persons are encouraged to cooperate in the program; the command frequency, monitored 24 hours daily is 69 Mhz.

MP Helos
Helping
Stop Crime

By SPEC. 5 DON SMITH
S&S Staff Correspondent

CHU LAI, Vietnam – The speeder in Vietnam just hasn't got a chance these days, at least along Highway 1 through Chu Lai.

Traffic control via LOH (light observation helicopter) has been the secret to stopping not only speeders, but AWOL soldiers and any other problem that can be spotted from the sky.

The Americal Div.'s 23rd MP Co. have begun the first helicopter patrols in Vietnam in Quang Ngai and Quang Tin provinces using the chopper-spotting method popularized by Stateside radio stations in the last few years.

"We are most interested in controlling the speeders who go through villages without slowing down," says Capt. Garrett J. Cumpson of the 23rd Military Police.

"When a deuce and a half goes barreling through these villages, sometimes small children playing in the street are their victims. We also look for parked U.S. vehicles and check for black marketeering."

The advantage of seeing for a longer distance sometimes backfires, and parked jeeps are not always what they seem to be as Cumpson learned one day while on an eye-in-the-sky patrol.

"We saw a jeep parked under a tree with a soldier unloading goods and carrying them into a house. We set down and approached the suspected black marketeer.

"But much to our surprise, we found it was the chaplain delivering goodies to the orphanage. He thought it was quite amusing that we would take such and interest in his business.

MPs Ticket Good Drivers

LONG BINH, Vietnam (Special) – The Pleiku Traffic Section, part of the 177th MP Det., has come out with a new traffic ticket that's a pleasure to get – a ticket for good driving.

When the men of the Traffic Section see an act of driver courtesy or a good job of defensive driving they don't let it go unnoticed. They step in and give the driver a ticket for good driving.

The men of the Traffic Section see enough results of bad driving. Under the direction of the NCOIC, S. Sgt. Bill Wilson, the section is on the lookout for positive, rather then negative, approaches.

Another idea recently put into effect is the calibration of vehicle speedometers. At the request of Pleiku area unit commanders or first sergeants, the traffic section uses their newly acquired "Mini-Quip"radar set to see how much off military vehicle speedometers are.

Inmates Aided By MP Counselors

LONG BINH, Vietnam (Special), "We let the map rap, ventilate, then listen to his problems and help him solve them."

S. Sgt. Robert Adkins, NCOIC of the USARV installation stockade counseling section, must have a good ear after listening to the variety of problems at the USARV confinement facility.

"Counseling starts when a man enters the sally port (entrance to the stockade). We give him an orientation on what to expect here: the services offered, information on the custodial staff, chaplain, Staff Judge Advocates offices, mental hygiene and dispensary facilities, the USARV IG and the services offered by the American Red Cross," said Adkins.

Prisoners in confinement then may request and interview with representatives of these agencies. Requests are processed through the counselor's office and "we either contact the agency or representative involved by mail or phone, informing them that the inmate has requested and interview or assistance," commented Adkins.

If the inmate needs help with pay, personal property, health or legal assistance, he comes to the counselor assigned to his area of the stockade. It's the function of the MP counselors to find out the problems and get the man on the right course for solving them, trying, as far as possible, to let the individual solve his problems with the counselors' assistance and guidance.

"The problems may seem small, but we allow the man to get it all out. We let the soldier solve his own problems, when possible; build up his confidence, a self-help type of program," added the sergeant.

The counselor section of the stockade is staffed by an officer in charge, 1st Lt. Andrew Stropko, who has an MA in guidance and counseling; the NCOIC; an MP enlisted man Spec. 4 Vincent Spence; and an Air Force liaison, S. Sgt. Charlie Marbs.

Rehabilitation is the goal of the counseling section. "Today it is advantageous for both the military and the individual to resolve a prisoners's future quickly in one of two ways; either return the man to duty in an MOS-related job or terminate his relation with the service," said Adkins.

"It's no use sending a man back to duty if his attitude makes it impossible for him to be an asset to his unit. He's no good in combat and a risk to himself and others," added the counselor.

During talks with the inmate, the MP counselors, as well as the legal advisors, stress teh disadvantages to a punitive type discharge, the educational, monetary and social benefits lost. "But we don't demand, we don't pressure. We give them the facts and allow the men to make their own decisions."

Those prisoners whose approved sentences require them to travel to CONUS to serve sentences at the United States disciplinary barracks (CSDB) meet with the LBJ counselors a last time. "We don't lie or mince words, we tell these men where they are going .... to prison, behind bars. They're understandably scared.

"But truth about what they should expect, about the services offered at the USDB about vocational training and about pardons and paroles, helps the person to face his future," added the NCOIC.

Direct 3rd MP Programs

Viets Take Over GI Aid

CAMP JAY K. BOOKS, Vietnam (Special) The 44th ARVN Artillery Bn. is taking over the programs of the civil affairs office of the 3rd Military Police Bn; Force Logistic Command (FLC).

The ARVN battalion, headquartered near the 3rd NP Bn. just outside Da Nang, will be primarily concerned with projects in the hamlet of Thach Nham.

"We have several projects that are going strong, "said 1st Lt. Wynn Englisbe, 3rd MP civil affairs officer. "At first we were giving the inhabitants of Thach Nham practically
everything they needed to assist them in agricultural and home improvement ventures.

"Now we work mostly in an advisory capacity, supplying the people only with materials that are very difficult for them to acquire."

Explaining agricultural advancements made, Englisbe cited the crossbreeding of American hogs with those of the Vietnamese and the introduction of a better quality of rice.

The hog and the new rice were, donated through an American organization, CORDS (Civilian Operations and Revolutionary Development Support).

Crossbreeding American and Vietnamese hogs has resulted in sturdier stock, finer breed and a better quality of meet.

The American hog, affectionately called Oscar, is rented out for breeding purposes to Vietnamese hog owners in nearby hamlets at a charge of 500 piasters, (About $4.30)

"The crossbred hogs reach maturity faster," said Englisbe. "Economically, this means the people don't have to put forth as much to get a return of their money."

The new rice is bigger-grained, sturdier, three to four times as productive as the old, and it responds better to fertilization. This leads to an increase in yield.

Improved homes have been fashioned from scrap wood and tin donated by GIs.

Locations which once held homes made of only straw and bamboo now accommodate houses made form concrete wood and tin.

"These people have made definite progress," said Englisbe. "I don't think the ARVNs will have any problem taking over."

Wild Chase
Case Closed

SAIGON (S&S) - A GI, taken into custody Thursday night after a wild chase which ended in the Stars and Stripes compound near Tan Son Nhut Air Base, was released the same night without charges, a spokesman for U.S. military police said Saturday.

Vietnamese National Police and People's Self-Defense Force members pursued the GI down Plantation Road in a chase punctuated with pistol and automatic weapons fire. Military Police took the soldier into custody. A woman had reported that a soldier stole her fan, according to spokesmen. The area was searched, but no evidence was found, spokesmen said.

3 GIs Set Fires At Drug Center

SAIGON (UPI) - Three U.S. soldiers being held in a drug treatment center at Army headquarters 15 miles north of Saigon Wednesday night set fires in a supply room and latrine to protest their confinement, military spokesmen said Thursday.

Military police rushed to the drug treatment center at Long Binh and arrested the servicemen. The soldiers were locked up in the Army stockade "Pending further investigation," military sources said.

The spokesmen said the fires were extinguished by workers at the center, which holds confirmed heroin users for a short time and then ships them back to the United States.

The sources said all three men protested they were not drug users before they set the fires, but Army spokesmen siad "all three individuals had been confirmed as heroin users by two independent urinalysis tests."

The tests are administered to all American servicemen at least four times during their Vietnam tours.

Military sources said the fire in the supply room burned some hospital-type robes, causing between $300 and $400 in damage.

Assault Charged
2 MPs in Village

By Kenneth J. Braddick

CAM RANH BAY, Vietnam (UPI) – An American soldier looking for a "drink and a girl" in a village off-limits to servicemen seized and held two U.S. military policemen at gunpoint Friday night. Officers called it a "kidnap."

He opened fire while using one MP as human shield when cornered in an alley by a three-nation rescue squad, MP officers said Saturday.

The 21-year-old MP, held in front of the gunman while he shot at encircling U.S., Vietnamese and South Korean police, wrestled with the gunman long enough for rescuers to move in and overpower the soldier.

Lt. Col. James E. Reichel, commander of the 97th Military Policy Bn., described the incident as "kidnapping".

Reichel said, however, that so far the soldier has been charged only with aggravated assault while an investigation is being held. A search continues for two other GIs who were with the gunman at the outset, but who left after a few minutes.

The two MPs held at gunpoint were Spec. 4 David L. Oliver, 21, and Spec. 4 Patrick A McCahon, 20. Both were unharmed.

Reichel declined to give the name of the accused soldier who is in pre-trial confinement at the Army post on the big complex 185 miles northeast of Saigon and on the South China Sea coast.

The alleged kidnapping occurred in Bu Chin, a village three miles across Cam Ranh Bay from the military installation on a peninsula.

"We were parked at the end of the alley checking out authorization of Americans to be in the off-limits village," Oliver said. "I was standing about 15 yards from the jeep when three GIs just about walked into the vehicle."

When McCahon asked the soldiers for their papers, one them whipped out a snub-nosed .38 pistol, pushed it into his stomach and said. "This is all I need to be in teh village," Oliver said.

One of the GIs left the scene while the other two pushed McCahon into the alley.

Ï came running after him into the alley and the guy with the pistol said, "There are three of us and we're all armed so drop it," Oliver said.

One of the GIs left the scene while the other two pushed McCahon into the alley.

"I came running after him into the alley and the guy with the pistol said, "There are three of us and we're all armed so drop it," Oliver said, referring to his rifle. Ä second GI walked off leaving one soldier with the pistol.

"I was nervous. He kept saying he didn't want to hurt anyone. He said he just wanted to be left alone to get a drink and a girl."

In the meantime, Vietnamese police had called for reinforcements.

We started walking down the alley and were about 100 feet in when jeeps came racing from everywhere with sirens blowing and red lights flashing, "Oliver said. "One jeep drove into the alley and they turned on searchlights. He grabbed me by the collar and, holding me in front of him, started backing into the alley. He told McCahon to go down and tell the MPs to leave him alone. While he was backing up, I kept hollering 'go back , go back. He's going to shoot me."

"He was holding the .38 in the back of my head, playing the safety catch

back and forth.”

Following the incident, which lasted less than an hour, joint police patrols searchedSu Chin village for the two other GIs, but without success.

29 Red POWs Flee Island Prison

S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON – Forty prisoners of war overpowered their Vietnamese Navy guards and attacked military police a mile outside of the POW camp for Communist prisoners on Phu Quoc Island early Monday, and 29 of them escaped into the island's wooded mountains, Vietnamese military spokesmen said Tuesday.

Nine of the prisoners were killed, two wounded in teh escape attempt. One South Vietnamese seaman was killed and one wounded, spokesmen said. The 29 escapees are still being sought; they said.

Spokesmen called it the first successful escape on Phu Quoc Island this year. The island is in the Gulf of Siam, about 200 miles southwest of Saigon and now holds more than 20,000 men.

On May 30, nearly 100 prisoners made and unsuccessful attempt to escape through the wire, but were contained by guards, spokesmen said.

Page 6 Pacific Stars & Stripes Thursday, Sept. 3, 1970

Thieves Harvest Fine Crop of U.S. Vehicles

By SGT. RICH LIEFER
S&S Staff Correspondent

SAIGON – Whatever else, Saigon is, it is also a good place for thieves to come between you and your government jeep, car, or even bus.

Each month they relieve the U.S. government of thousands of dollars worth of vehicles. The number of such thefts does not seem to be increasing – perhaps some comfort to officials – but nether is it decreasing appreciably.

Figures from the Army's headquarters area command provost marshal's office show 22 vehicles reported stolen in May and 31 in June. July's loss was 10 M151S (jeep), 8 quarter-tons, 2 five-tons, 2 two-and –a-half tons, a half-ton, a station wagon and a sedan.

Only a small fraction of those reported stolen are recovered, an official said. Two of the vehicles reported stolen in July were recovered, statistics show.

The officials said the most likely time to recover a stolen car or truck is immediately after it is reported missing.

The difference in the value of a vehicle when stolen and its recovered value also increases in direct proportion to the length of time it is missing, he said.

Thieves usually attempt to cover any government markings, but "bumper numbers are slightly raised so they show through," he explained. Sometimes, too, the data plate is left on the vehicle, he said.

The official refused to speculate on the black market value of a stolen government vehicle, saying only it probably would be as high as the market would bear.

He said the thieves are both Vietnamese and American, citing the case of a vehicle left at an accident scene. Military police, seeing by the vehicle's markings that it didn't belong in Saigon, called the unit of origin, and that led to the apprehension of an American last seen driving it.

Reports almost invariably state stolen vehicles were secure when left unattended, the official said as MPs operate from that assumption.

USAHAC defines as "minimum security" a chain and lock and some officials recommend locking vehicles in guarded compounds or even returning vehicles to guarded compounds or even returning them to the motor pool and taking the bus.

They also warn against using them for other [than] official business.

Pacific Stars & Stripes; Saturday, September 5, 1970

Marine MPs Join in Household Search

DA NANG, Vietnam (Special) – As dawn lit the sky at the village of An Khe, more than 300 Marines of the 1st Military Police Bn. assembled along the road with elements of the 110th Popular Force Platoon, 1st Hill Force National Police and Third Quan Canh unit.

The occasion was a sweep through more than 1,200 homes to look for Viet Cong infiltrators and sympathizers.

The operation began at 2:30 a.m. when the Marines were routed from their sleep. After a quick breakfast, the unit moved out on trucks.

Leathernecks disembarked from the trucks at different locations on the road, forming a triangle-shaped cordon. The third side of the triangle was the Da Nang Air Base perimeter.

At about 6 a.m., "Delta" Company Leathernecks joined with PFs and National Police to sweep through the area. Every person and house was checked by National Police, while Marines and PFs searched for hidden bunkers.

At the end of the sweep, 50 suspects had been detained. All but 22 were released when positive identification was furnished.

"Many of the people we pick up are illegal residents," said Marine 1st Lt. Kenneth J. Wadas, assistant operations officer for 1st MPs. "They are simply people who have moved from one location and have not registered in their new spot. After they're checked, they're generally released, unless they're suspected of connection with the enemy."

The lieutenant claimed that the operation was successful because. "The people had no prior knowledge of this sweep. If they did, we wouldn't have gotten nearly as many suspects."

The operation ended about 9:30 a.m., when the Marines climbed aboard trucks for the drive back.

Photo Caption: U.S. Marines and Vietnamese troops check bunkers in a village as they sweep through more than 1,200 homes, looking for hidden enemy or weapons (USMC).

MPs Shuck Arms

By Admiral's Order

BOSTON (AP) – Armed forces police in the 1st Naval District will no longer patrol with sidearms under an order by Rear Adm. Joseph C. Wylie.

Wylie said Thursday he decided independently to disarm military police after informing the Pentagon, and said he acted because of "the changing tempo of the times."

He said military police are not allowed in civilian jurisdictions and there are fewer military personnel in the district, which spans from Maine to Rhode Island.

Military personnel are tried in civil courts for offenses committed in civilian jurisdictions, under a recent U.S. Supreme Court decision.

The admiral said the military patrolmen will continue to carry night sticks, and will be armed if dealing with dangerous prisoners or defending an attempted takeover of an installation.

Pacific Stars & Stripes Sunday, Sept. 13, 1970 Page 5

Spec. 4 Convicted of GI Slayings, Faces 120 Yrs.

By SPEC 5
CHARLES C. SELF
S&S Staff Correspondent

CU CHI, Vietnam – An Army general court-martial convicted a 22-year-old soldier Sunday of killing two GIs and wounding 10 others when he fired into a bleacher full of troops waiting for a show to begin in Tay Ninh May 16.

Sentencing was expected Monday for Spec. 4 James E. Paul, who was with the 125th Sign. Bn., 26th Inf. Div. on the date of the crime.

He was convicted on two counts of voluntary manslaugter and 10 counts of assault with intent to commit voluntary manslaughter. Paul could be sentenced to as much as 120 years, lawyers said.

Witnesses said an officer of the 1st Bn. (Mech.), 5th Inf., just back from fighting in Cambodia, asked soldiers from other companies to leave the standdown area where they were waiting for a show to begin.

Some of the other soldiers refused to leave, witnesses said, and a fight broke out. A short time later, someone walked into the area and began firing with an M16 into the bleachers, they said.

Pfc. Edward Lane, a prosecution witness and Paul's roommate, testified that he had seen Paul involved in the fight at the standdown area. Lane testified he heard Paul say, "I'm going to get them now," before he left the area. He said he saw Paul go into an "infantry crouch"and open up on the bleachers.

Lane said he ran back to his hootch and met Paul there. He said Paul put an M16 under his bunk and told him, "I just killed some rabbits."

Lane said he and Paul went to a local enlisted club. He said on the way Paul told him he had aimed at a sergeant who had a pistol, "But I couldn't get him," Lane testified Paul told him.

Military police testified that they picked up Paul about 2 a.m. the next morning and found the weapon used in the shootings near his bunk.

Defense lawyers produced a witness who said he saw another man leaving the scene of the shooting carrying an M16. One MP testified that he found a weapon that was "warm to the touch" in the room of the other soldier.

Defense lawyers also argued that Lane's testimony was inconsistent. On cross-examination, Lane said he was not sure of what Paul had said. He said all he was sure of was that Paul used the word "killed".

The defense also maintained that the prosecution had not proved that Paul was carrying the weapon used in the killings.

"The court apparently was convinced that he (Paul) was in the fight and that it could not be said that what he did was pre-meditated,"said Capt. Thomas Kingham, one of the prosecution lawyers.

(Note: A subsequent article reported the sentence was 22 years).

Pacific Stars & Stripes Tuesday, Sept. 15, 1970

Gov't Probes
Isle Prison

SAIGON (AP) – A South Vietnamese government inspection team flew to Con Son island Tuesday to investigate prison conditions amid reports of fresh disturbances by prisoners.

A government spokesman said the trip was a "normal inspection tour" of the prison island, 140 miles southeast of Saigon in the South China Sea.

At the same time, the spokesman said he could not confirm newspaper reports that a new prison director had been assigned to Con Son, most recently in the news for its "tiger cages" maximum security cells.

Pacific Stars & Stripes Thursday, Sept. 17, 1970

3 Viet Vet Leaders
Arrested by Police

SAIGON (UPI) – South Vietnamese police announced Wednesday they had arrested three disabled war veterans who led their comrades in a bitter fight with government rangers and combat police two weeks ago.

The three men, Nguyen Ro, Nguyen Van Cat and Lee Van Loi, were accused of instigating, directing and personally participating in the fighting, which erupted around a shanty-town (veterans headquarters in Cholon, four miles west of central Saigon, Sept. 3.

Three American MPs were wounded at the start of the 15-hour battle, and eight Vietnamese policemen and about two dozen veterans were also hurt. The veterans were angered by police harassment of their campaign for housing and higher pensions.

Police said the three men were arrested Sept. 13 after the expiration of a one-week ultimatum issued Sept. 5 for the surrender of all weapons and military equipment captured during the fighting.

They said in addition to illegal possession of weapons, the three veterans leaders would be investigated on charges of extortion. Some irate veterans have been making periodic raids on bars in the downtown area and demanding protection money.

Pacific Stars & Stripes Friday, Sept. 18, 1970.

Phu Bai Isn't Peoria

MP Patrol-It's A Chancy Job

By S. SGT. Michael Lyons
PHU BAI COMBAT BASE

Vietnam (Special) – A crackling voice over the radio breaks the night quiet. "Alpha Three this is Carolina, 10-10 with Alpha Two, larceny in progress at Headquarters Company". Without speaking, the military police (MP) patrol quickly moves out, its piercing red light stabbing through the darkness.

With its vast expanse of interlocking camps Phu Bai Combat Base is comparable to a small American city, both in size and diversity of businesses. Internal security for this city is provided by roving patrols of military police.

"Although we are similar to civilian police in many ways, we encounter problems that no civilian police force in the world has ever had," said Spec. 4 Ross Haymon of Boston, Mass,., a patrolman with the 2nd Platoon 101st MP Co., 101st Airborne Div. (Airmobile). "Phu Bai is a combat base and so almost everyone on it has access to some type of weapon or explosive. More arguments can turn into deadly affairs."

Unlike other police forces, MP patrols do not have sirens. The wailing sound of a siren in a combat zone denotes incoming rockets or mortars or a ground attack. To move traffic and capture attention, patrols are equipped with a revolving red light.

"We respond to many of the calls a civilian law enforcement agency would answer," said Pfc. William Arnold of Berwin, Ill., a patrolman with the 2nd platoon. "Like many police forces we have radio codes indicating the type of crime and whether it is an emergency or not."

The 2nd Platoon works closely with A Co, 504th MP Bn., headquartered at Camp Babin, one of the many small camps at Phu Bai Combat Base. Patrols from both units combine when answering calls from assistance or responding to crimes in progress. The police desk is located in the provost marshal's office at Camp Babin and calls to 2nd Platoon patrols are processed through there.

Part of the mission of the MP patrols is to prevent crime before it occurs. By checking the security of locks and patrolling deserted areas the MPs prevent many crimes.

"We patrol around the airport a great deal," said Arnold. "The airport is a hangout for personnel absent without leave from their units." All the crimes dealt with by the MPs do not exclusively concern Americans. Sometimes Vietnamese civilians will attempt to sneak through the wire to push drugs or engage in black market activities. When caught they are turned over to South Vietnamese National Police.

"Traffic control is another big problem," continued Hymon [sic]. Some soldiers tend to speed even when the roads are crowded or wet. Our presence in traffic reduces the number of accidents. When accidents do occur, one of the patrols is called in to render assistance and fill out reports. If a Vietnamese civilian is involved we call the National Police as well.

An alert on Phu Bai Combat Base sends patrols scrambling to the gates. In addition to their .45 cal. pistols each patrolman is equipped with an M16 rifle, steel helmet and flak jacket in case of an actual enemy attack.

"Strong outer perimeters would mean little if the interior of the baes was not secure. We're the first line defense against illegal drug traffic, larceny and other crimes." concluded Hymon [sic].

Pacific Stars & Stripes Saturday, Dec. 4, 1971.
GI Snatches Revolver, Flees From MPs

S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON – An American GI snatched a revolver from U.S. Air Force security policeman, fled on foot across a 100-yard-wide field and then hijacked a cycle to elude military police at dusk Monday.

Air Force security police said the man began wrestling the guard at the gate leading to the 8th Aerial Port Terminal at Tan Son Nhut AB here after he was told he had to use the base's pedestrian exit about a quarter mile away.

He unsnapped the security policeman's holster during the struggle and sprinted across the field in front of Tan Son Nhut AB, authorities said.

Pursuing policemen fired fire shots but did not hit the man, according to security policemen who described him as a black wearing fireproof U.S. Army fatigues normally worn by men in aviation units. They said he was almost 5-feet-10 inches tall and weighted about 170 pounds.

When the man reached a side street running along the 3rd Field Hospital he jumped into a cycle, pointed the .38-cal. revolver at the driver and told him to get going, using the Vietnamese phrase, "did di did di," witnesses said.

A gate guard at 3rd Field Hospital said the cycle driver held his arms out and shrugged in apparent confusion as he sped past the hospital gate down the crowded side street.

Pacific Stars & Stripes Wednesday, Dec. 8, 1971

MPs Shoot Fleeing Soldier

SAIGON – S&S) – An American GI who hi-jacked a cycle to elude pursuing Air Force security policy was captured the same night by Army military police, U.S. Army spokesmen said Thursday.

The enlisted Army man was being held under guard at the 3rd field Hospital, where was being treated for two gunshot wounds, spokesmen said.

The GI snatched a .38-cal. revolver from an Air Force security policeman during a struggle at a Tan Son Nhut AB gate at dusk Monday, spokesmen said.

Security police fired three warning shots when the man started to climb into a cycle, a small motorcycle-powered taxi. He then ran toward the 3rd Field Hospital and was hit once in the shoulder when security policemen fired two shots at him, spokesmen said.

When he reached a side-street running along the hospital, he hijacked a cycle at gunpoint and eluded the security police, spokesmen said.

However, military police stopped the GI in the cycle, a half-hour later, searched him and found the revolver, spokesmen said.

The man struggled with an MP who was holding a gun, and one shot was fired, hitting the GI in the left leg, spokesmen said.

A spokesman said the GI was suspected of being absent without leave.

480 Marines
Quitting Viet

SAIGON (S&S) – Approximately 480 men of the U.S. Marine Corps 3rd Military Police Bn. are being withdrawn from Da Nang this month and the battalion will be inactivated at Camp Pendleton , Calif., a U.S. Command spokesman said.

About 200 marines will depart by ship late in August. The other 280 were withdrawn by air or reassigned in country earlier this month, he said.

The return of the battalion makes up part of the fourth increment of troop redeployment from Vietnam, he said. The unit arrived in Vietnam in May, 1967.

Pacific Stars & Stripes Monday, August 17, 1970 page 7.

10 GIs Nabbed in Viet Drug Raid

Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam (UPI) – U.S. military officials, tipped off by informers arrested 10 American enlisted men on narcotics pushing charges in a surprise raid on the isolated Whiskey Mountain base camp, military spokesmen said Sunday. The 10 were charged with possession, transfer or sale of heroin.

Spokesmen said seven men are in the Long Binh jail while an investigation is conducted into drug trafficking at Whiskey Mountain, the camp for about 540 U.S. Army engineers rebuilding sections of Highway 1.

A force of 23 military polcemen and Army Criminal Investigation Division (CID) agents at Cam Ranh Bay, almost 100 miles north of Whiskey Mountain, planned the raid after being tipped of by informants, spokesmen said.

The force led by Maj. ......

Pacific Stars & Stripes Tuesday November 9, 1971

U.S. Girl's Killer
Has Price on Head

SAIGON (UPI) – Military authorities issued a wanted bulletin for an unidentified suspect in the murder of Red Cross volunteer Virginia Kirsch, 21, of Brookfield, Ohio.

The authorities said a "sizeable" reward would be paid for information leading to his capture, issued a composite drawing and a description. It said he was a 23-year-old Caucasian of medium height and build, dressed in light colored trousers, a white shirt and dark jacket. The clothes may be blood-splattered, they said.

Miss Kirsch was found stabbed to death early Sunday at Cu Chi, 16 miles northwest of Saigon. She had been at the base about a week and had arrived in Vietnam only two weeks before that. She was one of six Red Cross volunteers quartered at a billet under military police guard 200 yards from the division headquarters building.

Military sources said Wednesday pathologists found no evidence Miss Kirsch was raped. An autopsy was performed Tuesday.

The wanted bulletin issued by military authorities showed a drawing of a young man with dark hair parted on the left side and a cleft chin. It said the murder took place just before Miss Kirsch's body was found.

The authorities refused to give other details, including who had offered the reward, how the description had been obtained or whether anybody had seen the suspect leaving the scene of the crime.

A guard was on duty at the barracks when the stabbing occurred officials said.

Miss Kirsch's body is being returned to the United States aboard a U.S. Air Force plane.

In Brookefield, her sister Mary, 16, said "she wanted to go to Vietnam to do something for th boys. She wanted to help them and the country."

The girl was one of five daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Max J. Kirsch of Brookfield. They also have two living sons – a third son was killed in a 1968 traffic mishap.

Pacific Stars & Stripes.
August 21, 1970 page 6.

Terrorist Grenade Injures 7

S&S Vietnam Bureau

DA NANG, Vietnam – A grenade thrown by a terrorist injured five Vietnamese civilians and two Americans here Saturday. A **military police** vehicle on patrol here was also the victim of terrorist attack later that afternoon when a grenade was hurled at the combined U.S. and Vietnamese patrol.

Twelve persons were injured, including five Americans, three policemen, three soldiers and one child, a Vietnamese spokesman said.

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Tuesday August 11, 1970
Pacific Stars & Stripes

IT'S HAPPENIN' by SP4 Dick Shearer

WORD TO THE WISE—Word has gotten around the Americal Division Area rather quickly but in case someone hasn't clued you in yet, you'd better spruce up a bit before going to the Main PX.

Military Police are now on duty three checking soldiers for proper haircuts, complete uniforms, bloused pants, headgear and any number of other items which detract from correct military dress.

The regulations governing proper dress are not new. they have been on the books for many years. However, the enforcement of these rules is now being given a hard push by division authorities.

From a very informal survey, we've learned that two of the most frequent violations are "pegged" pants (those which are altered to fit like a pair of continental slacks) and improper haircuts (including long sideburns and untrimmed mustaches).

The MPs have been given orders to deny admission to anyone who doesn't comply with the proper dress code so it would be worth your while to check yourself out before leaving on a shopping trip.

PAN-TELL

Volume 2 Number 12 Chu Lai Vietnam March 24, 1969

MPs IMPOUND UNLOCKED TRUCKS

Operators of 1st Bn., 82d Artillery vehicles are reminded of the importance of locking their trucks in the Americal Division Headquarters area.

No less than 6 vehicles from the unit were impounded over the weekend because their drivers failed to secure them in parking areas at the Main Post exchange.

The confiscated trucks are then taken to 23rd MP Bn. Headquarters where they are impounded.

These vehicles will be signed back to the unit only after an in-person appearance by a commissioned officer, representing the offender.

Vietnamese Girls Serve
As Policewomen, Nurses

LZ BALDY -- When two new "Chargers" landed on the VIP pad here recently, everyone at the 196th Inf. Bde. base camp knew things were looking up.

The pretty new "Chargers" were Miss Hanh and Miss Duoc, National Policewomen from Hoi An.

"These girls spent three weeks in Da Nang getting special training in searching for and confiscating contraband items," said MAJ Frederic F. DeMetrovich (Salt Lake City, Utah), brigade provost marshal.

Female Friskers

The policewomen's main duty is at the base camp gate searching the Vietnamese women who work for the 196th. They perform the same duty by checking and handling women detainees.

"The girls are also available to assist the Provost Marshal's Office both on Baldy and in the surrounding hamlets," added SGT Thieu, **PMO** interpreter.

Charged-Up 'Chargers'

"This is the first time either has gone to the field and both volunteered to work for the 196th," said Thieu, who is responsible for their welfare on Baldy.

The new arrivals are part of a 46-woman group located at Quang Nam Province headquarters in Hoi An and work closely in assisting the area's 2,000-man National Police Field Force.

A M E R I C A L M P
Photos by SP4 BILL GUERRANT
(drawing of an MP manning an M-60 machinegun)
Art By SP4 ALFRED ANTHONY JR

Photo Captions:

Vietnamese ID card is checked by member of 23rd MP Co.

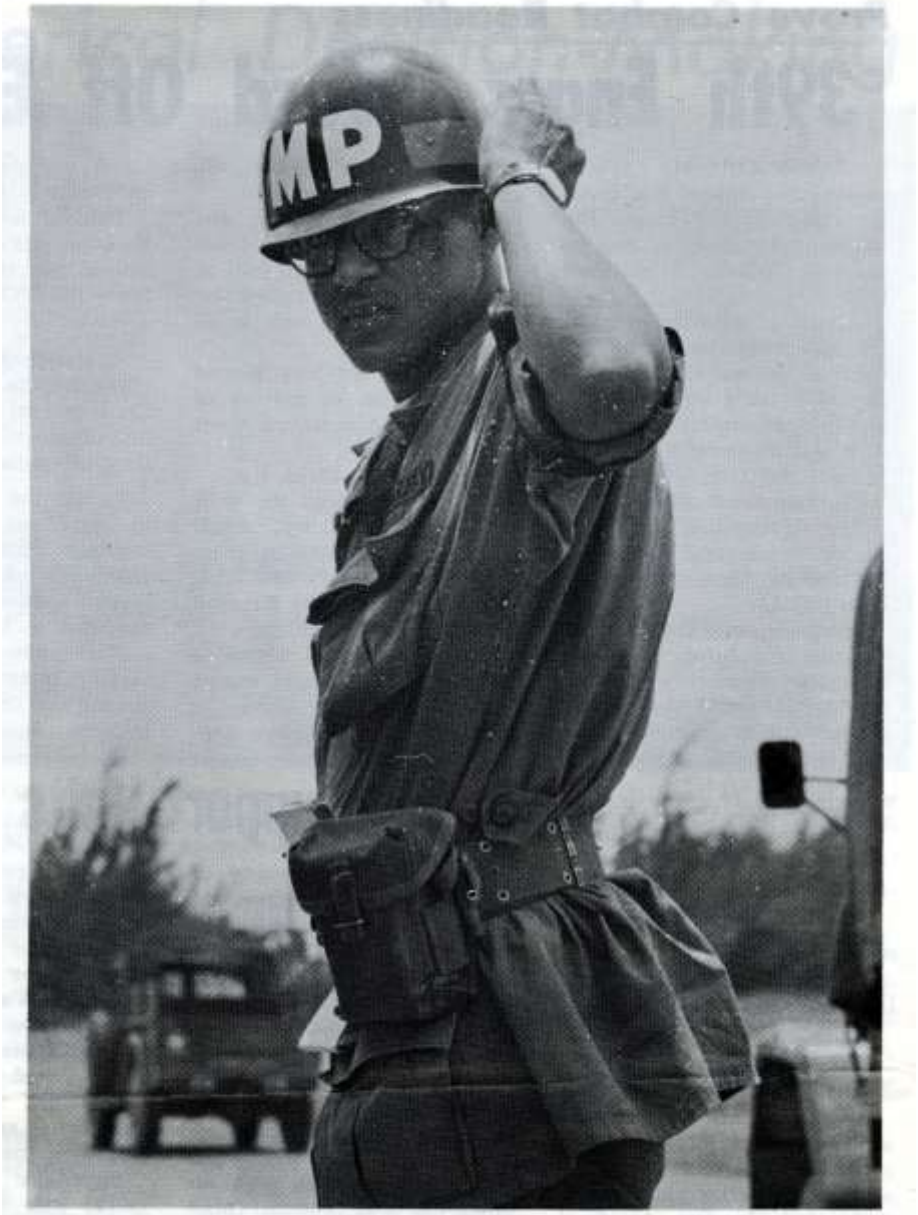
1) Vietnamese ID card is checked by member of **23rd MP Co**.

An MP watches out for trouble on heavily-travelled Highway 1

2) An MP watches out for trouble on heavily-travelled Highway 1 (MP sits behind M-60 mounted in jeep.

Vietnamese National Policeman, ARVN MP, and Americal MP team up to make routine vehicle check

3) Vietnamese National Policeman, ARVN MP, and Americal MP team make up to make routine vehicle check.



In a familiar pose, MP keeps traffic moving

4) In a familiar pose, MP keeps traffic moving. (MP is marshalling traffic)

Inspections maintain "spit and polish" of MPs

5) Inspections maintain "spit and polish" of MPs

Cbt. Leaders
Prove Worth

CHU LAI --".....No two leaders are the same. . . " was the comment made by BG John W. Donaldson, Asst. Div. commander and key-not speaker during a recent Combat Leadership Course graduation.

The general went on to say that the difference in men is why the Combat Leadership Course "has been geared to helping the individual develop the common leadership qualities - knowledge, understanding, loyalty, and courage, both physical and moral."

SP4 Kerry M. Armstrong (Killeen, Tex.) **B Co. 39th Engr Bn.**, was the honor graduate of the class of 45. Armstrong received a one grade promotion to SGT and a plaque denoting his accomplishment. LTC Thomas A Ghromley 39th Engr. commander was present to congratulate the top grad and assist in the pinning of the new stripes on his arm.

Finishing second and third in the class were PFC James W. Sherman (Hot Springs, Ark.) **23rd MP Company** and SP4 Denny L. Jacks (Lawton Okla.) **Co. G 75th Inf.** (Rangers). Both men received one grade promotions and plaques. (SPT CMD IO)

Roscoe didn't have ID's

By Sp/4 Jerry Kief

LZ RED HORSE, (23d DIV ARTY IO) - Early Thursday morning Roscoe rose from his quarters to do his daily PT. A little jogging never hurt anyone. He jogged right around the area past headquarters orderly room, just enjoying the beautiful morning and wondering what he would do at the club that night. Suddenly he was jumped, apprehended and jailed; charge: improper identification.

Roscoe isn't the average GI, but is a small, black dog belonging **to C Battery, 3rd Bn., 82nd Arty.** Like most other units throughout Vietnam, **C Battery** has a variety of mascots. Mascots, usually dogs, have a way of accumulating. They're found in perimeter wire, garbage piles and stuck to freshly primed roads.

The men of **C Battery** found Roscoe along side QL-1 near Chu Lai, a hungry, sick puppy. He was brought to Hawk Hill, given a home and nursed back to health. That was seven months ago. Since then Roscoe has become a part of the Battery and naturally came along when it moved to Da Nang.

Mascots like Roscoe get plenty of care and attention and are much better off than the poor vagrant dogs of Vietnam that never get to be mascots. But to be a full fledged mascot, a dog needs more than love and food. Dog tags, shots and an up-to-date medical record are as important to the dogs well being as it is for the owner. If shots and tags are neglected, it's an invitation to MP's to pick up and destroy the dog for suspected rabies.

Roscoe was lucky the MP's knew him and his owners. They held Roscoe until someone from **C Battery** showed up with records and a new set of dog tags. After being reprimanded by the MP's the owners took Roscoe home and put a new collar on the pooch, with dog tags welded on.

Specialist four Cleo Capers holds onto Roscoe, the mascot of C Battery, 3rd Battalion, 82nd Artillery. Roscoe was nabbed by local MP's for running around without his dog tag's. Capers took Roscoe's records and a new set of tags down to the MP's to get the pootch released. (U.S. Army Photo by 1LT Fred G. Vigeant)

Photo Caption: Specialist four Cleo Capers holds onto Roscoe, the mascot of **C Battery, 3rd Battalion, 82nd Artillery.** Roscoe was nabbed by local MP's for running around without his dog tag's. Capers took Roscoe's records and a new set of tags down to the MP's to get the pooch released (U.S. ARMY Photo by 1LT Fred G. Vigeant)

Although the Americal Division left Vietnam, the 23rd Military Police Company stayed on.....

MOVING S YMBOL -- Stacks and stacks of crates and crates are piled high with the equipment and supplies of the 23d Infantry Division (Americal) ready to be moved. Crates such as these have become an increasingly familiar sight to men of the Americal, many of whom have been packing their bags in recent weeks to be transferred to other units or to go home. (U.S. ARMY PHOTO)

17Aug70- Stockade counseling aids inmates Page 11

"We let the man rap, ventilate, then listen to his problems and help him solve them."

Staff Sgt. Robert Adkins, NCOIC of the USARV Installation Stockade counseling section, must have a good ear after listening to the variety of problems at the USARV confinement facility.

"Counseling starts when a man enters the sally port (entrance to the stockade). We give him an orientation on what to expect her: the services offered, information on the custodial staff, chaplain, staff judge advocate's offices, mental hygiene and dispensary facilities, the USARV IG and the services offered by the American Red Cross," stated Adkins.

Prisoners in confinement then may request an interview with representatives of these agencies. Requests are processed through the counselor's office and, "We either contact the agency or representative involved by mail or phone, informing them that the inmate has requested an interview or assistance," commented the NCOIC.

If the inmate needs help with pay, personal property, health or legal assistance, he comes to the counselor assigned to his area of the stockade. It's the function of the MP counselors to find out the problems and get the man on the right course for solving them, trying as far as possible to let the individual solve his problems with the counselors' assistance and guidance.

"The problems may seem small, but we allow the man to get it all out. We let the soldier solve his own problems, when possible; build up his confidence, a self-help type of program," added the staff sergeant.

The counselor section of the USARV Installation Stockade is staffed by an officer in charge, Lt. Andrew Tropko, who has an MA in guidance and counseling; the NCOIC; an MP enlisted man, Spec. 4 Vincent Spence; and an Air Force liaison, Staff Sgt. Charlie Marbs.

Rehabilitation is the goal of the counseling section. "Today it is advantageous for both the military and the individual to resolve a prisoner's future quickly in one of two ways: either return the man to duty in an MOS-related job or terminate his relationship with the service," commented Adkins.

"It's no use sending a man back to duty if his attitude makes it impossible for him to be an asset to his unit. He's no good in combat and a risk to himself and others," added the counselor.

During talks with the inmate, the MP counselors, as well as the legal advisers, stress the disadvantages to a punitive-type discharge, the educational, monetary and social benefits lost. "But we don't demand, we don't pressure. We give them the facts and allow the men to make their own decisions."

On counseling in the Army, Adkins said, "Satisfied? Of course. I wouldn't be here doing this if I weren't. Every day there is something new, someone who needs me and my guidance."

Those prisoners whose approved sentences require them to travel to the States to serve sentences at the United States disciplinary barracks meet with the counselors a last time. "We don't lie or mince words. We tell these men where they are going-to prison, behind bars. They're understandably scared.

"But truth about what they should expect, about the services offered at the disciplinary barracks, about vocational training and about pardons and paroles, helps the person to face his future," added the NCO.

Adkins concluded, "We fight fear and anxiety here. I've also seen the hostile and the hateful. We listen, just listen to them; a nod, an understanding reply, and they begin to let down those barriers, begin to trust people again."

Army Reporter article
28Sep70-Patrolling National Highway 1 Page 11

Flying MPs make the skyway scene in 2 provinces

CHU LAI - The Americal Division's **23rd MP Co**., following the lead of stateside law enforcement agencies, recently began the first helicopter patrols in Vietnam along National Highway 1 in Quang Ngai and Quang Tin Provinces.

The MP officer in the light observation helicopter (LOH) isn't just looking for speeding military vehicles. As a pilot from the division's **123rd Avn. Bn**. flies the aircraft, the MP can keep an eye open for persons in off-limits areas, spot sale or transfer of contraband goods in villages, or observe and control convoys anywhere between the sandy coastal areas of northern Quang Tin Province.

The helicopter patrol concept, developed by Lt. Col. Everett I. Perrin, division provost marshal, augments the company's combined and regular patrols along QL1 through both provinces.

To check vehicles' speeds along the highway, an MP officer in the observer's seat of the LOH times vehicles with a stopwatch as they pass painted markers a known distance apart.

"Our objective is not to see how many DRs we can write up, but rather to get our military drivers to operate their vehicles more slowly and more safely," said Capt. Garrett J. Cumpson, deputy provost marshal.

"We've got to get them to slow down," Perrin said. "With areas along the main highway becoming more densely populated, hazards increase right along with the number of persons living there."

The secure areas along main lines of communication in the two provinces have become refuges for persons leaving insecure districts farther west. Though the number of persons moving in is tapering off, efforts to develop safe villages between the highway and the South China Sea have not yet kept pace with the influx.

For the protection of the individual soldier and to minimize the chances for sales of contraband material, all towns, villages and hamlets of the I Military Region are off limits to personnel who are not assigned to official duty there.

An AWOL or off-limits soldier evading a ground **MP** patrol can be spotted quickly from the air as he goes down paths, streets or alleys-even fields.

If he chooses to lie motionless to avoid detection by the helicopter, it is only a matter of minutes before the methodic search pattern of the ground unit finds him. Recently, a two-man MP jeep patrol was stopped by a group of Vietnamese as they were enroute to a previous commitment. The Vietnamese wished to turn over two mortar rounds under the voluntary informant program, which rewards persons who turn in ordnance with an on-the-spot payment. The program was begun to keep dud rounds and lost ordnance from enemy hands. Ordinarily, the two-man patrol would have to defer their original missionor else take a chance that another vehicle would arrive on the scene before the children got tired of waiting and walked off with their deadly toy.

A quick call to the helicopter brought the aircraft to the scene withintwo minutes, the children waited patiently for the next patrol as they enjoyed gazing up at the circling aircraft.

Americal Daily News Sheets-
Vol.1. No. 289 Saturday February 3, 1968

Americal Elements Kill 32 Enemy Yesterday

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) – Americal Division forces reported killing 32 VC in southern I Corps yesterday. Americal units suffered one soldier killed and three wounded in yesterday's fighting.

Four incidents of enemy initiated action were reported in the Duc Pho area. Three bridges on Hwy #1 received enemy fire and a vehicle from the brigade's **Military Police unit** received sniper fire while escorting a convoy north of Duc Pho.

Americal Daily News Sheets-
VOLUME 1 NUMBER 312 Monday February 26, 1968

Miracle Weather Report
Cloudy Tuesday with occasional light rain in the morning. Winds from the north at 5-8 knots per hour. High Tuesday 80. Low Tuesday night 65.

AMERICAL DIVISION IN ACTION

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) – Americal Division Brigades of the Americal Division reported 21 contacts with the enemy which resulted in 26 enemy killed and five individual and one crew-served weapon captured. Americal forces suffere3d three soldiers killed and 28 infantrymen wounded in the day's action.
.....

A company of the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry located 150 bushels of enemy corn south of here along with a cache of enemy maps and documents yesterday morning. Another company of the 52nd Infantry came under small arms fire south of here and immediately returned the fire but with negative results. Infantrymen of the 1/52nd Infantry teamed-up with brigade **military police** yesterday to search a village south of here. Seventeen detainees were taken into custody. .....

Miracle Division In Combat Action

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)— Americal Division forces killed 57 enemy soldiers in action throughout southern I Corps yesterday. Americal units suffered two soldiers killed and seven infantrymen sounded and evacuated for treatment.

Operations in Americal's 196th Brigade resulted in a 31 enemy body count for "Charger" elements participating in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa yesterday.

A unit of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry found graves containing 11 NVA killed by small arms fire. A company of the 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry led by 1LT Homer Krout (Hopewell, Va), discovered graves containing one VC and four NVA killed by artillery. They also killed one NVA and captured two Chicom hand grenades.

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A small Vietnamese boy led a **military police unit** commanded by SSG Lones R. Warran (Taylors, S.C.), to an ordinance cache eight miles north of Quang Ngai. The haul included 47 pounds of TNT, 26 M-79 rounds, seven 60mm mortar rounds, six rifle grenades, a claymore mine and 300 rounds of small arms ammunition.

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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.

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.

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Division forces suffered six soldiers killed and 31 wounded and evacuated for medical treatment.

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.

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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.

Vol. 2. No. 193 Tuesday October 29, 1968
MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT
WEDNESDAY
Cloudy to Mostly
Cloudy
Rain
High 85 low 70
no Moonlight--
0132-1436

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Ten NVA and 13 VC were killed, 19 individual weapons were captured, and 15 suspects were detained in southern I Corps yesterday.

* * * *

"Jungle Warriors" of the 11th Inf. Bde. accounted for eight NVA and four VC killed, 13 suspects detained, and 19 individual weapons captured.

Troops of a 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company found three NVA killed by air strikes 11 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn., working with troops of the 4th Bn., 3d Inf., killed five NVA 13 miles west of Duc Pho.

A reconnaissance element of the 4th Bn., 3d Inf. found a cache of 17 individual weapons in a hole 11 miles northwest of Duc Pho. The haul included eight SKS rifles, six M-1 carbines, two French grease guns, one AK-47 rifle and 300 pounds of rice.

Near the Song Tra Khuc, eight miles west of Quang Ngai City, ~~F~~ E Trp., 1st Cav. killed one VC.

A 3d Bn., 1st Inf. reconnaissance element killed two VC by a trail 17 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Troops of a **1st Bn., 20th Inf.** company killed one VC among huts three miles north of Duc Pho.

The **1st Bn., 20th Inf.** command and control element detained a total of six VC suspects in three incidents southeast of Duc Pho.

Another **1st Bn., 20th Inf.** company detained three VC suspects in the same area.

MPs of the 11th Bd. and the National Police detained four military - age male VC suspects on Highway 1 four miles north of Duc Pho.

Under the Voluntary Informant Program (VIP), 11th Inf. Bde. soldiers received two LAWs, two 105mm howitzer rounds, five 4.2" mortar rounds, one 81mm mortar round, four 60mm mortar rounds, five M-26 grenades, 27 M-79 rounds, and over 250 rounds of small arms ammo from Vietnamese civilians.

MP's & Viet police
Patrols fight crime

By SP4 Gary R. Sonsky

CAMP CHARGER – To counter problems that arise between American and Vietnamese in the 196th Infantry Brigade's area of operations, combined patrol teams have been established. The teams consist of two men from the **23d Military Police Company** and a police officer from the Hoa Vang police station.

The patrols were established to curb drug trafficking and prostitution. They also branch out to calm civil disturbances between laborers and military personnel or traffic accidents.

Recently the teams have had great success in capturing drug offenders and also stopping minor incidents that may have gotten out of hand.

Their day begins with the MPs going to the Hoa Vangh district police station and meeting the officer they will work with. The Vietnamese officer doesn't necessarily have to speak English but most do.

The men then begin patrolling the roads in the 196th area. They drive until they see a suspicious person near one of the gates-a favorite spot that pushers frequent.

Military Police are not allowed to search Vietnamese. They may just detain them. So when one of the MPs wants a suspect searched the Vietnamese officer goes into action.

The officer identifies himself since he is usually not in uniform. He then has the suspect lay out his belongings and a thorough search is made.

Identification cards are the first things checked-everyone over the age of 10 must have one. If a card is not shown or something isn't right then he is taken in to be checked. If everything is in order the men apologize for the delay and both go on their way.

The mornings are slow but after lunch things pick up. During the day from 30 to 40 suspects may be checked. Most are children ranging in ages from 10 to 17. Come night fall the trend is toward prostitutes.

The big problem is drugs, however. A vial of heroin may be hidden so easily. When a gathering of people is near a gate it's too easy to drop the vials when the MP Jeep is seen coming.

Besides drugs, the team also covers accidents between soldiers and civilians. They are taken care of quickly and efficiently-before they cause repercussions; they are immediately on the scene to calm down the people.

This is a Military Police related comic found in one of the Americal Division Newsletters.

This map was printed in the first issue of the Americal Division's "Southern Cross" newspaper in May 1968.

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.

[Historian Notes: I had gone to the village of An Ton near our base at Ky Ha a couple times. The town was patrolled by Military Police which gave me comfort. I was glad they were on duty to protect the G.I.s from themselves.
When they headed into the Vietnamese village they were often headed for trouble, especially if they didn't have the Military Police there.
I recall that I had to travel by convoy from DaNang back to Chu Lai. It was very nerve wracking for me. I had seen a lot of mine incidents on Highway 1 as a helicopter crewchief. I really appreciated the Military Police who often led the convoys who sometimes had to deal with ambushes as well as the mine incidents.
In going through the Military Police materials, I did not have a confirmation of how the three platoons of the 23rd MP were set up. From one document I saw that the 1st platoon had been assigned to support the 11th Bde. I also saw that the 3rd platoon supported the 198th LIB. I might then
assume that the 2nd platoon was assigned to support the 196th LIB?
There is a video from the National Archives that shows 196th LIB Military Policemen arriving in the Chu Lai area. It is available to be shared with our veterans.]

All 50 months of the Americal Division S2/S3 reports are available online at AmericalFoundation.org and also at the Texas Tech. Vietnam Archives.
These are examples of entries related to Military Police actions that might be found in the Americal Division S2/S3 reports for May 1968:

Unit	Date	Entry	Text
MP	680505	52	MP 100%
MP	680505	206	Delayed Entry: CSIC vic BT380175 Div MP's'said they stopped a Chinese vehicle with a 90mm mort mounted on rear of vehicle. Personnel had good ID Cards, will hold until TF Roach personnel come to check out. TF Roach rec'd info and will check out
MP	680508	63	MPs 100%
MP	680511	100	CLDC, Cpt Vivanco, BT541025, chopper dropped load of ammo vic BT541025- front of 8th Spt, 300 meters S of Gate 3. Ammo is burning now. 1627H: MPs, EOD, and fire trucks notified by CLDC. TF Roach also had a unit to see the ammo drop fm chopper. They will send someone to check it out as soon as the fire goes out. 1810H: CLDC states area has been cleared- Lt Hernandez
MP	680512	63	11th, TF Brown vic BS915245 at 1225H convoy rec'd hvy AW fire on Hwy 1. MP's seem to think VC have withdrawn, 1 2 ½ ton w/50 cal has linked up with MP's. neg cas
MP	680512	122	III MAF, III COC, Da Nang at 1759H 366 Tactical Wing reports 3 122mm rkts landed vic S end of Base and 1 rd on N ramp. 2 A1E dam and 1 SAF WHA (minor). 1st MP Bn states 1 rd exploded outside of perimeter vic BT019738. At BT201 735 fd piece of 122mm rkt. Total of 5 reported rds. 1930H – Marble Mtn – 20 – 25 122mm supply, BT063623, 1 fuel tank hit and burning.
MP	680513	32	TF Roach, MP Boat Patrol – vic BT623019 San Tra #1 found 50 people dead and 100 people sick fm plague, 4050 need shots.
MP	680513	45	198th, 198th MP's vic BT082390 at 1415H convoy fm Baldy to Ross – MP jeep hit a pressure detonation mine. Res: 3 KHA, jeep totally dest
MP	680514	72	23rd MP 100%
MP	680518	30	11th, 11th MPs, MP patrol detained 3 female VCS all 3 female had frag wounds probably fm Charlie Brown contact last night medivac to LZ Bronco
MP	680518	79	fm 17 May) 11th, Cpt Holbrook, at 171830H 5 EM misappropriated veh and drove to village at base of hill 69. They entered laundry. While in laundry Vietnamese stole ¼ ton veh and drove short distance; hit VN boy and over turned truck. Both legs severed fm boy. 5 US left laundry and went to scene of accident where a crowd was gathering. At this time a second veh fm 4-3 w/2 US personnel arrived on scene. They tried to recover veh, but crowd was larger by this time and angry. They would not allow veh to be moved. The 2 US were able to get 3 of the original 5 EM fm 4-3 away fm crowd and went to scty post at An Tan Bridge and called MPs. MPs arrived at 2100H. They entered village w/5 men and covered the truck, but were unable to get any info on the 2 remaining men. The 198th MPs have the vehicle impounded. All US units in area are MP and MACV. MPs notified to be on alert for two missing men. No further info on boy. The two missing men are Sp/4 Jones, HHC, 4-3; Sp/4 Jerrico, Co B 4-3.
MP	680520	16	39th Engr B-39th Engr vic BS614895 at 0850H individual turned himself in to B-39th Engr. Engr turned him over to MP's of 4-3.
MP	680521	11	198th MP (198th) River patrol vic BS636970 at 0840H; River boats recd S/A & AW fire, 3xMP WHA (E), slightly wounded
MP	680523	11	MP's reported 100%

MP	680524	77	77 1655 198th, Lt Blanco, vic BS6396 MP river ptl reports being in contact w/unk size en force. 198th requesting gunships through Avn channels. Gunships scrambled. 1612H: update –1 US WHA(e) complete 1655H. MPs hit by AW fire. Gunships on sta but amb not fd.
MP	680529	59	198th 198th MP vic BT407107 at 1350H patrol 3, 4 MP*s on patrol (jeep) Jeep hit a BT frag Grenade. 4 WHA (E). dust off called at 1400 Dust off complete at 1410

These are examples of entries related to Military Police actions that might be found in the Americal Division S2/S3 reports for May 1969:

MP	690530	**43**	(C) 198th Bde, CPT Quinoes, 5-46 Inf, LZ Gator at 0830H. Bunker line obsr movement close to perimeter. 1xrd was fired into area. 1xVN ran out of area wounded. At 1415H vil chief reported 1x14yr old VN female died of wounds. XO 5-46 and MP's are investigating. III MAF, CPT Phillips at 2025H.
MP	690530	**46**	2135 (C) 1st CAG, SP Sandoval, CAP 1-3-10, BS598849, en: BS594845 at 1800H. Sqd leader was informed by villager from Xuan Yan Dong, BS617857 that 3xUSMC and 1xUSA were selling munitions to VC, in vic of old bunker complex, which CAP 1-3-10 was to destroy. Patrol was accompanied by 1xUSMC MP and 3xUSA MP's, spotted individuals and started to pursue. Rec hvy AWF fr bunker complex pinning them down. The USMC MP was hit in the leg. The individuals were large in size wearing regular green uniforms, they fled southeast in full view of VC for 50-75 meters from bunker complex, they drew no enemy fire. Did not obsr wpns on individuals, called arty and withdrew to Binh Lien, called D/O for MO, evac to 27th Surg. Neg res from arty due to darkness. Notified: CI, CPT Wolfe at 302155H.

These are examples of entries related to Military Police actions that might be found in the Americal Division S2/S3 reports for May 1971:

Unit	Date	Entry	Text
MP	710502	10	23d MP, PFC Dombrowsky, 23d Admin Co, BT531091 at 0130H. 1xUS was attempting to enter the HHC Motor Pool by crawling thru the wire. Guard in area called "Halt" but the man continued to crawl. The guard fired 1xwarning shot and the man continued to crawl. The guard called "Halt" 2xmore times but the man still continued to crawl. The guard then eng the indiv w/3xrds of M16 fire. Res: 1xUS WNB(E), D/O compl 0215H to 91st Evac. Victim died at 0238H. CID is investigating.
MP	710502	33	11th Bde, Sgt Smith, 23d MP, BS901268 at 0800H. Patrol fd 1xrock roadblock 3 ½' high across QL1. B/T w/60mm mort rd w/PRFD. DIP by MP and road clear.
MP	710504	3	23d MP, Sgt Carneal, Main Gate, BT515050 at 032335H. Guard at front gate states he had rec approx 10x60mm mort rds, det fr 100-300m in front of gate. Thinks they came fr Fat City. NCD. CPT Miller, CLDC, states Bnkr #336 in the vic heard rds but thought it was arty firing. Element of SubSector #6 is checking and a compl analysis will be made in the morning. Update at 0410H, CPT Miller, CLDC, talked to LT Haslett, 198th Bde, and the LT said the ARVN Liaison was very cooperative and then all of a sudden stopped talking. Evidently he found out an ARVN unit may have fired the rds but there is neg proof. Ntfy: G3, LTC Saint; XXIV Corps, Sp Runyan.
MP	710507	23	DTOC/PM, MAJ Helton/CPT Dickerson, G3 Ops at 1100H. Approx 80xVN, some of which are veterans, have gathered at Gate #1 (CHL) and are attempting to set fire to a building. Have attempted to set fire to a 2 ½ ton truck and dtn a 1/4 ton truck w/neg res. Some are carrying H/gren and are firing into CHL base. G5, Ly Tin Dist Chief and senior Dist advisor have failed to control the group. 1230H update: Demonstrators are req permission to see the CG and want one MP who allegedly struck a VN to apologize. Ly Tin Dist Chief has dispersed the crowd but they are remaining in the vic in small group. PM fears a reoccurrence at 1600H during rush hour and closed Gate #1 at 1200H. Military traffic restricted to Gate #2 and points S. At 1600H MAJ Helton req Quang Tin Prov Chief's assistance in calming the group. MAJ Samson replied he would be down w/the Dep Prov Chief. The Ly Tin Dist Chief was req to rtn to Gate #1 At 1853H the crowd has calmed and workers were rtn to their homes. National Police will patrol Gate #1 tonight and the gate will be blocked and obsr by MP until morning. Ntfy: CG's Aide, 1900H.
MP	710507	32	**PMO**, CPT Dickinson, Ops, 1200H. Gate #1 of CHL base closed until further notice due to demonstrators. Gate #2 open to traffic going S. Ntfy: 198th Bde, Sp Small; 16 CAG, Sp Adler; DISCOM, Sgt Boten; ADE, Sp Boodris; Div Arty, SGM Clouse.

MP	710507	51	23d MP, MAJ Pike, BS808379 at 1330H. Song Ice and Laundry Shop at Duc Pho raided by CID, QN Police and ARVN CID in a narcotics raid. Fd 758x4 gram plastic vials suspected heroin 917x2 gram vials suspected heroin, 1x20 gram stick opium, 1x8 gram bottle liquid opium, 4x4 gram plastic packs heroin, 6xheroin inhalers, 3x1/2 gram opium balls, 68xmorphine syrettes, 511xBinoctal tablets, 102xImmenoctal tablets, 1020x4" marijuana cigarettes, 500 grams manicured marijuana. Total wt of heroin: 9 lbs, 82 grams. Also confiscated 1,000,650 piasters. Arrested: Hanh, Ngyen Thi, female 42 yrs, owner; Dinh, Cao, male, 18 yrs, Duc Pho PF. Info given to USARV and XXIV Corps.
MP	710509	31	**PMO**, CPT Dickerson. Element on QL1 reports sniper fire 1 ½ km N of Binh Son. Ntfy: 198th Bde, Sp Hull.
MP	710509	38	G5/**PMO**, LT Thayer and Sgt Manning, 23d MP, BT515049 at 0715H. Approx 60-100xVN demonstrators (wounded war vets) blocked traffic on QL1. At 0800H demonstrators stopped 1x2 ½ ton vehicle fr B/39 Engr and seized the 3xoccupants and their 3xM16's. The demonstrators demanded a meeting to hear their demands. The 23d MP's have set up roadblocks in the area to keep traffic away from the demonstration. At 0815H CPT Thom, Ly Tin Dist Chief and CPT Jodoin, Ly Tin Dist Senior Advisor, arrived on the scene. At 0925H, 1xUS 2 ½ ton van fr 252d Radar Detachment, Quang Ngai, went thru the MP roadblock to Gate #2 and attempted to continue thru the demonstrators. The demonstrators engaged the truck w/SAF. Truck was stopped and both the vehicle and the 6xoccupants were seized. (Light damage to truck, 5xflat tires, several bullet holes in van body). At 0945H LTC Cu, Quang Tin Dep Prov Chief, arrived on the scene. At 1130H all hostages and the 1xtruck fr B/39 Engr were released. Hostages were unharmed and the vehicle was undamaged. The 3xM16 were rtn to Engr. The following wpns belonging to personnel fr the 252d Radar Detachment were kept by the demonstrators: 2xM16, 3x.45 cal pistols, 30xM16 full mags, 10x.45 cal full mags, 2xM26 H/gren and 1xsmoke grenade. At 1345H the 6xradar hostages and all wpns were released. At 1222H COL Richardson, 23d INF DIV C/S, informed MAJ Helton, G3 Ops Officer, of the agreements negotiated between the 23d INF DIV and the protesting VN war vets. The protestors had demonstrated to protect alleged discrimination against vets in personnel hiring on 7 and 8 May 71 at Gate #1 vic BT515049 CHL Combat Base. The agreement reached consisted of 5 points: 1). 23d MP's will apologize for alleged mistreatment of VN nationals during the demonstrations. 2). 2xVN vets will be hired to work as janitors in the Civ Personnel Office. 3). 1xVN male will be hired to search incoming daily hires. 4). 5xVN females will be replaced from their duties of searching incoming daily hires for alleged rudeness. 5). 5xVN war widows will be hired to search incoming daily hires. At 1222H, MAJ Helton informed CPT Stanford, XXIV Corps TOC, of the above agreements. At 1300H, the van fr 252d Radar Detachment was released. At 1400H, QL1 open to traffic. Ntfy: 11th Bde, Sgt Lane; 198th Bde, Sp Hatfield; USARV AOC, MAJ Johnson.
MP	710512	2	23d Div MP's, Sgt Carneal, BT202163, at 111520H. Accident on Tien Phuoc Rd. While traveling SW in a convoy on Tien Phuoc Rd, a 3/4 ton truck driven by SP4 Gay fr 511 Bridge Co Engr was traveling approx 20 mph when a VN female stepped into the path of his truck. He blew the horn and tried to swerve left but she cont to walk into the truck. An ARVN Sgt fr that village said she was blind. A medic in the convoy pronounced her dead. Died fr a broken neck, punctured lungs, internal bleeding and head injuries. The body is in Tam Ky. The truck and convoy cont on. Neg further action.
MP	710513	77	23d MP's, USARV Form 214 MP Report, 2xUS personnel driving a 2 ½ ton truck thru Ly Tin on QL#1 stopped. One US male dismounted truck and struck a VN male on the back of the head with a stick of wood, knocking him to ground. Another VN male pulled the pin on a H/gren and wouldn't let the US males leave. Dist Chief arrived at 1445H and effected release of all personnel. The male was taken to 91st Evac and treated and released. No payments made at the scene but the VN male will file a claim with the DSA on 14 May. The 2 US personnel are being detained at the CHL MP station. The US personnel were from A/1-82 Arty. VN male taken to 91st Evac by MP's.

MP	710514	2	CLDC, CPT Williams, BT566018, at 130150H. LT Knox and W.O. Spence, Duty Officers, were driving on perimeter rd, at the above grid they obsr 1xVN male w/a bamboo pole walking east, pacing off distances. They stopped the jeep and called "Halt" in English and VN and the man started walking towards them. They called "Halt" again and the man started walking around the jeep. LT Knox pulled his .45 cal pistol and shot the man. A Night Hawk on perimeter patrol was called to hover over the scene. At 0220H CPT Williams, CLDC called, req a D/O and CPT Lutz, AAE, called D/O at 0225H. COL Fells, CLDC, called stating D/O compl 0250H to 91st Evac and the male was DOA. The body was searched by MP's w/neg ID or docu. Also the bamboo stick retained by the MP's They also stated the indiv was approx 23 yrs old and dressed only in red shorts.
MP	710514	58	23d INF DIV, MAJ Pike, **PMO**, BS572972 at 141545H. A truck fr the 563d Trans struck a Lambretta on QL#1, prox 5k south of CHL. The Lambretta hit a building & res: 1xARVN injured and taken to 91st Evac and 1xVN infant slightly scratched on hand. Lambretta and building rec slight damage. **MP** on patrol landed and cleared area of all US personnel and S-5/198th Bde going out to pay restitution. A short time later a Ford-Philco truck was stopped by ARVN at same grid. **MP**'s in V-100 were dispatched but truck was released before they got there. At approx 1940H, ARVN'S set up a road block on QL#1 on the N & S end of the hamlet, but there has been no trouble, demonstrating or anything further. Update: 142310H, LT Haslett, 198th Bde: MAJ White and COL Smith flew fr Dottie to CHL and at 2304H, VR'd area of this incident and report there is no road block set up on the N or S side of hamlet on QL#1.
MP	710515	3	Quang Ngai, SOIC, CPT Glotterman. CPT Glotterman called stating the **MP**'s told him that QL#1 is closed until further notice fr CHL to QN and confirmed by Sgt Carmal, 23d **MP**'s CHL at 150010H. ARVN stated they will stop all military fr any direction. 198th Bde, LT Haslett; 11th Bde, LT McGruder; DISCOM, SSG Wright; FSE, SSG Raulerson; ADE, Neg CQ; EOD, Sp Bagley; 16th CAG, CPT Lutz; XXIV Corps Sp Franklin. All ntfy before 150150H May 71.
MP	710516	77	196th Bde, Sgt Keck, 1st **MP** Bn, DNG City, 162045H. 1xVehicle fr III MAB had 1xHG tossed into it by unk person or persons. Res: 1xUS WIA(E), D/O to 95th Evac. (Info only)
MP	710517	3	23d MP, Sgt Carneal, 132 ASHC, BT538070 at 0215H. At the above time & grid there was an explosion in unit area. **MP**'s invest & determined a H/gren det near storage bldg. 3xmen in area were rec minor scratches fr explo. Neg dam to bldg CID is invest & questioning men fr 132 ASHC.
MP	710517	45	(DELAYED) Div Arty, MAJ Lynch, HQ, 3-82 Arty, AT967776 at 161618H. US civ riding a Honda motorcycle ran into rear of 2 ½ ton truck fr 3-82 Arty at above grid. Civ dead at scene. Neg dam to truck. DNG **MP**'s are investigating.
MP	710518	36	23d INF DIV, Sp Brown, **PMO**, BS601921 at 180900H. 1 mile S of Binh son dist HQ a 10 ton truck fr A/23 S&T going approx 15mph swerved to left for unk reason. It hit the left side of a trailer being pulled by 3/4 ton truck (VN). The 10 ton truck went across the road and into a ditch. There is no visible damage to either vehicle and no US casualties. The VN driver was taken to Binh Son hosp, treated and released (right leg slight lacerations). No confrontation.

MP	710520	40	23d INF DIV, MAJ Pike, **PMO**, BT390163, 201122H. A US vehicle driven by US ass't office manager RMK, 6 mi S of Tam Ky on QL-1, struck & killed a VN (female) child. Local civ & RF & PF's have surrounded veh. **MP**'s have patrol on scene and are being held. Tam Ky stopping S bound traffic & CHL stopping N bound traffic. HEL was sent to Admin Pad to pick up accident reaction tm to take them to scene. Ly Tin Dist Chief & DSA enroute. Quang Tin Prov ntfy'd hostages still being held at 1215H. RMK paid 100,000 VN$ today and will pay 100,000 VN$ tomorrow. Hostages released 1400H. Road open 1440H.
MP	710521	59	23d INF DIV, CPT Dickerson, 511 Engr/39 Engr Bn, BS613718, 211400H. A 5 ton dump trk fr the 511 Engr Co hit & killed 2xVC civ (fem) while traveling E on route 518. ("Driver fell asleep") The vehicle swerved to left & hit the VN civ's. VN civ held the truck, but the driver is w/the **MP**'s. The large crowd was yelling & screaming, but no wpns were fired and no missiles were thrown. The VN National Police, **MP**'s, ARVN officials, & accident investigation team arrived on the scene. The VN NP & ARVN officials dispersed the crowd. A monetary settlement of 124,000P paid each survivor family. Trk had neg damage, subject released to his unit after being charged w/negligent homicide. Ntfy: XXIV Corps, MAJ Church.
MP	710521	77	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, A/1-52 & **MP**'s, BS531798 at 211630H. Dtn 1xVN fem age 40 w/neg ID in blk PJ's, extr to Son Tinh.
MP	710522	4	23d **MP**'s, Sgt Carneal, 572d Trans Co, BT393163, 211700H. Reports a 5 ton truck fr 572 Trans Co traveling S on QL1 at 25 mph hit a Renault bus which was pulling off the berm into truck's lane of traffic. The truck driver swerved to left but could not miss the bus. It hit, shoving off the road and onto the side of bus. 1xVN civ had lacerations to back of hand and was taken to 91st Evac by **MP**'s and released. No confrontation on the incident. The bus had minor damage to the left rear and side. Truck driver not cited.
MP	710522	39	23d INF DIV, MAJ Pike, **PMO**, BT500065, at 221000H. US 1/4 ton jeep fr 14th Sig Bn, DNG, was involved in a minor traffic accident w/VN on bicycle in Anton Ville w/neg dam or injuries. An ARVN bystander has threatened vehicle occupants w/H/gren. Chu Lai **MP**'s & G5 re on the scene, Dist Chief not present. **MP** jeep is being held hostage. At 221455H, area is cleared. Parties of dispute enroute to G5 office. **MP** jeep was released at 1455H. Sig veh released at 1500H.
MP	710523	48	198th Bde, Sp Small, C/1-52, Reference DJF entry #87, 22 May 71. Update: The 5lbs of heroin was examined by the Bn Surgeon, who states it is baking soda or soap powder. Extr to Stinson 231500H. It is in hands of the Bn Surg. Called **MP**'s to have it checked out. Called 198th Bde to send the powder to **MP**'s. (CID)
MP	710524	35	23d INF DIV, MAJ Pike, **PMO**, BT513053, Chu Lai at 240730H had demonstration at the processing point, Gate #1. The demonstrators were juveniles w/wpns & H/gren. 2xVN males were dtn, 1xfor assault on VN female inside processing point & 1xfor security violation (inside Chu Lai). All gates were closed at 0820H and reopened at 1045H. G-5 reports it was caused when Chu Lai stopped hiring "Daily Hires" for today. The reason Chu Lai stopped was the last few days there have been periods of rock throwing. The Dist Chief suggested we keep the processing point closed until after the friendship council meeting today. Ntfy: G3, C/S XXIV Corps, Sp Runyan 1900H.

MP	710524	85	23 **MP**, LT Phoenix, BT506058, 241720H. 2xVN boys, 8 & 9, were obsr by **MP**'s attempting to remove lumber fr area around Gate #2. They were apprehended & transported to Gate #1 for search. At that loc, 1xunk VN fired approx 7xrds SAF at the **MP** vehicle. **MP**'s attempted to exit the area ASAP & veh hit hole in road causing the one boy to be thrown forward into veh radio. They took him to 91st Evac, treated, rec 6xstitches on right side of head & released to **MP**'s who took them to **MP** sta to await National Police to pick them up.
MP	710525	12	**PMO**, MAJ Dike, 23 **MP**, BT514050, 250700H. 3xtrk carrying VN demonstrators arrived at Gate #1, each truck displayed a banner. 1. "VN life and property is the barbarous game of military Americans." 2. "Demand compensation immediately for injuries caused by military Americans." 3. "Strongly condemn the murderer, Warren, Robert C.". At 0815H, 4xmore trucks carrying demonstrators arrived. Trucks belonged to Medico Corp, a civ contractor. 30-50 demonstrators were nor armed & did not attempt to interfere w/traffic in and out of Gate #1. At Gate #4, processing was temporarily interrupted & was closed to northbound traffic for approx 1 hour. Ly Tin dist chief & dist forces cleared gate of all demonstrators & at 0900H all roads were open. There were no casualties or damage. Ntfy: XXIV Corps, LT Dalton; C/S, COL Richardson; G3, LTC Saint.
MP	710525	48	11th Bde, Sgt Lane, 23d **MP**, BS783425, 250730H 1/4 ton jeep rec sniper fire, NCD. Rtn SAF w/unk res. Veh cont sweep of road.
MP	710525	70	198th Bde, Sp Morozoff, Combined units of PF's will be patrolling along QL#1 fr Gate #1 to Tam Ky commencing at 2400H until daylight. CLDC, **MP**'s and Arty Hill have been ntfy.
MP	710527	24	39th Engr, Sgt Lohman, D/39, BT165132, 270830H. 5xton dump trk, backing up on Tien Phuoc rd during mine sweep ran over & killed 1xVN fem (20-25) who was riding a bicycle alongside rd & slipped under rear wheels. **MP**'s are at the scene. Ntfy: MAJ Brown, CofS.
MP	710530	61	23d INF DIV **PMO**, MAJ Pike, 23d **MP**'s, BT469079 at 1620H. On road sweep of QL#1 **MP**'s fd an 81mm mort rd, neg B/T, & an est 20xrds mixture of 105mm & 81mm, 82mm mort rds on shoulder. **MP**'s controlled traffic & EOD arrived 1630H & disposed of rds.
MP	710531	2	CLDC, CPT Miller, Sub Sec #5, BT565023, 302400H. Sensor det mov near ammo dump, 1xshot heard inside dump. Flare ship was called, on sta. **MP**'s checking area. Checked w/neg res.

MP	710531	3	CLDC, CPT Miller, Bnkr #606, BT524044, 302400H. Guards spotted mov in wire. Saw 1xindiv mov toward laundry. N/H was called on sta. **MP**'s also mov in. Neg findings.
MP	710531	17	CLDC, CPT Miller, 723 Maint Motor Pool, BT534110, 310106H. CLDC reported that a partially clothed indiv was seen in the 723 Motor Pool. A check of the area revealed 2xgas soaked rags hanging out of the gas tanks of 2x5 ton trucks. **MP**'s & Sub Sector #1 Reserve Force checked the area & could not find indiv. The guard fired at the indiv w/neg res.

This is a listing of the men died in service with the 23rd MP in Vietnam
from the Coffelt Data base of Vietnam casualties and POWs:

lname	fname	suf	rank	mos	age	incident	casdate	event	utm
BARRETT	DONALD		PFC	95B10	23	08/18/1969	18-Aug-69	CONVOY ESCORT, JEEP HITS MINE, HWY QL-1, 6 KM NW OF DUC PHO 19690818	BS782434
DELL ARENA	RICHARD		SP4	95B20	22	04/01/1970	01-Apr-70	O.P. LINE AT LZ BAYONET, 5 KM S-SE OF CHU LAI AFLD 19700401	BT549016
FENTON	WILLIAM	JR	SP4	95B20	20	03/26/1969	26-Mar-69	TRUCK HIT MINE ON RTE 535, 5 KM NE OF QUE SON 19690326	BT073384
HALBERT	EDWARD		SP4	95B20	20	07/29/1969	29-Jul-69	B/T 105MM ROUND, 1 KM NW OF LZ BRONCO (DUC PHO) 19690729	BS810391
LANDRUM	JAMES		SGT	95B40	26	07/29/1969	29-Jul-69	B/T 105MM ROUND, 1 KM NW OF LZ BRONCO (DUC PHO) 19690729	BS810391
MUSCO	VINCENT		SGT	95B40	22	08/18/1969	18-Aug-69	CONVOY ESCORT, JEEP HITS MINE, HWY QL-1, 6 KM NW OF DUC PHO 19690818	BS782434
RIDDLE	BOBBY		SP4	95B10	21	08/18/1969	18-Aug-69	CONVOY ESCORT, JEEP HITS MINE, HWY QL-1, 6 KM NW OF DUC PHO 19690818	BS782434
TRAYNOR	STEPHEN		SP4	95B20	22		04-Feb-71		