Donaldson Promoted To General

AT THE PROMOTION CEREMONY, MG Lloyd B. Ramsey, division commander, presents BG John W. Donaldson, the new assistant division commander, with the military standard representing the new general's rank. (U.S. Army Photo)

Former Chief of Staff Earns Star And ADC Job

CHU LAI — The former chief of staff of the Americal Division was promoted to the rank of brigadier general at ceremonies here and assumed the duties of Assistant Division commander.

BG John W. Donaldson, a 1944 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy, replaced BG Wallace Clement as Assistant Division commander for maneuver.

MG Lloyd B. Ramsey, Americal commander, and BG Edwin L. Powell Jr., the Assistant Division commander for support, pinned the insignia of rank on BG Donaldson's uniform.

The tall, athletic looking general also was awarded the Silver Star with First Oak Leaf Cluster, the Distinguished Flying Cross with First Oak Leaf Cluster, and the Legion of Merit.

The two valor awards were presented for his actions while commander of the 11th Inf. Bde. prior to his move to the division chief of staff position.

The Silver Star was awarded for his actions last January when he repeatedly directed ground forces from his command helicopter and braved a heavy volume of hostile fire to aid and evacuate wounded soldiers.

Two months later his actions during heavy combat in which his 11th Bde. troops were engaged with well-entrenched NVA forces near Tap An Bac, earned BG Donaldson the Distinguished Flying Cross. He repeatedly marked enemy positions with smoke grenades and directed the advance of allied ground troops from his helicopter.

The Legion of Merit was presented to BG Donaldson for meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service while serving as commander of the 11th Bde. and as division Chief of Staff.

BG Donaldson, from Alexandria, Va., previously served as the Army Member of the Staff Group of the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff. (Americal 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)

SOUTHERN CROSS
AMERICAL DIVISION

Vol. 2, No. 29 CHU LAI, VIETNAM October 15, 1969

VC Propaganda Office Closed

CHU LAI — Americal infantrymen closed the presses of a Communist propaganda office, hidden in heavy undergrowth six miles south of Tam Ky and uncovered leaflets indicating the enemy's strong use of U.S. war dissent in its propaganda.

The Viet Cong propaganda office, comprised of two hootches and a tunnel complex, included printing plates, mimeograph materials and a number of their latest propaganda sheets aimed at Americans.

One series of leaflets aimed directly at "civilians and GIs" urged them to "get together and work hand-in-hand . . . against the war."

The pamphlet repeatedly referred to demonstrations last Easter in New York's Central Park and to a teach-in on the Vietnam war at Berkeley, Calif., in which it quoted an unidentified soldier urging unity against the war.

"The GIs in the field are more and more united in their anti-war struggle," the leaflet continued. "Mass anti-war actions have been taking place everywhere. During the five days of April alone, more than 300 GIs at the American base . . . in the Mekong Delta rebelled. The GIs ignored combat orders and demanded immediate homecoming."

The leaflet was headlined, "Let us unite: Let us organize for an end to the war." And followed with, "More and more American GIs . . . in the field are saving it and acting in that direction."

Several of the other leaflets found by soldiers of the 198th Inf. Bde.'s 1st Bn., 6th Inf., outlined in broken English the Communists alleged fair treatment of prisoners.

MAJ Juris Lapins (Trenton, N.J.), 198th Bde., S-5 officer, said the Americal soldiers apparently disrupted a political meeting in the area when they combat assaulted almost directly on top of the propaganda office. (Americal IO)

3-1 Holds Change of Command

LZ 4-11—LTC Leslie J. Stottle Jr. (Clarksville, Tenn.) became CO of the 3rd Bn., 1st Inf., "as he accepted" the battalion standard from LTC George Ellis (Kent, Ohio), the outgoing commander.

MG Lloyd B. Ramsey noted the progress made under LTC Ellis' command: 'A few months ago this was enemy territory, yet today we stand here having this impressive ceremony. LTC Stottle, you can see the results of LTC Ellis' fine leadership and the hard work of this fine battalion you are receiving."

LTC Ellis directed the creation of the forward firebase during July of this year. It was carved from an area controlled by several NVA battalions and was an enemy infiltration route.

As LTC Ellis delivered his farewell address, he suddenly pointed to several infantrymen watching the ceremony from a bunker line. "You men standing on top of the hill—take it back to the field—tell them that they are the ones who do the real job out here."

MG Ramsey presented the departing commander the Air Medal for Valor with 13th Oak Leaf Cluster, the Silver Star with 1st Oak Leaf Cluster, and Legion of Merit.

LTC Stottle comes to the 11th Bde. from assignment in Washington D.C. He previously served in Vietnam with the 2nd Bn., 5th Cav. 1965-66. (11th IO)

Pouring It On

Gunships from the 174th AHC pour lead on suspected enemy locations just outside the perimeter of LZ Bronco. (Photo by SP4 Steve Tipton, 11th Bde.)

Employment Review For Military Dischargees

By Sp4 James Brown

Did you know about your reemployment rights? You may have certain reemployment rights, if you were employed before entering the military service on active duty, and should you return to civilian life within 4 years or less after entering military service.

Private Industry

You may have a job with private industry or a job with similar position with same employer, if you were employed by same industry. Included also are any pay increases or promotions. The time factor of four years does not apply to those that are involuntarily extended. Old jobs must be applied for within 90 days after separtion, or after hospitalization a time period of 1 year or less.

Persons with periods of 3 to 6 months of active duty for training, such as reservists and national guardmen, must apply within 31 days. You must apply directly to your former employer.

Upon running into any trouble — write or visit the nearest office of the Office of Veterans' Reemployment Rights, Dept. of Labor. The location of these offices is listed in the telephone directories of many large cities. The state employment office can also give you the address, or you can write the national office in Washington, D.C. 20210.

Federal Job

Under the Universal Military Training and Service Act of 1951, as amended, an ex-serviceman who left a nontemporary federal government job to enter military service has a legal claim to his former job following 4 years or less of satisfactory military service.

In general, deadlines for applying are the same as for civilian job reemployment. Make application directly to the agency where you were employed. If you are reemployed, you will receive the advantage of promotions and raises you would have earned in the job. If difficulty gaining reemployment arises, write or visit the nearest Civil Service Commission regional office or the national headquarters in Washington, D.C. 20210.

Veterans' Preference

Job-finding may prove somewhat of a problem. However, the veterans' employment program of the U.S. Dept. of Labor can aid you. This program is carried out by local veterans employment representatives at State employment services.

Veterans with wartime or post-Korean service receive priority in referral to jobs or job training, with priority given to disabled veterans. In addition, veterans may receive job counseling and testing when needed.

In federal government, veterans are also given certain preference. This applies both to those returning to federal jobs and those applying for federal employment for the first time. For full information on veterans' preference visit or write the nearest office of the Civil Service Commission or the nearest large federal agency or installation upon your discharge or before.

As part of an overall program to assure former Armed Forces members good civilian jobs in line with their experience and skills, persons now separating are required to complete a Department of Labor reemployment rights and employment data form (OVRR-2). The form is used by the State employment office serving the former member's home area to assist him or her in finding suitable employment.

Shortly after you leave active service a veterans' employment representative in your home area will contact you by phone or letter. He will offer job counseling, help with retraining needs, and assist in locating a job that will make the most of your skills, and in general put you on the road to realizing your after-service employment goals.

Religion And You

Place Of Worship

By CHAPLAIN (MAJ.) JOHN C. PEARSON
16th CAG

Occasionally you will hear the term "military service". I believe this term implies something that is felt more often than it is heard. As for accuracy, it leans on the fact that our services are conducted and attended by men in the military. As for adequacy, the term "military service" is misleading. It honestly leads you to believe that worship in the Army is a unique military thing. It is often different in ritual and mood from what we remember back home. So you are confirmed in your belief. Once this is settled in your mind, it is obvious that such a freakish thing is lacking in quality. So you justify your absenteeism from worship. You have overlooked two important facts.

Since the conduct of worship is planned by the chaplain, look at the term "military service" from that standpoint. Your chaplain is not trained or influenced by the military in the art of worship. He uses military terminology and references in an effort to communicate; just as Jesus used the farmer going out to sow his seeds to illustrate the way people receive or fail to receive the Word of God, when He was in a rural area.

The idea is to use those references that are readily available in the minds of men. Your chaplain's seminary training and experience in the civilian parish dictates his approach to worship. So you see, the term "military service" is misleading.

The fact that services are often different in ritual and mood from what you remember back home ought not be over-stressed. Services are different back home as you go from church to church, and from denomination to denomination. This kind of difference is no criteria to judge the quality of a service. However, you are given "A" for being sensitive and observing differences in worship. Keep it up. Try to avoid the mistake of judging one service by another. If you must judge, judge them all by the opportunity and help they give you in praising, confessing, communicating, and dedicating your life to God.

Those of you who have never had a single thought that I have mentioned are not forgotten. How can you be forgotten: you are seen at least once each week at worship.

SOUTHERN CROSS
AMERICAL DIVISION

THE SOUTHERN CROSS is an authorized periodic publication of the Americal Division Information Office for division units in the Republic of Vietnam. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army. Contributions are encouraged and may be sent to the Information Office, Americal Division, APO 96374. Tel: Chu Lai 2414. The editors reserve the right to edit all contributions.

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Major John T. Pauli ..... Information Officer
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IG: Represents You

The Inspector General (IG) represents you, the United States soldier. He is the confidential agent of the commander, on whose staff he serves. His area of interest embraces every phase of activity within the responsibility of his commander.

If your complaint, request for assistance or grievance is of such a nature that it can be corrected or resolved by your commanding officer; then present it to him first and give him a chance to clear the matter up. In most cases, matters usually end up right back in the hands of the unit commander, and he is normally the one man who can correct conditions or circumstances contributing to the situation which is causing the problem.

However, if the problem is beyond control of your unit CO or is of such nature that it may effect men of other units, the next higher commander is ready to provide direction and assistance.

After presenting your problem to your commander and it is still unsolved because of its scope or nature, then contact your acting or local IG for assistance. This is usually handled by an appointment made by your company commander.

If your complaint is justified he will accept it, and inquire into the matter, and provide you orally or in writing with an appropriate reply. If the IG considers your complaint unjustified and does not accept it, he may advise you of other means of recourse.

Open-Door

To assist you in your problems each company level commander in the U.S. Army is required to hold an open-door session at least once weekly at a time when all personnel have the opportunity to see him on any matter that is of their concern.

Keep in mind that you should get the permission of your unit commander before leaving your area during duty hours in order to see the I.G.

Help yourself, help the Army, and help your country by consulting your commander first, and then if necessary the Inspector General.

VIETNAM-STYLE

By SP4 JAMES BROWN

Division of Government

Administratively, the Republic of Vietnam is divided into provinces, which are further subdivided into districts, cantons, villages and hamlets. There are six cities with separate status as autonomous municipalities which have administrative powers similar to those of the provinces.

Mayor of Saigon

The mayor of Saigon is appointed by the chief of state, and all other mayors of the autonomous municipalities are appointed by the prime minister. The Department of Interior supervises all activities of administration and civil matters in respect to the overall field administrative policies.

In 1966 the provinces numbered 43. The provinces are grouped into four administrative regions, which are also conterminus with the four military corps areas.

The Central Vietnam Lowlands—I Corps, Central Vietnam Highlands—II Corps, South Vietnam-East—III Corps, and South Vietnam-West—IV Corps are the four official area designations.

A delegate is appointed by and responsible directly to the prime minister, each heading one of the four regions. Within his area the delegate exercises supervisory and coordinating authority in civil matters over the fields offices of the central government and over the province chiefs.

Some of the four corps commanders serve also as delegates in their respective military areas, thus combining both civil and military function.

Government Types

The provincial administration carries on the national policy at the local level. The province chief (governor) is appointed by the prime minister and is answerable to both the prime minister and the Secretary of State for the Interior.

The district administration seems the most concrete symbol and embodiment of the governmental authority to the majority of Vietnamese outside the few urban centers. The people tend to judge the character and performance of the central government by the success or failure of the district officials.

The village is the lowest form of government connected with central government which represent the rural population and is the basic administrative unit in the governmental system. They are subdivided into hamlets or settlement areas, totaling more than 15,000. Each hamlet usually has a locally elected chief and deputy chief.

Awards & Decorations

DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

LTC George Ellis (1st OLC), 11th Bde.

BRONZE STAR MEDAL WITH "V" DEVICE

SP4 Duane J. Ablamis, 1st Cav; PFC Dorman L. Baird, 14th Arty; SGT Richard J. Balsamo, 11th Bde; SP4 Martin S. Blaustein; SGT Edward J. Brandt (1st OLC), 198th Bde; SP4 Ricky G. Brown, 11th Bde; PFC James B. Bruns, 11th Bde; PFC Richard D. Carlson, 14th Arty; SGT Jeffrey L. Clymer, 14th Arty; SP4 Lawrence Corouz, 11th Bde; PFC Keith L. DeHeus, 198th Bde; SP4 Edward A. Dejong, 198th Bde; PFC Roger S. Dennis, 198th Bde; SGT James R. DeSmet (1st OLC), 11th Bde; SGT Mitchael T. Dewane, 14th Arty; SP4 Michael Gohl, 11th Bde; PFC Sammy S. Gonzales, 11th Bde; CPT Klien S. Harrison, 196th Bde; SGT Scott G. Hasselbach (2nd OLC), 198th Bde; 1LT Emilliano H. Hilua, 19th Bde; PFC David R. Jackson, 11th Bde; SP4 Phillip C. Jackson, 11th Bde; SP4 Johnny A. Jones, 11th Bde; SF4 Leonard M. Kottke, 198th Bde; PFC James W. Lovings, 11th Bde; SP4 Clarence L. Marrs, 14th Arty; PFC John W. McGill, 11th Bde; SP4 Thomas D. McKenna, 11th Bde; SSG Clarence A. McKenzie, 198th Bde; SGT Terry L. McMakin, 11th Bde; PFC Michael P. Mysak, 123rd Avn Bn; SP4 Rodney P. Norton, 11th Bde; SP4 Willie H. Olsen, 198th Bde; CPT Francis M. Pate Jr (1st OLC), 1st Cav; SP4 Larry D. Reed, 198th Bde; PFC Hector M. Rodriquez, 11th Bde; SP5 Thomas G. Taylor, 1st Cav; PFC George N. Todd, 11th Bde; CPT William A. Woodford (1st OLC), 196th Bde.

They Stick Together Just Like Kinfolk

LZ BRONCO — Dennis and George Thompson didn't know each other prior to their induction into the Army at Ft. Jackson, S.C., but after a year and a half of sharing the same Army experiences, the two Thompsons consider themselves to be better than blood brothers. And don't bother to correct all the people who make the assumption that they are.

SGT Dennis Thompson (Ridge Springs, S.C.) and SP4 George Thompson (Anderson, S.C.), both assigned to the 11th Bde.'s 1st Bn., 20th Inf., shared the same tent as "recruits" at the reception center at Ft. Jackson.

Assigned on the basis of alphabetical order, the Thompsons found themselves in the same company and platoon for Basic Training. They were later assigned to the same Infantry A.I.T. company where their performances were practically identical. Dennis was the company's top qualifier with the M-60 machinegun and George placed second. As fate would have it when graduation week rolled around both found themselves on orders to Vietnam.

The Thompsons spent their leave after A.I.T. shuttling back and forth between Anderson and Ridge Springs getting each other dates. After their leave they flew together to Ft. Lewis, Wash., and were assigned the same flight to Cam Ranh Bay where both received orders for the Americal Division.

"That's where we thought we were going to get split up," said George. Dennis received orders for A Co., and the next day George had the same assignment. The two Thompsons then spent their time together until Dennis was assigned the job as the battalion commander's RTO on Fire Support Base Liz, five miles northwest of Duc Pho. A month later George came out of the field and was assigned Dennis's job while Dennis took over as the Pacification Section NCO.

At the moment George and Dennis are trying to finesse a common assignment stateside when they leave Vietnam, but they may just reconcile their fate to the alphabet. (11th IO)

New CO, Unit Promotions

CHU LAI — It was a busy week for the 27th Surgical Hospital as the unit changed commanders and the Americal Division commander promoted eight officers in a single ceremony.

The former commanding officer of the hospital, LTC James E. Oglesby (Silver Springs, Md.) passed the colors to MAJ Alton F. Gross (Hatboro, Pa.).

Then, a few days later, MG Lloyd B. Ramsey, Americal commander personally conducted promotion ceremonies for eight of the hospital's officers. CPT Bernard Zazula (Brooklyn, N.Y.) was promoted to Major and seven Second Lieutenants, five of them nurses, received silver bars.

The new first lieutenants are: Delora Briseno (Brownsville, Tex.), Louise Hamer (Holland, Mich.), Marilyn Huepers (Alvin, Tex.), Susan Kramer (Ft. Wayne, Ind.), Lorna Rittenhouse (Jarrettsville, Md.), Alexander Federov (Amsterdam, N.Y.), and Richard Lusk (Hollywood, Ala.). (Americal IO)

MG Lloyd B. Ramsey pins a silver bar on Army nurse Marilyn Huepers (Alvin, Tex.) at the 27th Surgical Hospital. 1LT Huepers was one of eight officers promoted at the ceremony.

Hospital Care For Inmates

LZ BRONCO — "We like to think we win a few friends for GVN with our care," said SFC John R. Flowers (San Angelo, Tex.). He was speaking about the work of five medics from the 11th Inf. Bde. working under the auspices of the Rural Service Medical Program. The medics along with a Vietnamese doctor and nurse bring medical care twice-weekly to inmates of the Duc Pho jail.

Many of the inmates have been picked-up for questioning in remote rural hamlets where modern medical treatment is practically non-existent.

While they wait disposition of their individual cases, the VC suspects, alleged draft dodgers, and blackmarketeers all mingle freely in a crowded holding area. Usually they remain about a week and are then forwarded on to the presiding penal authorities.

Treating between 50 and 70 patients each session, the combined civil-action team sets up "shop" right in the detention center. As one medic begins to spray the community cells with DDT insecticide, a long line of people begins to form at the reception table.

Speaking through an interpreter, Flowers determines the complaint. Headaches and intestinal and digestive troubles are the most common ailments.

The patients are funnelled to the doctor or to the medics according to the seriousness of their ailment. The doctor administers the antibiotics, while the HHC Co., 4th Bn., 21st Inf., medics clean and dress infections. Following treatment each patient is given a bar of soap and candy. (11th IO)

A Lot Richer

CHU LAI — Three men from the Division Spt. Cmd. walked away from the finance office this week with more than $22,000 as reenlistment bonuses.

SP5 John Sirmans (San Francisco) of A Co., 723rd Maint. Bn., received $9414; SP5 John Matyjasik (Anniston, Ala.) of G Co., 75th Inf. (Ranger), received $7531; and SSG Deman Pauldo (Buffalo, N.Y.) of 23rd Admin. Co., will take $6000 to his new assignment at Ft. Polk, La. (Spt. Cmd. IO)

Recon Grads

CHU LAI — BG Edwin L. Powell, assistant division commander, presided over the graduation ceremony of 23 soldiers from the division's unit recon course held at the Combat Center.

SP4 Ronald G. Nereson (Wheatland, Wyo.) of C Co., 1st Bn., 46th Inf., was honor graduate and received a one grade promotion and an in-country R&R to Vung Tau.

PFC William Painter (St. Joseph, Mo.) of E Co., 3rd Bn., 21st Inf. and SP4 Louis T. Krampota (Rosharon, Tex.) of E Co., 3rd Bn., 1st Inf., were distinguished graduates. They also received an in-country R&R to Vung Tau. (Spt. Cmd. IO)

Allied Teamwork Pays

LZ BALDY—"Knowing the terrain helps, but knowing people who know the countryside is even better," said SP4 Lin Richnizter (Escondido, Calif.) of C Co., 1st Bn., 46th Inf.

Richnizter is an infantryman with a unit patrolling mountainous area near Tien Phuoc with members of the Vietnamese Civilian Irregular Defense Group (CIDG) and Popular Forces (PFs).

"To these people, location of a temple or rockpile means more than a whole sheet of complicated grid coordinates," said Richnizter. "Working with them was extremely rewarding."

During sweeps 11 miles southwest of Tam Ky, one VC "Chieu Hoied," and volunteered to lead C Co., the CIDG and PF units to a VC cache hidden near his village.

The booty included ten AK-47 rifles, one Thompson machinegun, two 82mm mortar tubes complete, a 60mm mortar, two AK-50 rifles, and a .30 caliber machinegun. A thorough search of the area also uncovered 49 B-40 rockets, sealed in plastic bags, complete with detonating charges.

"The CIDG and PFs are accomplished soldiers," said PFC Bruce Klingaman (Elizabeth, N.J.). "Their knowledge is immensely helpful. They encourage VC to "Chieu Hoi" with great success. Our combined know-how makes each unit more confident." (196th IO)

ig Job Of Division Airlift Command

It stands to reason that the world's largest division should have one of the busiest air terminals, and the division airport in Chu Lai does not alter that theory.

The Airlift Command Element of Chu Lai (ALCE) has the complex job of seeing that freight being shuttled around the division area as well as passengers coming and departing is accommodated.

The intricate job of arranging aircraft to meet these needs is explained by the Division Tactical Operations Liaison Officer (TALO), U.S. Air Force MAJ Paul C. Brands (San Angelo, Tex.). "Division transportation section in Chu Lai request a certain number of planes for a specific day through division's transportation management area (TMA) headquarters also in Chu Lai. From here the request is speeded through Da Nang TMA to TMA at Tan Son Nhut Air Force Base."

The processing continues through a complexity of offices with much detailed information concerning aircraft commitment and procedures.

"Tan Son Nhut forwards the request to MACV Combat Operations Center (COC), and COC decides whether the request is valid. Then the dispatch goes to the airlift control center (ALCC) who find an available aircraft and in turn notify the division's ALCE when the airplane will arrive," added the Air Force liaison man.

U.S. Air Force LTC Andrew Sereg (Riverside, Calif.) commands the Chu Lai ALCE. "If needed, we can have a plane allotted to us in a matter of minutes by calling MACV COC direct," said LTC Sereg.

"Once in the air for the division the planes fly everything from eight inch howitzer rounds to sick dogs," commented MAJ Brands.

Loading aircraft and manifesting passengers is the job of the 15th Aerial Port Det. (OLAC) located at the Chu Lai Air Terminal.

The 45-man OLAC staff headed by 1LT Charles H. Heckscher (Philadelphia) assist and process all personnel entering and leaving the division.

"Things get pretty hectic in and around the Chu Lai terminal with the influx of people coming and going," said 1LT Heckscher.

Story And Photos By SP5 Thomas Maus

itor of coming-going flights in Chu Lai.

Load 'em up and move 'em out, buddy!

The refueling and double-checking aircraft before takeoff.

and

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mas Maus

buddy!

The processing and detailed checking of all passengers.

Soldiers with the going home blues.

Eager passengers await to board the freedom bird.

Down Below

A division helicopter warms up and passengers prepare to board. SSG John Sargeant (Wheeling, W. Va.) watches from the aircraft control tower at LZ Bronco, 35 miles south of Chu Lai.
(Photo By SP4 Lou Pearson, 523rd Sig. Bn.)

Hunters Of Danger

CHU LAI — The combination combat tracker dog and team since its insertion in the Vietnam effort has proved invaluable in seeking out the enemy where seemingly no trail is evident and, bring back Chieu Hoi's who would have otherwise returned to terrorize again.

The tracker dog is one of four types of war dogs presently being used in the Republic of Vietnam by U.S. Forces. The others being scout dogs, sentry dogs, and mine-tunnel dogs.

The use of tracker dogs was developed by the British in Malaysia as an aid in seeking out guerilla reactionaries. Coal-black Labrador retrievers, chosen for their highly developed sense of smell and intelligence are specially bred and trained for the tropical enviroment. The trackers nicknamed "jungle labs" are about half the size of their relatives, the famous Newfoundland retriever, and each is valued at $12,000 after training.

Working with the dog is the combat tracker team. Consisting of five men; each man is characterized by his own unique duties and skills. First, there is the team leader who has charge of the team. He evaluates the team's work and makes all final decisions on employment of the team. The next two elements are both tracking components-the visual tracker with his coverman and the tracker dog with his handler.

If the team leader feels the track has been established, a dog and handler go to work. At the end of a ten-foot leash the dog follows the ground scent, "eating up trail" at a rate of about 4000 meters per hour. The team follows in "Ranger File" at a trot. The retriever continues tracking until stopped by his handler or is alerted by an air scent indicating the enemy is nearby.

If the dog "alerts", the tracker team stops to allow the area to be checked by the visual tracker and the fourth component of the team, a Kit Carson Scout. If the enemy is present, the scout attempts to convince them to rally to the Republic of Vietnam. If this fails, the combat support element following the team moves into the area to engage the enemy and the tracker teams' job is completed. (Spt. Cmd. IO)

Combat In Review

Resurrected Tactics Used

DUC PHO — A team of Rangers tore a page from history books and resurrected the classic "Old West" tactic of the "ambush in the pass" killing four NVA.

The Rangers from G Co., 75th Inf., camouflaged in the traditional "war paint" set up on the banks overlooking a dusty trail nine miles southwest of Duc Pho. The route is a popular thoroughfare for supply-toting VC and NVA soldiers.

Deviating only slightly from the techniques of the western plains, the Rangers used radios instead of smoke signals to alert their team members of the approaching enemy. A small radio-equipped group watched each end of the trail preventing any NVA from escaping.

Armed with both knives and firearms, the four-man ambush squad sprung from the five-foot embankment and silently dispatched the unsuspecting enemy.

An extraction was necessary since the team's position had been given away when the action required using rifles. Helicopters were substituted for fast get-away horses by the Rangers.

Chief Of Smoke

SSG Huey P. Brown (Shreveport, La.), "Chief of Smoke" for 6th Bn., 11th Arty. sets his battering 105mm howitzers on a suspected enemy position near LZ Bronco, the unit's basecamp.

Pathfinders Insure LZ Boxer's Move

CHU LAI—The pathfinders attached to the 132nd Aslt. Spt. Hel. Co. assisted in the movement of a battery of 3-18th Arty. to and from LZ Boxer.

After being inserted with the first "Chinook" lift onto Boxer, PFC John Mott (Philadelphia, Pa.) and PFC Rick Williamson (Atlanta, Ga.) took over the air movement control.

During the movement of the battery it was necessary for the pathfinders to provide navigational assistance to the LZ and arty. advisors for the Hercules and Boxcar CH-47s carrying the battery's equipment.

The last aircraft completing the movement arrived in the area after dark and was forced to descend through a broken overcast to find LZ Boxer. The pathfinders assisted by having mortar illumination rounds fired to mark the LZ and then setting up ground lighting to assist in placement of the load and pick-up of returning personnel.

The extraction was also completed with the aid of pathfinders, who were this time charged with load preparation and inspection of loads rigged by the battery personnel. They also provided the communications to tell the pilots the destination of each load.

As the extractions progressed anti-aircraft fire was encountered, and PFCs Mott and Williamson had to provide directional guidance to assure the safe arrival and departure of the aircraft.

An Enemy Ambush Deals Losing Hand

LZ BRONCO — A convoy traveling from the naval support activity at Sa Huynh to this forward firebase was hit with heavy automatic weapons and RPG fire on Hwy 1 two miles south of Duc Pho.

Subsequent combat sweeps by the division soldiers of 11th Bde. resulted in twelve enemy soldiers killed, two of which were credited to LOH fire.

The helicopter was piloted by WO George Huggins (Philadelphia), flying visual recon for the convoy, and managed to lay down suppressive fire on both sides of the road until "sharks" gunships from the 174th Avn. Co. arrived. Mr. Huggins was credited with two kills when the NVA attempted to throw satchel charges on a disabled truck.

With only fifteen minutes notice, members of D Co., 4th Bn., 21st Inf. had collected their gear and were combat assaulted on a ridgeline overlooking the enemy position.

As darkness set in, the company quickly organized and began a flanking sweep on line down to Hwy 1. When the sweep was concluded five enemy soldiers lay dead, and two AK-47 automatic rifles and six RPG rounds were captured. Then the company linked with four APCs from E Trp., 1st Cav. on the highway.

"We started popping hand flares as we reconned by fire down the hill," related 1SG James S. Berry (Santa Rosa, Calif.) "All of a sudden we spotted an NVA crouching in the bushes about ten feet away. He started to raise his weapon, so four of us opened up on him, killing him instantly".

A sweep the next day by C Co., 4th Bn., 21st Inf. turned up five more enemy bodies. No U.S. casualities were suffered on either sweep. (11th IO)

Alert And Ready

After being combat assaulted into an area approximately 16 miles southwest of Chu Lai, SGT John Shepardson (Owega, N.Y.) takes protective cover behind a dike. Shepardson is a member of the Div.'s 5th Bn., 46th Inf. of the 198th Inf. Bde.
(Photo By PFC James R. Small, 523rd Sig Bn.)

Mail Early For Christmas
Surface By Nov. 15
SAM-PAL By Dec. 10
Air Mail By Dec. 13

The Harmonica Man

PFC Richard Davis (Bridgewater, Va.), a division soldier from the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. plays his harmonica during a moment of relaxation while on an operation at Pineapple Forest, northwest of Tam Ky. (Photo By SP4 Michael Sullivan, 523rd Sig. Bn.)

1-20 Medic An Ace In Tough Pugilism

By PFC Toby Prodgers

LZ BRONCO—There is a tried and proven fighter in the midst of C Co., 1st Bn., 20th Inf., in the form of a combat medic. PFC Barry "Doc" Bell (Oakland, Calif.) has distinguished himself in the field, however, his unique fighting abilities involve not the M-16, but the gloved fists of the boxer.

Bell is a middleweight, who has done most of his fighting at the Oakland Boy's Club where he has held titles in the light and middleweight classes. Before entering the Army he was Oakland's "Boxer of the Year," and has been offered a professional contract by the handlers of Curtis Cooke, former middleweight champion of the world.

He owes much of his development as a boxer to his manager, Johnny Ebarr, who in his own day fought the likes of Archie Moore and Joe Louis. Bell's uncle, Bert Leital, also instrumental in his career, was at one time the second contender for the world Heavyweight title.

Although Bell could easily pursue a career in the ring upon separation from the Army, he has other interests that are leading him elsewhere. "I've always had an inclination to go into medicine, and the Army has given me a good start in that direction," he said.

Bell plans to work at the Highlands Hospital in Oakland and to take advantage of the medical training program there. He also plans to involve himself in a physical education program in which he can work extensively with children in the Oakland area. (11th IO)

Swinging Musician Played Sounds With 'Million Saler' Rocking Style

LZ BALDY — The twangy, psychedelic screaming world of rock music said good-bye to Glenn Miller.

A former drummer-bass guitarist-vocalist with the rock group "The People," Glenn now is a clerk-typist pounding morning reports to the background rhythms of artillery fire at headquarters of the 3rd Bn., 21st Inf., 196th Inf. bde.

Miller says his stint in the Army is only an interruption in his musical career. He will reenter the frenetic recording game upon discharge from the Army.

He helped form "The People" while still a high school student in San Jose. He was formerly with a group called "Unit Six."

"'The People' was organized in September 1967," said Miller. "We practiced at night for five months before we cut our first single."

The song "I Love You" dominated the record charts for weeks in the early spring of 1968. It was number one for three weeks and sold over a million copies.

"My hair was down to shoulder-length and they cut it all off in basic training," wailed Miller. "I miss wearing bell bottoms and love beads, the concert tours, the record sales, and the girls."

"I'm going to form my own group when I get out of the Army," assured Miller. "Then I can do my 'own thing!'" (196th IO)

Tapes Reproduced

CHU LAI — The Division Artillery is now offering a tape copying service to anyone in the division.

Batteries within the 1-82nd have been supplied with a catalog listing all the tapes available at the present time. The range of the selections encompasses everything from classical to hard rock renditions.

Anyone requesting reproduction of a master tape must supply a blank tape of the proper length. This information is listed in the catalog with each sequence of selections. The longest master tape in the collection is 1800 feet.

The procedure is to select your master tape from the catalog, fill out the blank order form and place it in a sealed envelope along with your blank tape.

The envelope should be forwarded through distribution to: HHB, Americal Div. Arty., ATTN: Tape Center, APO SF 96374.

Tape reproduction may take from 7-10 days, but the service is free and represents one of the best bargains you can find in Vietnam.

Since there are only two catalogs available to the five 1-82nd batteries, any inquiries about the tape service should be directed to the battalion information personnel in the S-1 office.

All personnel will be limited to one 1800 foot tape per week.

A copying service catalog is also maintained at the division's Spt. Cmd. Hqs., S-1 section. (1-82nd IO)

Carelessness Causes Fires

What causes the majority of destructive fires in the Republic of Vietnam? Enemy action? Accidents? No, unfortunately, most fires started in Vietnam are caused by human carelessness.

Carelessness comes in several forms: Improper use of inflammable materials for cleaning agents—Improper storage of fuels and chemicals—Smoking in unauthorized areas—Improper vehicle maintenance—Frayed, defective, or overloaded electrical equipment.

Stop for a minute and ask yourself, is it worth a cup of coffee, to overload a circuit and burn down a building, or take a life?

Is a cigarette in bed worth going through life covered with scar tissue?

Is cleaning a weapon or vehicle engine with gasoline worth your eyesight?

Careless fires are giving the enemy more help than he needs — fires in Vietnam have caused more damage to U.S. property than enemy action during the past year!

Pa and Son In Vietnam

LZ DOTTIE — It's not often when father gets to meet son in Vietnam, but it happened here when SGM William M. Stoneman Sr. stopped to see SSG William M. Stoneman Jr.

The elder Stoneman, a Green Beret with C Co., 5th Special Forces Group at Da Nang, had just arrived in-country to begin his third tour in Vietnam when he dropped in for a two-hour reunion with his son.

SGM Stoneman, who has been in the Army for 28 years, has seen little of Bill Jr., a section chief at the 1st Bn., 82nd Arty.'s D Btry., during the past two years.

They met briefly last September when the younger Stoneman returned from Ft. Carson, Colo. at the same time his father completed his second Vietnam tour.

Bill Jr. is now home enjoying a 30-day extension leave with the rest of his family at Fayetteville, N.C. He will be back at his gun section at LZ Dottie in November and has already set his sights on another extension which would enable him to return home with his father next September.

Until then, SGM William Stoneman and SSG William Stoneman will go their separate ways, one as a Green Beret, and the other as an arty NCO. (198th IO)

CWO Builds Plane Replica

CHU LAI — It is common to find an interest in aviation units that carries over into off-duty hours. In the 132nd Aslt. Spt. Hel. Co. this interest is seen in the large number of model airplane builders and flyers.

One such example is the control-line model of a Fokker D-7 biplane built by CWO Thomas G. Downs (Belton, Mo.). Purchased through the special services craft shop, construction was started in June and completed in September. About 200 man-hours went into the painstaking construction of the scale airplane, including the Fokker Red paint job and markings of the WW I German Air Force.

The original Fokker D-7 was a single-place scout ship and a much feared competitor in the 1914-1918 air war over Europe. Downs' version wasn't quite the true image as on its maiden flight it crashed and burned (the fire coming from a spectator's hastily offered lighter). (132nd Avn. Co. IO)

Field Safety Award Given

LZ BAYONET — COL Jere O. Whittington (McLean, Va.), 198th Inf. Bde. commander, presented the brigade's first monthly safety award to H Trp., 17th Cav. Accepting the award was CPT John A. Dethorn (Jersey City, N.J.), H Trp. commander.

CPT Dethorn's unit was cited for the enforced policies of checking each track daily and having platoon leaders check each weapon personally after a firefight as instrumental in reducing accidents. (198th IO)

Read Books

The Americal Division Association located in Boston, Mass. has initiated a drive to collect paperback pocket books for the division's fighting men in Vietnam.

The books are collected and packed in cartons of 150 books each and will be shipped directly to the units in the field.

It is suggested, if units require additional cartons, write Americal Division Veterans Association — Post Office Box 1381 — Boston, Mass. 02104.

Each unit will be informed from the national headquarters prior to shipment of books to the organization. (Americal IO)