SOUTHERN CROSS

AMERICAL DIVISION

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Cavalry Crush NVA In Horseshoe

By 1LT Robert R. Kresge

LZ BAYONET — Soldiers of the North Vietnamese Army operating in the 198th Inf. Bde. area learned that it doesn't pay to mess around with the cavalry.

The NVA learned their bitter lesson in the "Horseshoe" area on the Song Tra Khuc River, 20 miles south of Chu Lai. The "teachers" were the men of H Trp., 17th Cav., who were sweeping the area.

The action began early in the morning as the APCs were moving out of their night defensive positions. The third platoon, commanded by 1LT Paul Wiekel (State College, Pa.), spotted two NVA on the other side of the river, however they were still out of range.

"But four more popped up ahead of us," said SP4 Herbert Brady (Norwich, Conn.), a combat photographer from the 523rd Sig. Bn. who was riding on the lead APC.

The .50 cal. machineguns and smaller weapons killed one of the NVA and wounded another who was captured along with two AK-47s and two Chicom hand grenades.

The first platoon, following closely behind the third, came across a vast tunnel complex. When an NVA sniper opened up on the vehicles from a spider hole, the cavalrymen returned fire, killing the enemy soldier and capturing another AK-47 and two more Chicom grenades.

The troopers dismounted and began a thorough check of the tunnels. Tunnel rats moved through the maze, paving the way with fragmentation grenades. A search of the complex turned up seven dead NVA, six AK-47s, 27 Chicom grenades, 4 RPGs, and four loaded rucksacks.

Complex of Tunnels

Turning south, the troop proceeded further into the horseshoe and soon came across another complex of tunnels, this one apparently deserted. A search yielded a small quantity of ammunition, a rucksack and web gear.

"We were crossing the trench line," said 1LT Stanley Bolger (Magee, Miss.), executive officer of the troop. "When I saw an RPG move in the grass, I shouted a warning to the third platoon medic and he jumped down and tried to get the NVA to 'chieu hoi'."

Pointing The RPG

"But he failed to convince him," said Bolger, "so I tossed a frag at him. He was wounded in the leg, but he came up pointing the RPG at our track. Then we let him have everything we had."

The combination of .50 cal. machineguns, M-60 machineguns, M-16 rifles, grenade launchers and hand grenades tore up the grass in chunks. When the smoke cleared, the troopers found two dead NVA with their weapons — and AK-47 assault rifle and the RPG launcher with seven rounds.

Ten Fleeing NVA

Turning north, a track commander saw 10 NVA fleeing up a hillside and Lt. Bolger called for gunship support. As the APCs moved cautiously into the area to check out the results, they came upon yet another basecamp-living area.

"There were a lot of hooches and tunnels," said SP4 Brady. "There was even a bicycle with sacks of rice on it. Before we left, we burned the hooches and blew up the tunnels."

But H Trp. was still running up a score — two VC suspects, one of them wounded, were found near the basecamp. As they headed for a new night defensive position, the troopers could account for 11 NVA killed and three enemy detained. But H Trp. had taken no casualties that day. (198th IO)

Taking A Break

Two Division soldiers take a break during an operation in thick jungles southwest of Chu Lai. The 198th Bde. soldiers were attempting to assess bomb damage in the area.
(Photo by SP4 James Small, 523rd Sig. Bn.)

Teamwork

A Clash At Vinh Dong

By SP4 Carl Ekengren

LZ CENTER — Two 196th Inf. Bde. companies along with B Btry, 3-82nd Arty. from a Division fire support base teamed up to prevent an estimated company size NVA force from overrunning a fortified hill in Hiep Duc Valley.

A sweep of the area by elements of C Co. 3-21st Inf. later revealed 17 NVA dead attributed to artillery and infantry efforts. Countless Chicom grenades were found intact along with mortar boxes and casings.

Companies A and B of 3rd Bn., 21st Inf. were in hot pursuit of an NVA company near Vinh Dong, a hill one mile southwest of LZ Center.

"Once on Vinh Dong, we had a clear view of the valley below," said 2LT Alan Freeman (Chula Vista, Calif.), forward observer from B Btry., 82nd Arty. "The enemy had been mortaring LZ Center and we could see the mortar tube only 75 meters from our position on the hill."

The mountainous terrain prevented A Co. from placing effective fire on the enemy mortar platoon. Freeman requested artillery support from his battery on LZ Center. In no time 105 howitzer rounds were impacting on the NVA location silencing the tube and killing seven NVA.

With the mortar tube knocked out, A Co. figured the enemy had been discouraged.

Later in the evening however the enemy moved up the north side of Vinh Dong shooting sporadic rounds of RPGs. Again the forward observer requested artillery support from LZ Center. The guns responded with illumination and high explosive rounds.

"It was the first time I ever saw the enemy attack under illumination," said Freeman.

Well secured in foxholes on top of the hill, the 60 men of A Co. blasted the NVA with a 106 recoilless rifle, and M-79 grenade launchers. Meanwhile C Co., which had been notified of the attack, had moved up behind the enemy and was firing small arms. After 30 minutes of intense battling the NVA retreated. (Div. Arty. IO)

The 196th Inf. CO Becomes New CS

LZ HAWK HILL—On November 6, 1969, COL Thomas H. Tackaberry completed his tour as commanding officer of Division's 196th Inf. Bde. After a short leave he will assume the job of Division Chief of Staff.

COL Tackaberry's stay at the 196th began May 6, 1969, and has been eventful. One high point was the "Battle of Hiep Duc Valley" which began in mid-August. In three weeks of bitter fighting the 196th Inf. Bde. inflicted a shattering defeat upon the 2nd NVA Div. and earned for itself a reputation second to none among the forces located in South Vietnam.

Many High Points

However, there have been many high points in COL Tackaberry's career. He is a veteran of two wars. His many awards include the Distinguished Service Cross with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Silver Star with three Oak Leaf Clusters (a fourth is pending), the Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Bronze Star with "V" Device and Oak Leaf Cluster, the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry, and the first and second awards of the Combat Infantryman's Badge.

COL Tackaberry entered the Army in 1943, and was commissioned on August 30, 1945, upon graduation from the Infantry School at Fort Benning. After tours in Germany and at Fort Bragg, N.C., COL Tackaberry entered the Career Officer's Advanced Course, graduating in 1952.

The colonel then served in the Korean Conflict, first as a company commander with the 9th Inf. Regiment, later as assistant G-3 with the 2nd Inf. Div.

Collection of Schools

Between Korea and his first tour in Vietnam, COL Tackaberry attended several schools. He was graduated from the Command General's Staff College in 1956 and received a Master's Degree from Tulane University, New Orleans, in 1960. (He received his Bachelor's Degree at Michigan State prior to his entry into the service).

Subsequently, he completed courses at the Army Language School at Presidio, Calif., and at the War College in Italy. In 1965 he graduated from the US Army War College at Carlisle Barracks, Pa.

In 1966 COL Tackaberry began his first tour in the Republic of South Vietnam where he served as commanding officer of the 1st Cav. Div.'s 2nd Bn., 8th Inf. Later he was assistant G-5 for the 1st Cav.

Upon returning to CONUS, COL Tackaberry served as deputy director in the Office of the Secretary of Defense and later as military assistant in the Office of the Under-secretary of the Army. (196th IO)

Heavy Load Crossing River

A heavy duty bulldozer of the Div.'s 26th Engr. Bn. tows a grader across a river south of Quang Ngai.
(Photo by SP4 Lou Pearson, 523rd Sig. Bn.)

The Investigation Of Nonappropriated Funds

*This article consists of a statement made by Secretary of the Army Stanley R. Resor.

The Army has, for some time, been investigating allegations of serious irregularities in the management of some nonappropriated fund activities. Twenty-three criminal investigators are now working on this matter full-time throughout the world, in addition to the personnel employed in command and supervisory roles in the Washington area. Over a thousand witnesses have been examined and 53 complaints are under investigation.

Senator Ribicoff

Although the Army's investigation has been going on for some time, the Staff of the Senate Permanent Investigations Subcommittee, chaired by Senator Ribicoff, deserves a great deal of credit for helping bring these disreputable activities to light.

Since it is healthy for the Army to have problems of this sort brought into the open, the Army and the Subcommittee staff have worked together toward a common goal. The Army will follow the Subcommittee's hearings closely to determine whether further modifications in the system for managing nonappropriated funds are required and will take whatever steps are necessary to prevent future instances of illegal or unethical conduct.

Information which the Army has developed to date indicates two major problem areas:

Managing Nonappropriated Fund Activities

First, a number of inadequacies in the Army's system for managing nonappropriated fund activities have been discovered. There were some problems with the basic regulatory structure which have been or are being corrected. However, the major weaknesses have been in the enforcement and policing of regulations, and in personnel selection procedures. Because of the pressure of other more important matters, some commanders have been lax in supervising nonappropriated fund activities.

Moreover, personnel assignments have sometimes not been made with kind of care which should be exercised in this sensitive area. As a result, a number of strategically placed enlisted men have apparently been able to abuse their positions in nonappropriated fund activities. The Army's investigation has disclosed that a number of individuals in important positions have violated the trust placed in them by having a financial interest in firms dealing with open messes. The investigation has also disclosed evidence of kickback payments made by suppliers of goods and of certain services, particularly entertainment, and of diversion of club supplies for private use. These activities were made possible because responsible persons failed to supervise the activities under their control with the proper degree of care.

Correcting Shortcomings

In order to correct these shortcomings, a number of specific steps are being taken to strengthen command supervision and to tighten personnel assignment and selection procedures.

Second, the Army's investigation has disclosed weaknesses in the Army's investigative machinery, arising principally from the previously decentralized structure of the Army's criminal investigation system. Two investigations, at the 24th Inf. Division in Augsburg, Germany and at Fort Benning, Georgia, reaching back to 1965, uncovered many of the same persons. These investigations were prematurely closed. Although no wrongful intent has yet been shown, these cases were clearly handled unwisely. As a result of these failures, improper and possibly illegal behavior was allowed to continue for too long a time.

New Central CID Agency

The Army has recently established a new central CID agency. This new agency will monitor and coordinate criminal investigative activities throughout the world. It will provide a central review of information and will provide a safeguard against the premature or unjustified closing of investigations. In this way, it should help to detect future irregularities more quickly and efficiently.

The Army does not defend these past failures. However, vigorous action is taken to thoroughly investigate this entire area and adopt procedures which will prevent recurrence in the future.

Since criminal prosecutions may grow out of the current investigations, it would be inappropriate to describe the involvement of specific individuals in specific irregularities since this might compromise the rights of potential defendants and jeopardize the viability of any criminal prosecutions which may be initiated.

Religion And You

Spiritual Aid

By CHAPLAIN (CPT) CHARLES V. ADAMS
5-46th Inf.

Many times after conducting a field service, a weary, worn, grimy soldier will ask for a pocket New Testament. Some guys have worn theirs out, or the sweat and paddy water have taken their toll on the paper pages. Others never had one, but there is something besides C-rations!

Almost always these little Testaments contain the Psalms along with the Gospels and Epistles. And often times these Psalms—or songs of praise—are well worn with many readings. And quite understandably, for in these 150 divisions of Scripture there are many words of comfort and promise.

Probably everyone's favorite is the "Shepherd Psalms," or Fsalm 23. Somehow, King David must have known the loneliness of war and the heartache of combat as he talked about God's comforting rod and staff—of preparing a table of plenty for him in the presence of his enemies—of leading him beside still waters—of guiding him through that dark, lonely shadow of death valley.

Then, in Psalm 46 there is God's promise of strength and encouragement in the time of trouble. Whether in enemy contact or conflict with your superior, you can find encouragement in this Psalm. The God of past history is the same God of today's present, and the strength and confidence necessary to overcome those obstacles can be found in this time—surpassing God.

The "Soldier's Psalm" is the 91st Psalm. Here the Scripture-writer shows us the shield of faith which is available to us for our own personal safety. One of the great churchmen of history, Martin Luther, penned the words to his famous hymn, "A Mighty Fortress is Our God," undoubtedly inspired from the verses of this Psalm. For God is our fortress of strength and safety, and in Him can we place our trust and confidence. God's vigilance is constant, His protection complete, His promise unchanging. The last verse of this 91st Psalm assures the faithful of long life. What an encouraging contract with unbeatable fringe benefits!

These many words of encouragement and promise have certain conditions affixed to them, however. These promises are based upon a condition which we must fullfill to achieve and enjoy the safety and happiness assured us in these "songs of praise." And our portion of the contract is found in the 103rd Psalm—a Psalm of thankfulness. Things could always be worse, you know. You are closer to DEROS today than you were yesterday. The PX could run out of everything!

So, be thankful for what you do have. And as this Psalm tells us to do, give thanks to God who has provided all the bounty and benefits which you enjoy.

Each different Psalm gives to each individual the needed boost for his own time of discouragement and the necessary guidelines for expressing our gratitude to God. Next time you pick up that pocket New Testament, thumb through the Psalms and you'll find something suited to your own personal problems. It's worth a try.

Postage Stamp Honors Eisenhower

A six-cent commemorative postage stamp was issued Oct. 14 at Abilene, Kan., honoring former President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

In announcing issuance of the stamp, Postmaster General Winton M. Blount said: "General Eisenhower was one of the truly great Americans of out time and of all time. His life was proof that the fundamental power of the American people lies not only in their potential for greatness, but in their capacity for goodness. It is appropriate that we should honor his memory in this way."

2 Make Topping Scores

US ARMY RANGER CAMP — Another chapter was written in the long military history of the Tackaberry family as 2LTs Burt S. and Kief S. Tackaberry, twin sons of COL and Mrs Thomas H. Tackaberry of Clearwater, Fla., were graduated as the Distinguished Honor Graduates of Ranger Class 3-70.

The graduation took place at the Florida Ranger Camp, Eglin AFB, Florida. Not only were the newly commissioned OCS graduates the Honor Graduates, but they also had identical scores upon completion of the Ranger course.

Distinguished Honor Graduate

To qualify as the Distinguished Honor Graduate, a student must amass a total of 893 points of 1050 available in the grueling 8½ week course for the Army's small unit leaders. COL Y.Y. Phillips, the Ranger Department Director, awarded the Army Ranger tab to the two officers. The twins also received the William O. Darby award from the Ranger Bn. Association, a plaque from the Association of the U.S. Army, a letter of commendation from the Assistant Commandant of the Infantry School, and a Ranger guidon.

The Tackaberry family has a long and proud tradition in the service of its country. At present, COL Tackaberry is Division Chief of Staff. Previously he served as the Commander of the 196th Inf. Bde.

Military Family

Others in the Tackaberry line include their grandfather, MG Homer W. Kiefer and their great-grandfather, BG R.J. Burt, a veteran of the Spanish-American War. Also, their great-great-grandfather, Andrew Sheridan Burt, served as a general officer during the Indian Wars.

The young Infantry Officers are now undergoing Airborne training and then will be assigned to the 82nd Airborne Div. at Ft. Bragg, N.C.

VIETNAM-STYLE

The Essence Of Harmony

By SP5 James Brown

A high value is placed upon maintaining and creating a sense of harmony in social relationships by the Vietnamese. The Confucian doctrine of the Golden Mean and the so-called Middle Path of Buddhism dispose the individual toward flexibility and a readiness to compromise. The Vietnamese calls this "bending like the bamboo."

Intrinsic Value Of Harmony

From early childhood the Vietnamese is taught that whatever serves to enhance harmony is good and that an insistance on absolutes is to be avoided at all costs. The child learns that it is important to bring himself into harmony not only in the social realm but also with his physical environment and the spirits inhabiting it. Harmony is an open and public attitude; it is to be sought not only in the family structure but also in dealings with all other people.

The intrinsic value set on harmony in interpersonal relations is expressed in everyday situations through the use of delicacy, tact, politeness and gentleness in dealing with others.

When an arrangement is to be made between two individuals or interested parties, for example, it is customary to conduct the negotiations so as to minimize the possibilities for friction.

An Intermediary

An intermediary is usually employed, for instance, when a marriage is to be arranged between a potential bride and bridegroom who are unknown to one another. The intermediary makes preliminary soundings, sometimes arranging for the potential bridegroom, to see his girl without her knowledge, thus avoiding a face-to-face confrontation until both parties have agreed to the contract. Up until this time either possible partner, if he so desires, can ease out of the situation gracefully with no offense to the other.

To avoid offending others, Vietnamese are careful to behave modestly. Bragging and boasting are strongly disapproved. Parents, for example, when hearing their child praised for doing something well usually reply proudly with the customary polite expression, "He has really done so little."

Ideal Character

Notions of ideal character in men and women reflect the same concern with harmony in dealing with others. Firmness, gentleness, patience and tactfulness are stressed as desirable attributes in men; while obedience, gentleness, generosity and delicateness denote exemplary character in women.

Concern for harmony in interpersonal relations is manifested characteristically in an indirect approach to issues and ideas. The Vietnamese generally equates directness with rudeness, considering subtlety more pleasant for all concerned. (Americal IO)

SOUTHERN CROSS
AMERICAL DIVISION

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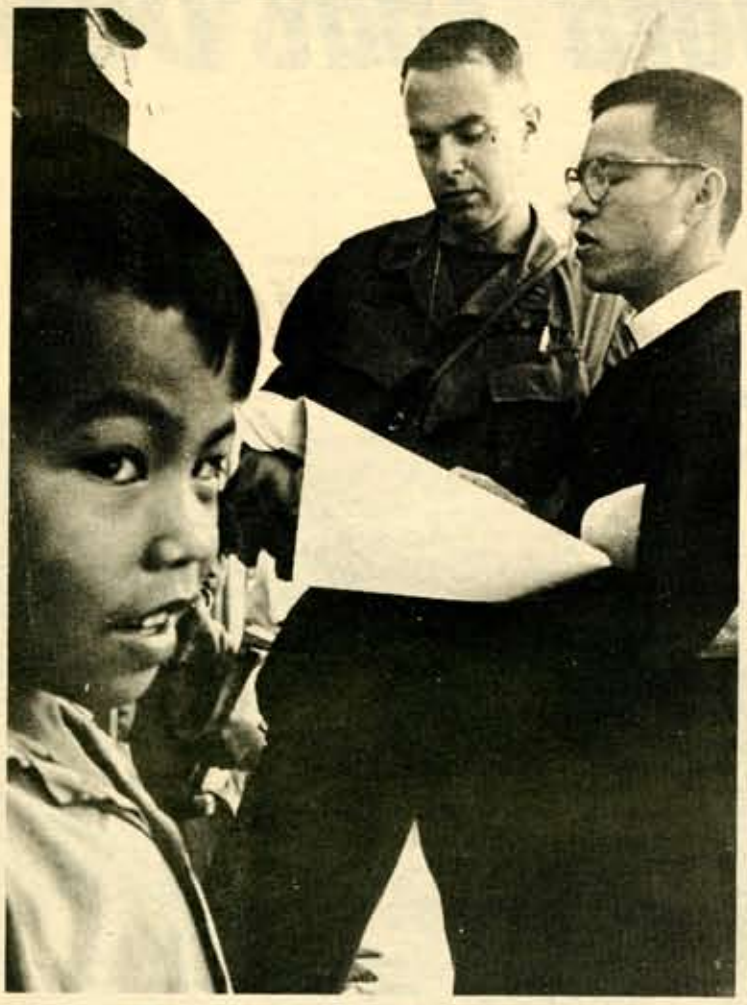


Planning For The Future

U.S. Army Chaplain (CPT) Charles V. Adams (Springfield, Ohio) skims over the plans for a new addition to the Binh Son Orphanage south of Chu Lai with a Catholic priest who oversees the project. (Photo by 1LT Josef Hebert, Americal IO)

Aid To Tien Phuoc Population Builds A Wall Of Friendship

LZ HAWK HILL — CPT Dennis L. Chudoba (Cleveland) moves among the people of Tien Phuoc with the jovial air of a man who is everyone's favorite neighbor.

Today his arms are loaded with medical supplies. On other days he may carry clothing or a stack of Vietnamese-language cook books.

CPT Chudoba is the Civil Affairs officer for the 196th Inf. Bde.'s 1st Bn., 46th Inf. A major concern of this Division unit is medical aid to Vietnamese civilians, but assistance can take varied forms. Almost every effort must surmount a wall of political opposition from agents of the VC and NVA.

Vicious Propaganda

"The Vietnamese are continually bombarded with vicious propaganda and lies," Chudoba noted. "The Viet Cong and NVA tell the villagers we poison them, and, if nothing else works, they position snipers to harass our envoys."

"We get fired on occasionally," admitted SP5 Paul G. Henry (Meriden, Conn.). "But it's really a last ditch stand for the enemy when they have to do that. It proves that the people aren't fooled by the lies the VC tell them."

Richest Sources

One of the richest sources of supplies for the civilian populace is collected goods — soap, candy, chewing gum — are collected and distributed by S-5 representatives. Sometimes those goodies are stockpiled for festive occasions like the recent Children's Tet.

"There's nothing like watching a kid's face light up when you hand him a chocolate bar," said SP4 Lawrence A. Kilbery (Detroit). "We try to build a friendship with these people, to help them with their problems, both individual and community."

Political Warfare And Medical Teams

Vietnamese units, the political warfare and medical teams augment the operations of the U.S. unit. These units are acutely aware of regional privations and help speed American medical and social benefits to the needy. These elements function separately, but maintain close ties with each civil affairs office.

Eventually, civil affairs representatives hope to establish self-help aids for the South Vietnamese, enabling the citizenry to provide for future needs as well as immediate ones. Civil affairs personnel are currently busy supplying the Vietnamese with instructional pamphlets on every subject from cooking corn to sugar cane cultivation. (196th IO)

'Beaucoup VC'

By 1Lt James P. Collins, Jr.

LZ BRONCO — Two words from a friendly villager enabled a Division squad to prepare a fitting reception for the enemy.

While leading the 10-man squad to a night ambush position four miles northwest of Duc Phu, SGT Thomas G. Tilton (Grand Rapids, Mich.) of the 11th Inf. Bde's 1st Bn., 20th Inf. heard a whisper in the night.

A figure quietly emerged from the shadows in the small hamlet, his finger on his lips in the international plea for silence. "Beaucoup VC," said the man insistently and pointed a direction.

Tilton didn't require his Vietnamese phrase book to get the message. He employed his men in a hasty ambush and waited. Soon four armed figures were observed moving toward them through the hamlet.

A moment later, the ambush had been tripped and one uniformed NVA lay dead. His three cohorts had scurried into the night. The NVA was the leader of a rice-carrying party. Found in his possessions were documents, a bag of rice, and an AK-47.

The real prize of the day however, was the life-saving cooperation of the village. 'He knew that both, the enemy and U.S. soldiers, were in the hamlet," said Tilton. "He could just as easily have tipped off the NVA."

CPT Boyd Harris (Pontiac, Ill.), commander of B. Co., 1st Bn., 20th Inf., said that this type of assistance was becoming common in the local hamlets. "They have accepted us here. We have eliminated the VC infrastructure and made this area a fairly secure place to live." (11th IO)

Hains Visits Firebase

LZ 411—While gunships hovered over the three month old firebase, GEN Ralph E. Haines Jr., the USARPAC Commander received an open air briefing from LTC Leslie J. Stottle Jr., commanding officer of the 3-1st Inf. The site was a high ridge overlooking the battalion's area of operation. As Colonel Stottle described past combat operations he pointed out the actual terrain where the action occurred. "Over to your left was the scene of three major contacts in July. Then it was a maze of spider holes and enemy positions, today it is a secure area."

Resettlement Village

Of special interest to GEN Haines was a combined Vietnamese-Montagnard resettlement village just below the firebase.

Following the briefing, the General was greeted by four 3-1st Inf. soldiers, all natives of Hawaii, the home of the 11th Bde. and USARPAC Headquarters. One of the men, SFC Ernest M. Tau (Honolulu, Hawaii) has been with the 11th Bde. since it was deployed from Hawaii in December 1967. The others were SP4 Thomas Yosjikawa (Honolulu, Hawaii), PFC Richard Hobagasi (Hilo, Hawaii) and PFC MacDonald Bagoon (Honolulu, Hawaii).

Caliber of Crew

GEN Haines spent most of his hour visit speaking with the men on the firebase. Often he asked specific questions about their jobs. CPT. Joseph Monday (West Bend, Wis.) CO of D. Btry 6-11th Arty. remarked, "He was extremely interested in the caliber of my crew."

Many of the soldiers found themselves casually discussing such niceties as R&R and home towns with the man who commands all the Army units in the Pacific. (11th Bde IO)

Viet Award Presented 8 Division Infantrymen For Combat Gallantry

By PFC Toby Prodgers

LZ BRONCO — Standing in a small, open field among the Vietnamese soldiers they have lived, worked, and fought with for three months, eight men from the Division's B Co., 1st Bn., 20th Inf., 11th Inf. Bde. were awarded the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with the Bronze Star. The ceremony was held in the hamlet of Van Truong on Hwy 1, three miles north of Duc Pho.

COL Ton That Khien, Quang Ngai Province Chief, presented awards to CPT Boyd M. Harris (Pontiac, Ill.), B Co.'s commanding officer; SSG Daniel E. Wills (Chicago), squad leader of the company's Ranger squad; SGT David T. Jones (Columbus, Ohio), platoon sergeant of the 2nd platoon; SP4 Michael E. Paine (Berryville, Ark.); SP4 Paul Salatino (Brooklyn, N.Y.); SP4 George Oliver (Pasadena, Tex.); SP4 Larry D. Bershears (Chester, Ill.); and PFC Patrick T. Harvey (Detroit).

COL Khien extended his "best congratulations to the officers and soldiers of B Co. on behalf of the local Vietnamese citizens and the Republic of Vietnam" for their genuine contributions toward peace and unification of the district.

CPT Harris thanked COL Khien and said that "B Co.'s experience in working, living, and fighting with your people has instilled in us a deep appreciation, respect, and admiration for the Vietnamese. This has been an experience that the company will never forget."

For the past three months B Co. has worked extensively with Vietnamese soldiers from the 2nd ARVN Co., the 172nd and 147th RF Companies, and the 217th, 216th, 215, and 106th PF platoons in the Duc Pho District.

COL Hugh F.T. Hoffman Jr., commanding officer, 11th Inf. Bde., and Mr. Edward Dillory, Quang Ngai Province Senior Advisor, attended the ceremony.

The Chance To Attend School For Orphan

By PFC David Aronson

LZ BRONCO—A fourteen-year-old orphan boy has a chance to obtain an education thanks to two division soldiers. SGTs James A. Lay (Atlanta) and Douglas Walton (Toledo, Ohio), 11th Inf. Bde. operations section, took it upon themselves to see that their young helper, Huyhn Ten Bieu, went to school.

Bieu was orphaned two years ago when his parents were killed by the VC. Rather than go to an orphanage, Bieu began working at LZ Bronco, and is living with a family in Duc Pho.

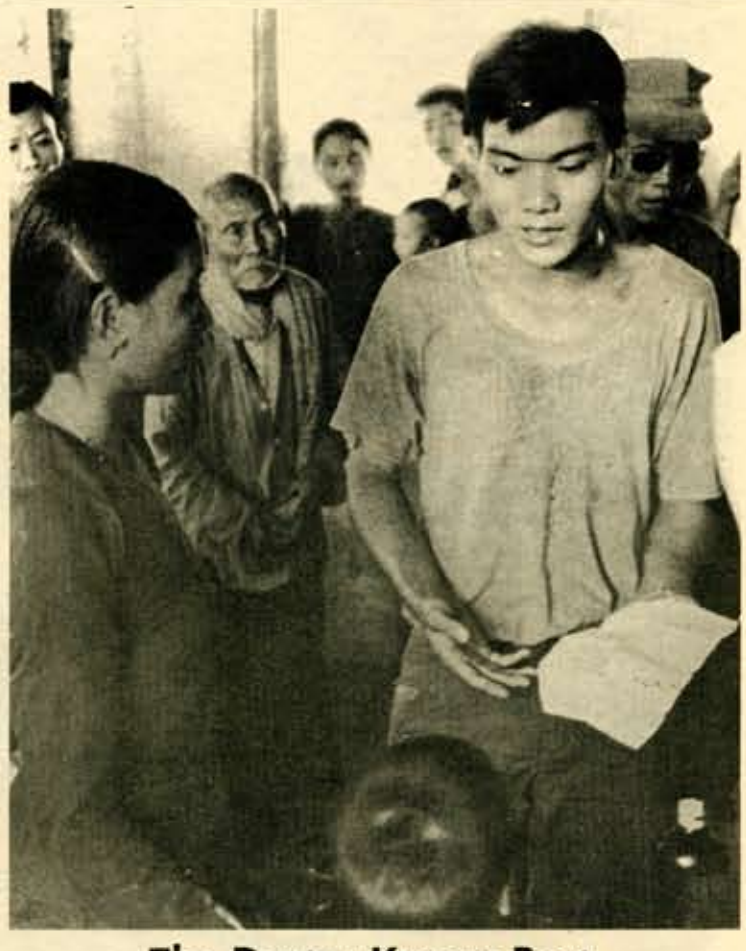
Bieu has helped Walton at the rifle range and has become a general helper for both men in the past year. "He is such a nice kid and so intelligent that we wanted to do something for him," said Lay.

Walton attempted to adopt Bieu, but was stymied when he discovered Bieu was too old according to adoption regulations.

The men then decided to do the next best thing by sending Bieu through school. It wasn't long afterward that Bieu was enrolled in the Duc Pho District School. In addition to the cost of schooling, the men provide $30 a month for the boy's room and board.

Although Walton recently rotated to the states, he will continue to share the cost of the youngster's education. Lay, even after leaving Vietnam, hopes to establish a fund to provide for Bieu's education. The men intend to help support him until he obtains a college education and long-range plans call for Bieu to visit them in the states.

Bieu is in his last year of elementary school and has a lot of education ahead of him before the dream can be realized, but the youngster shows an abundance of enthusiasm and determination. "I only wish they taught English," was the eager student's comment after his first two weeks of school. (11th IO)



The Doctor Knows Best

With his mother looking on, a young Vietnamese listens as an interpreter explains the doctor's orders. Americal Div. medics were conducting a MEDCAP at the village of Son Tra in the 198th Bde. AO. (Photo by 1LT Josef Hebert, Americal IO)

When It Rains So Hard That Ducks

Take To Cover—Friend It's Pouring

Combat In Review

Dustoff Readies

Soldiers of the 198th Inf. Bde. rush a wounded man from the 1-52nd Inf. onto a waiting helicopter ready to evacuate him following a night of enemy activity at this division forward firebase northwest of Quang Ngai. (Photo by SGT Alfred Anthony Jr., 198th IO)

Chieu Hoi Program Pays In Full

By PFC Toby Prodgers

LZ LIZ — The Chieu Hoi program has paid important tactical dividends to the 1st Bn., 20th Inf. of the 11th Inf. Bde. In two separate incidents, three ralliers provided information to this Division unit which resulted in five enemy dead, the capture of an NVA radio relay station, and the confiscation of enemy ordnance, supplies, and documents.

In the first incident, a former NVA lieutenant guided the men of D Co. to a maze of fortified tunnels and bunker complexes four miles north of Duc Pho, which served as an enemy commo station. He had commanded a signal platoon in the thick underbrush of this "Gaza Strip" area. A sweep of this site netted two VC and one NVA killed along with a cache of enemy supplies.

A husband and wife living in a hamlet six miles north of Duc Pho announced their intention to Chieu Hoi in a letter hand-carried to Duc Pho. The recon platoon was glad to oblige and was combat assaulted into the hamlet to extract the pair. As they entered the area, two NVA attempted to evade but were quickly cut down.

When the shooting ceased, the Chieu Hoi emerged from the tunnel with his wife. He produced documents, eight fragmentation grenades, two radios, and a brand new 9mm Chicom pistol.

"You could tell they were grateful we found them," said SP4 Ronald Ship (Washington, Pa.), "both were happy, smiling, and glad to be extracted." (11th IO).

Cordoning Mission Cramps VC Action

By PFC Dean Williams

CHU LAI — The Division soldiers swept silently and quickly into the village. They didn't want to alarm the dwellers, nor did they want anyone to leave.

It was an operation to cordon and search one of the many villages, which are suspected of hiding Viet Cong in the 198th Bde. area of operation. C Co. of the 5th Bn., 46th Inf., had been combat assaulted into the area 20 miles south of Chu Lai before dawn.

The infantrymen had many villages to check and they set about their work with rapid efficiency, knowing that soon the driving Vietnam sun would halt them for a mid-day break.

The villages had to be gathered together in a central meeting point where they could be questioned by members of the South Vietnamese National Police.

Questioning in the first hamlet didn't take long before turning up five suspected VC sympathizers. Among them were three females who admitted that their husbands were supporting the enemy with food and supplies. Two were males, military age, who were caught in the swiftness of cordoning and unable to escape.

CPT Read J. Purcell (Winter Haven, Fla.) a company commander, explained the cordoning mission to his men: "We enter the village as quickly as possible and gather the people up. It will depend on how many there are as to whether we separate them, or make one large group."

The village was under constant security when the questioning was going on. SSG Jimmie L. Parker (Charlotte, N.C.) a platoon sergeant, commented, "We sent out squad size elements to keep the area secure and scattered men along the trails to keep alert of what was happening."

An ARVN civic affairs office distributed pamphlets, and newspapers and placed posters around the village to warn the VC that allied forces were protecting the people and if they wanted to be safe they should rally to the government.

"Sometimes when entering a hamlet the people appear unfriendly, and not responsive," explained CPT Purcell, "but more often than not we are greeted with friendly greetings and smiles. This alone makes the job of searching a little easier."

With the interrogation completed the infantrymen and their aides moved down the rice paddy dike trails to the next village where they used the same procedures again.

VC Laundry Closed Down

LZ HAWK HILL — It began with two freshly laundered VC uniforms flapping lazily in the breeze.

A Blue Ghost helicopter gunship from the division was speeding through the skies 10 miles west of Tam Ky when the pilot spotted two khaki uniforms. The Blue Ghost applied its "air brakes" and drifted back toward the area in which the uniforms were drying.

The crew of the gunship, working in support of the 196th Inf. Bde., decided to put the enemy laundry out of business then and there. The impact of the gunship's M-60 machine gun roused the two VC who ran out into the opening. The VC were killed as they fired a burst of rounds at the helicopter.

"The Battle of the VC Laundry" presaged another small engagement. A sweep of the area was conducted by B. Co., 2-1st Inf., 196th Bde. which was credited two more VC killed near the woodline. (196th IO)

High Wire Logicality Saves Two

LZ BRONCO — Little pigs don't trip high wires. This reasoning accounted for one enemy kill for two men of the Division's 11th Inf. Bde.

PFC Walter Edmonds (Chickasaw, Ala.) and PFC Richard Brown (Graniteville, S.C.) were standing guard on the defensive perimeter of B Co., 1st Bn., 20th Inf., five miles north of Duc Pho. Just after midnight a trip flare went off to their immediate front.

At the same time they spotted a pig, startled and confused, scurrying around in the area. Leaving nothing to chance, they obeyed their instincts and fired in the direction of the flare.

With the morning light their suspicions were confirmed when they found a dead VC lying ten yards from their position. He was clad in a new green uniform and carried an AK-47.

"Although there were many animals around, we thought the wire was a bit too high for a pig to trip. So we opened up," explained Edmonds.(11th IO)

Soldiers Bent For Rigors Of Combat

Division soldiers of the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav., move towards Quang Ngai in a operation. The cavalrymen were providing convoy escort to Minh Long, south of Quang Ngai. (Photo by SP4 Lou Pearson, 523rd Sig. Bn.)

MAKING THE FINAL INTRICATE adjustments to the TT-4 teletype machine is the job of SP5 James Orcutt (St. Paul, Minn.). Thousands of pounds of equipment are repaired monthly by the men of the 723rd Electronic Maintenance Shop. (U.S. Army Photo)

Electronic Maintenance Keeps Amcal 'Buzzing'

CHU LAI — The monstrous task of providing electronic support to the Americal Division lies solely in the hand of the Hq's and Co. A 723rd Maint. Bn.

One Warrant Officer and forty-one enlisted men provide specific support to the three brigades, maintaining a forward support element (FSE) on practically every divisional firebase.

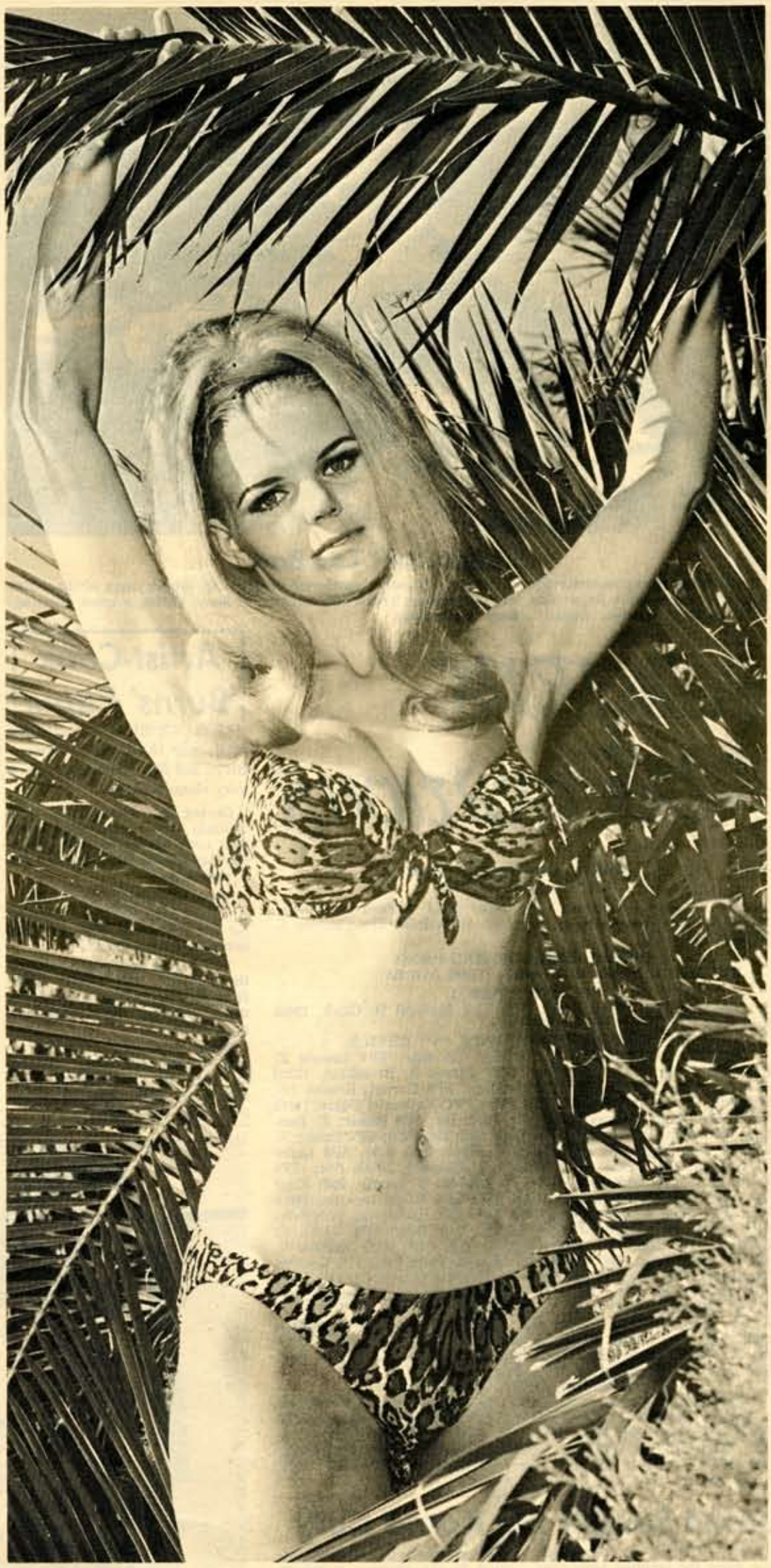
Electronic support is characterized by the maintenance of complex electric-driven machinery such as fadac gun computers, surveillance radar, field radio and telephone sets, wide band radio equipment, teletypes, and special electronic devices.

Working long hours in the shop is nothing new to these men, electronic equipment is priceless in this war and every man knows the value of expert workmanship.

"Although we are maintenance men, we keep up with the signal motto of "Shoot, Scoot and Communicate," said CW2 Donald G Talbot (Midland, Texas).

Timeliness and preciseness are essential in any repair job, especially when such equipment is vital to combat operations. By their merit Hq. and Co. A 723rd Maint. Bn. are proof positive that these words have been heeded. (Americal IO)

ONE OF THE VARIED OCCUPATIONS of the men of the 723rd Maint., Electronics Shop is "doing a job" on a rectifier set shown here by SP5 Leon Hitchcock (Danville, Ill.). Officers and men work round-the-clock to assure quantity and quality. (U.S. Army Photo)



You just never know what may be lurking in the jungles. Carol Brent our captivating "Jane" reminds us in a big way to stay alert and ready for unusual.

Special Services Sports Briefs

CHU LAI—Having just completed a successful Division Handball Tourney, Special Services has announced a full roster of upcoming events.

December—Football Tourney and Cross Country Race
(Race is scheduled to be run from the Combat Center along the beach to the USO)

January—A Smokers' Boxing Tourney
(Tourney will require no training, large padded gloves will be used)

February—Volleyball and Miniature Golf Tourney

March—Basketball Tourney

Tournaments are scheduled, at this time, to utilize the one game elimination rule so that actual contest play will last no longer than one week.

Further information on entries, schedules, and awards is available through Special Services Sports Section, Chu Lai 2613. (Americal IO)

Siberia Isn't Too Bad

While providing security for LZ Siberia, 35 miles northwest of Chu Lai, infantrymen of the 4-31st Inf., 196th Bde. relax by writing letters, reading books and thinking of home during a quiet morning. Most soldiers consider bunker guard a pleasure.

Awards & Decorations

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS
SILVER STAR MEDAL

SP4 Lonnie J. Lincoln, 198th Bde; MAJ Wilford A. Phelps, 11th Bde; MAJ Lawrence J. Remener, 196th Bde; SP4 Charley L. Rogers, 196th Bde.

DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

WO1 Michael W. Reed (1st OLC), 123rd Avn Bn.

SOLDIER'S MEDAL

SP4 Napoleon Black, 198th Bde; 1LT Michael D. Clark, 196th Bde; SP4 Edwin A. Jensen, 198th Bde.

BRONZE STAR MEDAL WITH "V" DEVICE

SP4 Ellwood Anderson (1st OLC), 11th Bde; SP4 Ronald E. Baysinger (1st OLC), 196th Bde; SGT James R. Broadfoot, 123rd Avn Bn; SP4 Carlos L. Brock, 196th Bde; SP4 Garnett Brooks Jr., 11th Bde; SP4 Paul J. Coriddi, 11th Bde; PFC Nathaniel Dease, 198th Bde; SSG Danny Dingus (1st OLC), 196th Inf; SP4 Robert E. Dontion, 196th Bde; SGT Gary J. Eldridge, 26th Engr Bn; SP4 Danny R. Ellison, 26th Engr Bn; PFC Tony L. Flynn, 11th Bde; SP4 Larry B. Gabriel, 196th Bde; SP4 Robert P. Gleason, 196th Bde; SP4 Pruitt B. Googe, 26th Engr Bn; SP4 Winston B. Harris, 26th Engr Bn; 1LT Kim J. Henningsen, 198th Bde; SP4 Willie Jackson, 196th Bde; SGT Jack W. Johnstone, 196th Bde; 2LT Bruce Kai, 11th Bde; CPT Frank W. Koleszar (4th OLC), 11th Bde; SP4 Jame C. Lawson, 11th Bde; SP4 Alfred Lopez, 11th Bde; 1SG William J. Martin, 196th Bde; PFC William B. Matson, 196th Bde; SP4 Charley Mayberry, 11th Bde; SGT Jeffrey M. Narcotta (1st OLC), 11th Bde; SGT Harvey M. Pace III, 11th Bde; SSG Barry J. Quigley (1st OLC), 196th Bde; SGT John K. Riggleman, 11th Bde; CPT John S. Walker (3rd OLC), 11th Bde; SSG Michael H. Wallace (1st OLC), 196th Bde; 1LT David A. Waltz (2nd OLC), 196th Bde; PFC Carlton E. Webb, 198th Bde; SP4 Willard R. Williams Jr. 196th Bde; SP4 Larry P. Zimmerman, 196th Bde.

AIR MEDAL WITH "V" DEVICE

CPT James Adams (1st OLC), 14th Cbt Avn Bn; SP4 Michael I. Bridges (1st OLC), 123rd Avn Bn; PFC Richard C. Giamanco (1st OLC), 123rd Avn Bn; WO1 Donald F. Farris (1st OLC), 123rd Avn Bn; WO1 Harold A. Jackson, 14th Cbt Avn Bn; Donald K. Kramer (1st OLC), 14th Avn Bn; SP4 Jerry L. Littlefield, 11th Bde; PFC Bruce Petrie (1st OLC), 14th Cbt Avn Bn.

Artist-Cook 'Burns' Paper

LZ HAWK HILL — If pictures really say 10,000 words, then A Btry., 3rd Bn., 82nd Arty. has a very eloquent cook.

During the working day PFC William Ary (Lewisville, Tex.) is a cook but at the end of his day Ary trades his frying pan for a sketch pad.

Since his arrival at A Btry., Ary has been drawing pictures for his friends to send to their loved ones back home.

"All I need is a photograph of the subject, and I can draw from it. I specialize in portraits using charcoal but I also use oils," said Ary.

When Ary isn't preparing a meal in the mess hall, you can be sure he is "cooking up" something with pencil and paper. (Div. Arty. IO)

Artist Sought For Korea Duty

LONG BINH — If your hands can paint the emotion your eyes see, and you can bring a piece of paper to life with your art — then you should be interested in the Army's artist program.

A five man team of artists-illustrators is being sought to capture the faces of soldiers doing their job in Korea. These soldier-artists will depict the entire spectrum of military life for the permanent army art collection.

All members will serve approximately 135 days on the project sixty of these days in Korea, and the remaining days spent in Hawaii turning out the finished product.

All art materials will be supplied to the choosen members. The artist need only bring his talent. Applicants must meet professional standards having background in life drawing and composition.

Individuals must be eligible and authorized by a 135 day TDY by their unit commander.

Submissions of applications should be received by USARV no later than 30 November, 1969. Selection will be made on 1 December 1969. See your unit personnel and special services officer if you feel you qualify. (USARV IO)

WWII Amcal Veteran Returns To Same Div.

LZ HAWK HILL — From New Caledonia to Vietnam this soldier has been with the the Americal Division.

MSG John Parish (Riverside, Calif.) entered the Army in 1942. From that time on he was to become quite familiar with the Americal.

"In 1943 I was attached to G Troop, 112th Regimental Cav. Unit stationed in New Caledonia, said MSG Parish. That same year the division originated in New Caledonia and the 112th became part of it. When the 112th left the U.S. for New Caledonia it brought 500 horses with it on the boat. This is how we came to be known as the 'Horse Cavalry" We thought we could use the animals in New Caledonia but soon found out we couldn't when we got there. Thus upon our departure from the island we sold the horses to the French.

From 1943 to 1945, Parish's unit travelled from New Caledonia to New Guinea to the Philippines.

In 1962 MSG Parish retired from the Army, but in 1967 he was called back in the service. August of 1969 found him in Vietnam and again assigned to the Americal Division. He now works as a commo chief at Hq Btry., 3-82nd Arty.

Said the Sergeant, "When I was with the 112th Cav., I was in the infantry and acted as a 'file closer' (asst. plt. sgt.). Now that I am attached to an artillery unit I can see how effective the artillery is in supporting the infantry." (DIV ARTY IO)

A Bde. 'Moves' An LZ

LZ HAWK HILL — A line of five-ton flatbed trailer trucks hauling metal conex containers tore a path through the muddy road as they departed the Division's LZ Baldy.

Enroute to the new home of the 196th Inf. Bde. at Hawk Hill, the convoys rolled carefully along. The mammoth task of moving the major portion of the brigade and its components was completed within four days.

Because of a well coordinated move-plan initiated by Brigade staff officers, all of the administrative sections remained operational throughout the move.

More than 171 bunker complexes were constructed within sixty days by members of A.Co., 26th Engr. However heavy monsoon rains temporarily put a damper on further construction efforts. "The biggest problem we had was water seepage into the buildings," recalled 2LT Jesse Daughtery (South Bend, Ind.) 1st Pit. Leader A. Co. "We solved that by placing rubbermating on the roofs."

Artillery from 3-82 Arty. was shuttled to the new location by Chinook helicopters. The available firepower of the guns was never lost as each gun was placed singly and put into operation before another gun was moved.

"The men did an outstanding job considering the adverse weather conditions and the short period of time they had to move," said LTC Edwin Kennedy (Gulfport, Miss.), Bde. Exec. Officer. "We continued our move even though the roads were washed out, by hauling more than 17 conex loads to Hawk Hill by Chinooks." (196th IO)

Recon Grad Tells Values Of School

LZ HAWK HILL — Should a man attend the division recon school? It's truly a demanding course, however it has its rewards.

"I would encourage any man who has the opportunity to attend this school to do so," says SGT Ronald Nereson (Hayden, Colo.). The sergeant a member of the 196th Inf. Bde. 1-46th Inf., recently finished the 12-day course. To him it was an "interesting and informative experience".

At the start of the course Nereson and the other members of the 24-man class were given an orientation. Here they learned the purpose of the school: to teach the infantryman the proper procedures for obtaining information about the enemy through observation.

During their stay at the school the 'trainees' gained knowledge on a wide range of military subjects. "We reveiwed a lot of material from Basic and A.I.T. like map reading, first aid and booby traps," continued Nereson.

However, Nereson is quick to point out that the class also covered special subjects that everyone working in a recon capacity should know thoroughly. These classes included rappelling, survival, and demolition. "We even went over to LZ Bayonet and had a practical demonstration calling in artillery on imaginary positions," related Nereson.

Looking back, Nereson found the 12 day course to be a valuable one. He is in a better position than most to judge because he finished first in his class and was promoted to SGT his present rank. (196th IO)

Mysterious Ways

The Lord works in mysterious ways, says SP5 Willie Williams (Chicago, Ill.), division medic of the 11th Inf. Bde. as he holds the Bible which saved his life. The Bible, which he carries in his left breast pocket, stopped an AK-47 round fired by an enemy sniper south of Duc Pho.

Join up Join in