Mr. Kim Cho Nok, manager of Stars and Stripes Bookstore, stands with Sergeant Jaime S. Uribe, buyer of the first book at the newly opened store. (U.S. Army Photo by SP4 Jim Richardson)

3,000 books offered at new Stars and Stripes store

CHU LAI, (23d Inf. Div. IO) – Stocked with over 3000 different hard cover books, paperbacks and periodicals, the Chu Lai branch of the Pacific Stars and Stripes Book Store opened for business on May 20.

Major General James L. Baldwin, 23d Infantry Division commander, officiated at the opening ceremonies, snipping a ribbon across the front door of the store, located next to the Main PX.

Captain Frank N. Griscom, division information officer, explained to the assembled crowd that the Chu Lai book store was the brain child of his predecessor, Major Robert D. Bailey, who wanted to provide Americal troops with up-to-date books and reading matter.

Carpentry work on the building, including the installation of bookshelves, was done by the men of Company D, 26th Engineer, under the direction of Captain Raymond J. Winkel Jr. and Sergeant Robert R. Evans.

The book store will be open seven days a week, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., under the management of Mr. Kim Cho Nok and his assistant, Mr. Lee Pae Kun.

Crime doesn't pay

Case 1

Specialist Four James I. Bonds, Company B, 26th Engineer Battalion, was tried by general court-martial on May 14, for wrongful possession and sale of heroin in violation of Article 134, UCMJ.

He was convicted as charged, and the sentence announced included a dishonorable discharge, forfeiture of all pay and allowances and confinement at hard labor for five years. Stockade, Long Binh, Vietnam and will be transferred to the United States Disciplinary Barracks, Fort Leavenworth, Kan., following action upon the findings and sentence in his case.

Case 2

Private First Class Eddie L. Ford, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry, was tried by special court-martial, convened by Headquarters 23d Infantry Division (Americal) on May 13.

Contrary to his plea of not guilty, he was convicted of striking a first lieutenant in violation of Article 128, UCMJ.

His sentence included a bad conduct discharge and confinement at hard labor for four months. Ford is presently serving the period of confinement in the USARV Installation Stockade, Long Binh, Vietnam.

SOUTHERN CROSS
AMERICAL DIVISION

Vol. 4, No. 25 Chu Lai, Vietnam June 18, 1971

Major General James L. Baldwin, 23d Infantry Division commander snips the ribbon, officially opening the Stars and Stripes Bookstore May 20. (U.S. Army Photo by SP/4 Jim Richardson)

Weekly Recap

'Ready Rifles' find rice

CHU LAI, (189th Brigade 10) – Action decreased the past week in operation Middlesex Peak as the men from 198th Infantry Brigade and gunships from the 23d Infantry Division accounted for 17 enemy killed. In addition, six weapons were captured in action, three Viet Cong suspects were detained and 32,870 pounds of rice was found.

The heaviest action occurred in the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry area of operations, southwest of Chu Lai. The "Ready Rifles" killed four enemy, detained three Viet Cong suspects, and captured three weapons and 32,770 pounds of rice.

On patrol in an area southwest of Chu Lai, Charlie Company, 1/52nd Infantry engaged and killed one Viet Cong soldier. Capture in action was one SKS rifle.

Working in the same area, another element from Charlie Company, 1/52nd Infantry found 17,750 pounds of unpolished rice in three separate locations. The rice was extracted to a nearby LZ.

Later, the "Ready Rifles" found an additional 3000 pounds of upolished rice, 600 pounds of polished rice, and 150 pounds of rock salt. The infantrymen also detained one Viet Cong suspect. The rice, salt and detainee were extracted to a nearby LZ.

While on patrol southwest of Chu Lai, Charlie Company, 1/52nd Infantry detained one Viet Cong suspect. The detainee was evacuated to a nearby LZ for further questioning.

Southwest of Chu Lai, an element from Charlie Company, 1/52nd Infantry found 2500 pounds of rice, which was extracted to a nearby LZ.

Near the same area, the "Ready Rifles" found and destroyed one Chinese anti-personnel mine and one bomb.

While on patrol, an element from Delta Company, 1/52nd Infantry observed and engaged a group of NVA soldiers. Results were two NVA soldiers killed, and captured in the action was one AK-47 rifle, one K-54 pistol with two full magazines, one pack and one soviet mine, all of which were evacuated to a nearby LZ.

In an area south of Chu Lai, Bravo Company, 1/52nd Infantry engaged and killed a lone Viet Cong soldier. Nearby the "Ready Rifles" found and destroyed 20 pounds of rice.

An element from Bravo Company, 1/52nd Infantry found and destroyed seven B-40 rockets, while working in an area southwest of Chu Lai.

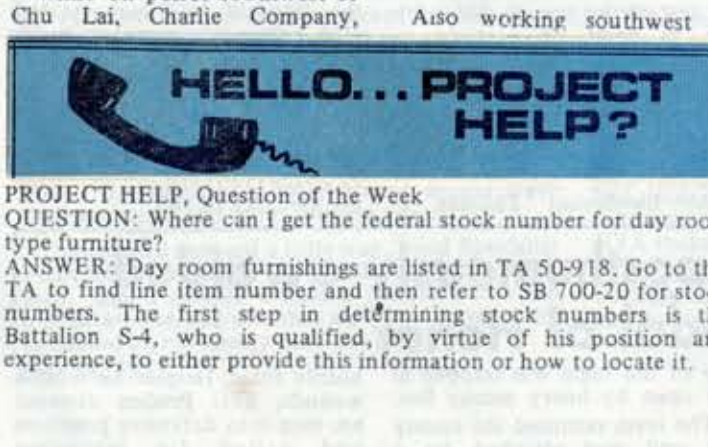
The "Ready Rifles" from Bravo Company, 1/52nd Infantry found five bunkers with 50 sleeping positions. Also found were 11, 82mm mortar rounds, which were destroyed along with the bunkers.

Also working southwest of Chu Lai, Alpha Company, 1/52nd Infantry found and destroyed a boobytrapped mortar round. Later the "Ready Rifles found 8900 pounds of unpolished rice, which was extracted to an LZ.

Near the same area, Alpha Company, 1/52nd Infantry detained one Viet Cong suspect who was extracted to a nearby LZ for further questioning.

198th Brigade infantrymen received 14 anti-personnel mines, ten artillery rounds, six hand grenades, and one 122mm rocket from Vietnamese civilians.

(Continued on Page 6)



PROJECT HELP, Question of the Week

QUESTION: Where can I get the federal stock number for day room type furniture?

ANSWER: Day room furnishings are listed in TA 50-918. Go to this TA to find line item number and then refer to SB 700-20 for stock numbers. The first step in determining stock numbers is the Battalion S-4, who is qualified, by virtue of his position and experience, to either provide this information or how to locate it.

16 MOS skills to get pay hike, 47 other MOSs get VRB boost

BY MSG William Pickett

CHU LAI, (23d Inf. Div. 10) – Personnel in 16 skills will receive a raise in pay beginning July 1. At the same time, personnel serving in 47 MOSs will get a boost in Variable Reenlistment Bonus (VRB), it was announced by the Americal Division adjutant section this week.

The command received guidance for the changes, which also included termination of some proficiency pay and VRB categories, in a message from Department of the Army entitled "FY 1972 Enlisted Proficiency Pay and VRB Program Changes."

According to division AG Sergeant Major Hiram Williams, the message changes the titles of two pro pay categories and adds a new category. Proficiency Pay (Specialty) has been changed to Shortage Specialty (Porficiency Pay); Proficiency Pay (Superior Performance) is changed to Superior Performance (Proficiency Pay). Special Duty Assignment (Proficiency Pay) has been added and is designed to include volunteers to qualify for and serve in designated special duty assignments. For the fiscal year 1972, recruiters and drill sergeants are designated to receive $50 monthly.

Scheduled to receive an increase from $50 to $75 monthly are the following MOSs: 67F, G, H, N, U, V, W, X, Y and Z.

Upped from $75 to $100 are MOSs 35K, L, M, N, P and R.

Designated for Shortage Specialty at $50 monthly are MOS 05H and K, while P-2 at $75 a month will go to MOSs 17L, 25Z, 45Z, 74Z, 91Z and 93F.

Ten MOS categories are scheduled for termination of awards July 1. They are 27E, 25J, 26V, 46M, 62B, C, M, P, and T. Personnel in these MOSs will be eligible for the $30 monthly Superior Performance (Proficiency Pay) beginning July 1.

Additions to the VRB program include MOSs 52F and G and 81D. Eligible for VRB-4; and 42C, 91H, J, K, and L and 95 D for VRB-3.

The following MOSs are designated for increase in multiplier from VRB-3 to VRB-4 OOB, 14B, 15K, 17L, 21G, 24U, 26P, 35D, 35J, 42D, eE and F; also 44E, 45J, 45M, 52H, J, K and L, 82E, 91E, P and S, and 98B, C, G, H and J.

Increased from VRB-2 to VRB-3 are 04C, 05B, 52E, 93F and 97D. A one-step increase from VRB-2 to VRB-3 is designated for 11B, C, D, E and H; 12F, 13B, 15E, 17D, 31M and R and 91B and G.

Scheduled for reduction from VRB-4 to VRB-3 are MOSs 25K, 46L and M, and 67B, C and M.

In addition, 49 MOS skills are to be dropped from the VRB program.

Local units have been directed to contact all individuals who will be affected by either the proficiency pay change or the VRB actions. Further information can be obtained from your PSM NCO or the division personnel management section.

Col. Hathaway to leave the 196th Bde.

By Capt. George F. Bennett

DA NANG, (196th Inf. Bde. IO) – What does Colonel William S. Hathaway, (Portsmouth, Va.) brigade commander of the 196th Infantry Brigade do all day? What does the "old man" do? A question which has come to minds of many soldiers. For many, the question usually remains unanswered.

The grunt knows he's not out humping a 90-pound ruck-sack, that's one thing for sure. The young officer knows the colonel can bring smoke if the job's not done properly, but what does he do? The question could be put to hundreds and the normal response would be that they don't know.

The "old man", by commanding a brigade in the 23d Inf. Div., is quite busy. He shoulders a tremendous responsibility, as the commander of more than 6000 men. In addition to commanding the brigade, he personally performs liaison with all allied forces in Quang Nam Province.

Some might say he is the "main man", while others might simply say, "He's THE MAN." He is a man, like all commanders, who is responsible for everything the unit does or fails to do. He is the commander.

Col. Hathaway's normal duty day starts at 7:30 a.m. with a briefing, whereby he is brought up-to-date on the previous night's activities. This is followed by a series of special briefings.

Next, the colonel will use either the jeep or C&C (Command and Control) helicopter at his disposal. Frequently, both modes of travel will be utilized as he goes about his daily routine of checking on the brigade. As General Mark Clark said, "A unit does well those things a commander checks. "This may not necessarily be, but it certainly assists the final product. Most people enjoy showing off for the boss.

The Chargers of the 196th Inf. Bde. are soon to be getting a new boss. Col. Hathaway is being reassigned. The new colonel will probably function much the same as Col. Hathaway, but there will be differences. Col. Hathaway, for instance, was usually a soft spoken Virginian. His frequent comment, when someone erred, which came out with a southern drawl, "I think you're trying to blow smoke up my butt." There was never any doubt as to the meaning of those few words. The staff immediately checks and normally finds the colonel to be right.

But then, Col. Hathaway is leaving the brigade. He's being reassigned to J-1, MACV in Saigon. His DEROS is involuntarily extended.

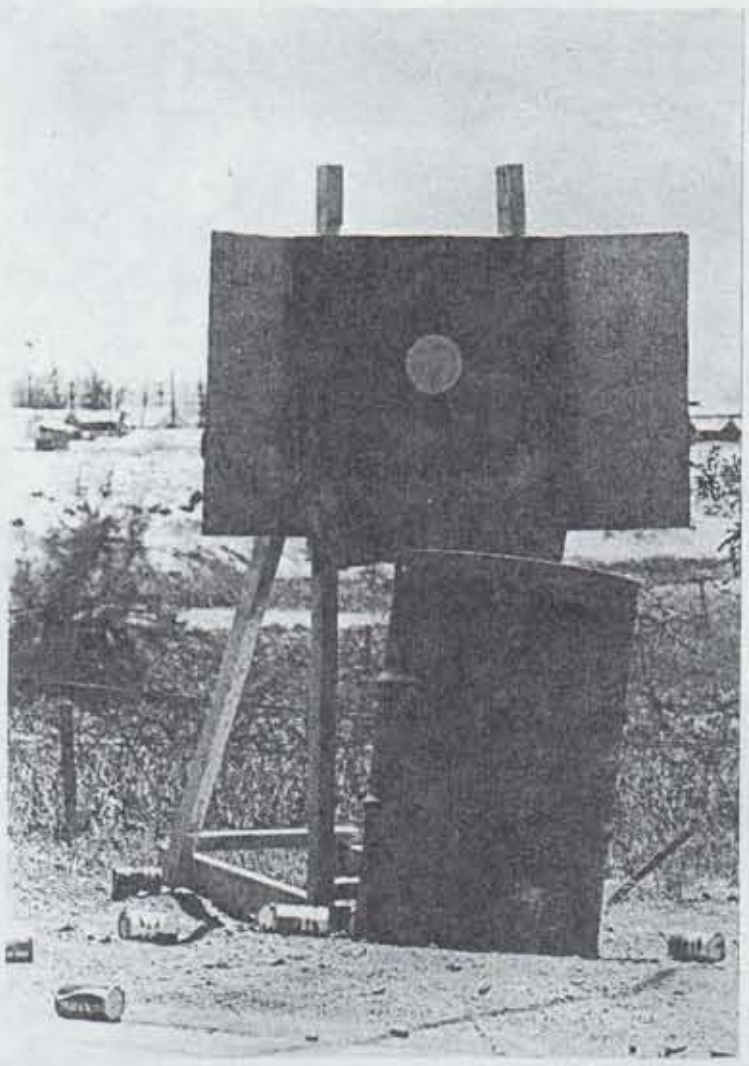
Among professional officers it is accepted that a lieutenant colonel will probably gain a promotion if he successfully commands a battalion. Likewise, if a colonel successfuily commands a brigade, the star will shine brightly on the man's collar. This is the case with Col. Hathaway. He has been nominated for promotion to brigadier general.

The real human side of the man was seen the day he was informed of his promotion. The staff was notified at the regular morning briefing. Congratulations were in order. Then the man gave his feelings.

As he stood before his staff, a definite blush could be seen. He's a professional, well aware of his ability, yet still modest and humble. As he spoke, you could sense the lump in his throat. He said, "Everyone hopes to make it, but I wasn't sure."

Even with his new job pending, Col. Hathaway hasn't forgotten the brigade. The mission continues, and he continues to perform as if he were always to be the 196th Inf. Bde. commander. He attends the morning briefing, visits the troops, performs liaison, handles problems at brigade headquarters, and attends the evening briefing. Then he goes to bed. Never--after the evening briefing, he tackles the voluminous stack of paperwork which frequently takes him late into the night.

What does the "old man", the colonel, the brigade commander do? He runs the brigade and causes it to function.



In Chu Lai, numerous target-stands have been placed along roadsides for the benefit (and challenge) of passing motorists and their empty soda cans. By the looks of all the "near misses," the Americal could use a few Lew Alcindors. (U.S. Army photo by SP/4 Jim Richardson)

Will 59th Engineers ever return?

By Sp/5 Daniel McVann

CHU LAI, (39th Engr. Bn.) – "Will we ever return to Chu Lai?" That's the way the 39th Engineer Battalion's 59th Engineer Company (Land Clearing) feels. It has been five months since the 59th has been together as one company. Somehow, when they are sent on one mission, one thing will lead to another, and they will end up doing two or three instead of the original job.

Elements of the 59th were first sent north to Quang Tri to assist in the opening of Operation Lam Son 719. The 59th was part of the lead element that quite literally opened the way through the towering elephant grass along the rough terrain leading along QL-1 to Khe Sanh.

Then they continued to work clearing the road out of Khe Sanh and 50 meters either side of the road leading to the fire support bases across from the Laotian border.

Having completed their work in the Khe Sanh area, after working around the clock some days, the 59th was looking foreward to the long deserved return to Chu Lai and a stand down, or at least that was what they thought! Such was not to be the case.

Suddenly the 59th again found themselves leading another operation, this one involving the 59th and 27th Engineer Battalions' Company B. After a brief stay at the home of the 27th, Camp Eagle near Phu Bai, work was resumed cutting an 11 kilometer stretch of secondary road, Route 547, that would reach out to Fire Support Base (FSB) Geronimo.

Once again the men and dozers of the 59th were put to the test of the terrain. Their job was to open up a trace to Geronimo, then return and clear 100 meters on either side of the original trace. They soon found themselves operating in some of the most rugged terrain they have ever seen.

As Lieutenant Thomas T. Brown, Tallulah, La., put it, the terrain has been a major source of difficulty. Deadlined dozers are more the rule than the exception. The maintenance section has an uphill battle keeping the dozers operational. It is not the operator inefficiency either, the terrain is just that rough."

Winding its way through the mountainous area near the A Shau Valley, Route 547 is marked by steep, heavily forested mountains with jeep sized boulders often blocking the path of the dozers. It is man and his equipment versus nature, and nature certainly took her toll on the equipment.

Once they finished clearing the sides of the roadway, the 59th will pull out and return to Chu Lai, leaving the improving and upgrading of the road trace to the Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) engineers. The ARVNs will then assume full responsibility for the maintenance of 547.

This 23rd Infantry Division trooper, with his M-16 rifle in a firing position scrutinizes an abandoned hootch while on a recent search and clear mission near Hiep Duc. (U.S. Army Photo by Brad Mandel)

SOUTHERN CROSS
AMERICAL DIVISION

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SSG Pruden posthumously awarded Medal of Honor

CHU LAI, (23d Inf. Div. IO) – Staff Sergeant Rovert J. Pruden, G Company, 75th Infantry Division, was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor in a White House ceremony April 22. He was the eighth Americal Division soldier to win the nation's highest award.

SSG Pruden's Ranger team was in enemy controlled territory in Quang Ngai Province on Nov. 20, 1969. The team's mission, setting up an ambush position, was interrupted when one of the team was trapped in the open by heavy enemy fire.

The team returned the enemy fire and was attacked by a second enemy element. SSG Pruden left his concealed position and began a one-man assault on the enemy, drawing their fire. He was wounded twice, but he continued his attack until he feel for a third time, in front of the enemy positions.

SSG Pruden 's action resulted in several enemy casualties and the withdrawal of the remaining hostile force. Despite his serious wounds, SSG Pruden directed his men into defensive positions and called for evacuation helicopters which safely removed the team.

SSG Pruden's actions were in the highest tradition of the United States Army, and reflect great credit upon himself, his family and the 23d Infantry Division. By saving his comrades from possible injury or death, he serves as an inspiration for this entire unit.

Engineers show versatility

By PFC Sam Rousso

CHU LAI, (23d Inf. Div.) (10) – Versatility, that's a quality of a good Army. It's especially a quality of a good Army's engineers.

A group of engineers from the 23d Infantry Division (Americal) are proving just how versatile they are, acting as ferryboatmen in the city of Tam Ky.

Two footbridges, at the junction of the Song Bach Dang and Song Tam Ky Rivers, have been torn down to make way for a civilian project to expand and modernize them. The project is expected to take an estimated six to eight months.

Meanwhile, the problem of crossing the rivers remains. Or it did, until the 1st Platoon, Echo Company, 26th Engineer Battalion, 23d Inf. Div., went into action.

From 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., each and every day, the 1st Plt. operates a Light Tactical Raft (LTR), ferrying people and cargo from shore to shore, taking 35 to 40 minutes for the round trip.

The LTR is known in Army jargon as a "four pontoon, three-bay reinforced raft," and is capable, with slight modification, of carrying an armored personnel carrier.

According to Sergeant First Class James W. Haynie, (Woodridge, Va.) "The biggest thing we've handled so far is a 2½ ton truck. Usually, the biggest thing we handle is a jeep or a three-quarter ton truck. We ferry about 2000 people a day."

A four-man crew--two outboard motor operators, a man to handle the ropes holding the raft on course and a raft commander–mans the LTR. According to SFC Haynie, "The men all know each of the jobs, so they switch off frequently."

Are there any problems? "Well, we have a shortage of parts that's starting to get critical, but our biggest problem is traffic control. The people just don't seem to realize there are such things as load factors and that the raft can sink if it's overloaded."

How are the people reacting? "That's hard to say. They don't seem to appreciate what we're doing and what our problems are, but you really can't tell. Sometimes, though, you can feel the air crackle with resentment and hostility."

So, in spite of language problems, a shortage of parts, an occasional short temper and a million and one other small problems, 1st Plt., Echo Co., 26th Engr. Bn., 23d Inf. Div. (Americal), continues to demonstrate its versatility across two rivers.

An infantryman of Charlie Co., 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry, 23rd Infantry Division rests wearily upon his rucksack during a break in the action of a recent operation in the Ky Tra Valley. (U.S. Army photo by 1LT. Warren C. Mabie)

VIP program gains success

FSB BRONCO, (11th Brigade IO) – Next to actually destroying the enemy himself, perhaps one of the most effective ways of saving American lives is to deprive the enemy of materials needed to wage war.

In this respect, the Volunteer Informant Program (VIP) is becoming more and more successful as was recently shown by a platoon from Charlie Co., 26th Engineers at OP Ralph, northwest of Quang Ngai City.

While carrying on road improvement operations in this area for the ARVNS, the engineers distributed leaflets from the 11th Bde. S-5 to the people, which promised payment for explosives and other enemy materials turned in. According to Captain Ronald Feher, Hicksville, N.Y., the response on four days in May was overwhelming.

"During the period, we received 174 explosive rounds from local citizens," said the captain. "The children are especially anxious to participate in the VIP program."

Mortar rounds were the most commonly received items, with 135 turned over to the company. On one day alone, mortar rounds were 90 per cent of the munitions turned in. Other articles received included recoiless rifle rounds, TNT grenade rounds, and one homemade claymore boobytrap.

"We are authorized to pay up to 250 piasters for a mortar round, artillery round, or hand frag," explained Cpt. Feher. "The going price, however, is around 100-150 piasters, a small amount to pay for American lives saved."

A significant aspect of the VIP program is the fact that Vietnamese citizens are willing to come to American and GVN forces with their finds, rather than giving the explosives to the Viet Cong, 11th Bde. civil affairs personnel say.

The reasons for the civilian cooperation, whether loyalty or just a need for money, are unimportant. What is important, as Cpt. Feher poined out, is the fact that, for a small price, explosives that would otherwise have been turned against American troops, can be safely destroyed by men like those in Charlie Company.

A radio-telephone operator (RTO) from Delta Co., 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry, 23d Infantry Division, places a call on his PRC-25 radio while two fellow infantrymen take a short break in the Tam Ky Province, southeast of Tien Phuoc. (U.S. Army photo by Sp/4 John D. Cushman)

'Ready Rifles' find enemy camp

By Sp/4 Thomas F. Boehler

LZ STINSON (198th Inf. Bde. IO) – An element from the 23rd Infantry Division's 198th Infantry Brigade discovered a deserted enemy base camp on a recent mission in a mountainous area southwest of Chu Lai. Upon close search, the infantrymen from Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry, found 30 bunkers and a small amount of enemy equipment.

The "Ready Rifles" were moving to a new laager position when they saw signs that someone else had been in the area. The platoon leader, Second Lieutenant Gerald Denis (Oklahoma City, Okla.) decided that a small patrol should leave their rucksacks and scout the area ahead.

"We moved forward a little way," said Specialist Four John Castanette (Portland, Ore.), the point man, "and I spotted a bunker behind a tree. We looked around and saw that we were almost in the middle of an old enemy base camp."

Denis described the base camp this way: "Each bunker was situated behind a tree or heavy foliage so they were difficult to see from the front. Because of the brush the enemy would have a narrow field of fire, but the surrounding area was still very well covered."

"The positions were all sturdily built of logs, earth and other natural materials. Most of the bunkers would be able to withstand a direct hit from a mortar or artillery round." Denis said.

The "Ready Rifles" searched the area and saw no signs of recent use until Castanette found some scuff marks in the dirt. Farther along he spotted five more bunkers and three partially completed structures. Inside one of the bunkers he found five NVA rucksacks and five khaki uniforms.

The infantrymen destroyed the structures and bunkers to prevent their further use by the enemy, and extracted the rucksacks to a nearby landing zone.

Does your tour seem long?

CHU LAI, (23d Inf. Div. 10) – Does it seem like your tour in Vietnam will never end? One infantryman in the 198th Brigade can go you one better–he's spent more time in Vietnam than in the United States. But there's a catch to this one.

Private First Class Luis A. Coppin, Colon, Panama, a rifleman with Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry, came to the U.S. on vacation only a year ago and decided he whould like to stay. He enlisted in the Army for two years as a means of gaining his citizenship as quickly as possible.

"I came to visit some of my friends from high school who had moved to Brooklyn," said PFC Coppin. "I liked New York and wanted to be able to stay. Joining the Army was one of the ways I would be allowed to stay."

PFC Coppin has adjusted to Army life well and even got to return to Panama for leave before coming to Vietnam. Language barriers proved to be no problems PFC Coppin studied English at the University of Panama.

"I came into the Army in July 1970," said PFC Coppin, "and I left for Vietnam in December. I have spent more time over here than I have in the United States."

"I really liked Brooklyn," he continued. "There are so many people. I plan to make my home there."

Soldiers hit VC R and R spa

FSB 4-11, (11th Bde. IO) – Viet Cong soldiers here recently lost what apparently was a rest and relaxation center when "Legionnaires" of the 3rd Bn., 1st Infantry destroyed their spa on Hill 241, eight miles north-west of Quang Ngai City.

The 11th Brigade troopers entered the area and burned the structures down, recreation room and all. Some of the residents of the center left Coke can boobytraps filled with petna lying all over the trails. The squad destroyed them in the interest of a clearer community and to preserve the ecology.

The VC soldiers were not appreciative of the "Legionnaires" efforts thougn, and tried to souvenir them a claymore. However, the squad forced the enemy to withdraw under a heavy volume of fire and the claymore was abandoned.

When the squad returned to the valley below Hill 241, they directed artillery fire from a nearby base on the enemy, leaving little doubt that they had better find another R&R center.

Visit the USO, you (

A golfer tests his skill on the USO miniture golf course. Also available are tennis, volleyball, and basketball courts.

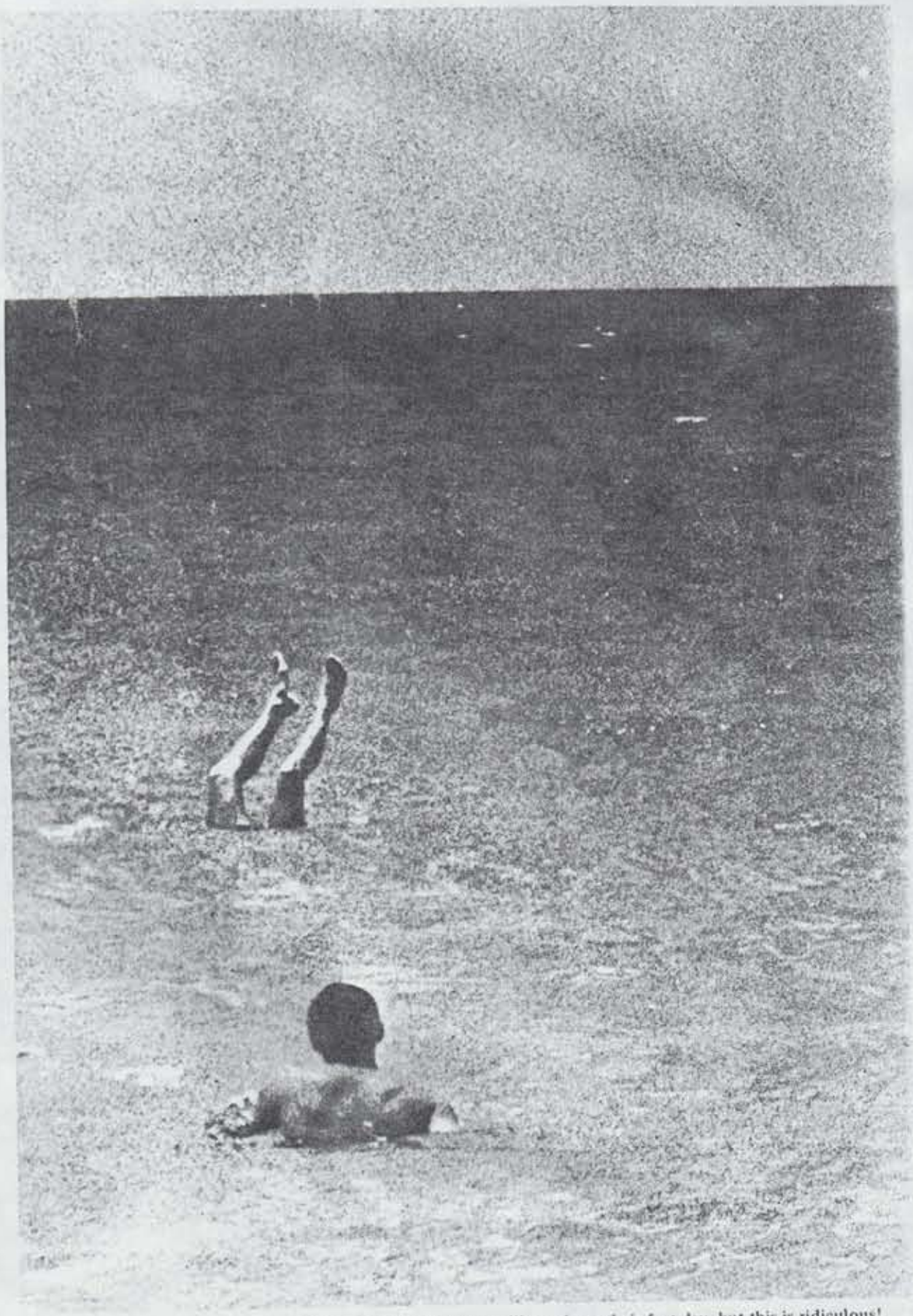
For those who get hungry between games, there is the new "Bamboo Hut" for refreshments.

Pho

Sp4 Rick

Sp4 Jim

For those who prefer reading, or just plain relaxing, the lounge offers comfortable chairs and good reading material.



Everyone know that grunts like to keep their feet dry, but this is ridiculous!

)we it to your body

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Holloway

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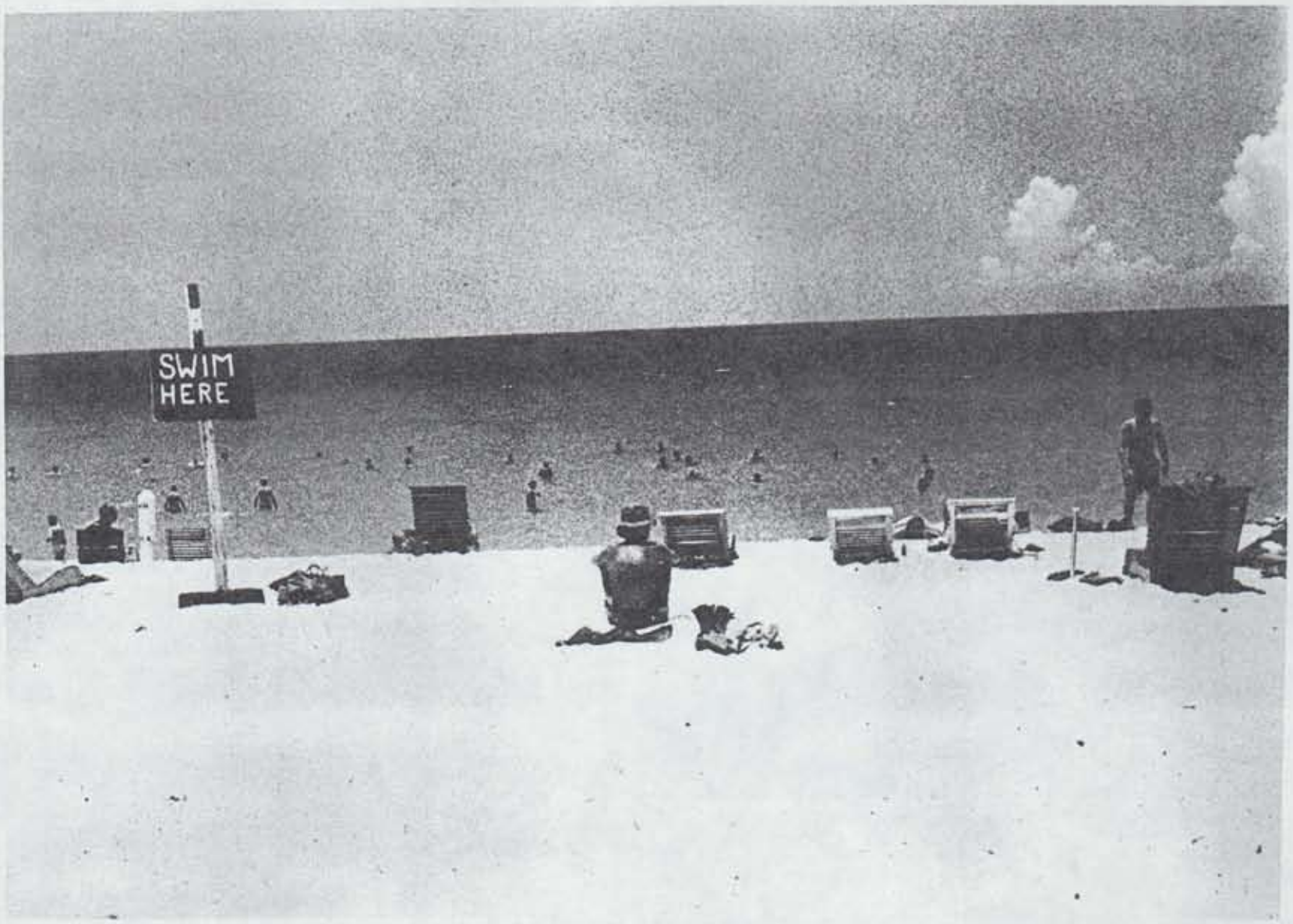
Richardson



You probably never thought Vietnam could be like this. Relax and get your short-timer's tan on the beach.

The only thing that seems to be missing from this beach scene are a few well-filled bikinis.

A member of Alpha Company, 228th Assault Support Helicopter Battalion, paints the units emblem, a "Wildcat", on the side of one of their CH-47A "Chinooks". The unit is newly arrived in Chu Lai and was formerly with the 1st Cavalry Division. (U.S. Army photo)

Weekly Recap

27 kills for 'Chargers'

DA NANG, (196th Inf. Bde. 10) – Twenty-seven enemy soldiers were killed this week by the "Chargers" of the 196th Infantry Brigade.

One VC soldier was killed by the 2nd Platoon of Bravo Company, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry, while they were on a search and clear mission southwest of Da Nang.

Later in the week, Bravo Co., 3rd Bn., 21st Inf., while on a search and clear mission southwest of Da Nang, engaged two VC soldiers with small arms fire. One enemy soldier was killed and the other wounded in the action. The wounded VC soldier attempted to avoid capture by evading into a spider hole. The "Gimlets" engaged the hole with M-79 fire, killing the enemy soldier. Two Chicom grenades were captured in the action.

Delta Co., 2nd Bn., 1st Inf., while in their night defensive position southwest of Da Nang this week, engaged two enemy soldiers in a sampan. As a result, the two enemy soldiers were killed and the sampan destroyed.

While in their night defensive position early this week, Bravo Co., 2nd Battalion, 1st Inf., heard movement approximately 300 meters north of their position. They fired M-79 rounds and processed artillery into the area. Upon checking the area the following morning, the "Legionnaires" discovered the body of an NVA soldier killed in the barrage. One AK-47 and three Chicom grenades were recovered from the dead soldier.

While in their day defensive position later this week Bravo Co., 2nd Bn., 1st Inf., engaged and killed one VC soldier southwest of Da Nang.

While working in an area southwest of Da Nang, the recon element of the "Legionnaires" engaged two enemy soldiers with small arms fire. As a result of the contact, one VC soldier was killed as the other evaded north.

While working in an area west of Da Nang, A Troop, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry, found a grave containing four VC soldiers. The enemy soldiers were killed approximately three weeks ago.

The following day, A Troop, while patroling an area west of Da Nang, found a grave containing one VC soldier killed by artillery. The kill was credited to Battery D, 3rd Bn., 82d Artillery for a fire mission in the area may 6.

One enemy soldier was killed and several structures destroyed as artillery was called into an area southwest of Da Nang. Battery A, 3rd Bn., 16th Artillery was credited with the kill.

C troop accounted for 14 enemy dead and the capture of 800 pounds of rice.

While on patrol, C Troop engaged an estimated VC squad with small arms fire. Two enemy soldiers were killed and one AK-47 was captured in the action.

The following day, while patroling an area west of Da Nang, C Troop, observed one VC soldier approximately 100 meters south of their position. The enemy was engaged and killed with small arms fire.

Upon continuing their patrol, C Troop engaged a spider hole with M-79 fire. As a result, one VC soldier was killed and two Chicom grenades were captured.

Early the following morning, C Troop engaged and killed two VC soldiers with small arms fire, while patroling an area west of Da Nang. One AK-47 rifle was captured in the action.

Upon continuing their patrol, C Troop discovered an enemy tunnel. As search of the tunnel revealed 15 B-40 rocket fuses and 800 pounds of rice. The find was extract through ARVN channels.

Later the same day, C Troop received two enemy B-40 rockets, with negative hits. They returned 152mm fire, killing four VC soldiers. Upon searching the area, they found two AK-47 rifles, two B-41 rockets and one B-41 rocket launcher.

Later in the evening C Troop received small arms fire from an unknown size enemy force. C Troop returned fire, killing four VC soldiers.

Infantrymen detain 'Frag'

By PFC Larry Rich

DA NANG, (196th Inf. Bde. 10) – If there is ever a competition to determine which unit captured the smallest, furriest, combat hardened Viet Cong, Alpha Company, 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry, 196th Infantry Brigade, will win paws down.

While recently conducting a sweep northwest of Fire Base Annette, the "Legionnaires" came upon an enemy bunker complex. Having encountered heavy resistance in the area, the soldiers advanced warily. After calling out to any possible civilians who might have taken refuge in the fortified positions, they threw hand grenades into the bunkers. Then they conducted a thorough search.

"A frag had just exploded in one of the bunkers," Specialist Four William Harris, Selma, Ala., recalled, "when one of the guys looked in the entrance and said 'There's a dog down there.'"

Cautiously entering the bunker, Sp/4 Harris found the only occupant was a small brownish-grey puppy which sat in a corner watching him. Picking the dog up, the soldier carried the 'detainee' over to the tracked vehicles which had accompanied the infantrymen on the mission.

"Except for being hard of hearing," Sp/4 harris continued, "the dog wasn't injured. The bunker had wooden planks set up along the inside of the wall. I figure the pup must have been partially in the cracks between the boards to escape the frag's shrapnel."

Having lost their company mascot only a few weeks before, the "Legionnaires" were more than glad to adopt the four-legged enemy."

We fed him C-rations on the way back to Hawk Hill," Sp/4 Harris said. "He's pretty used to us now, but occationally I'll wake up during the night and find he's pulled a 'sapper attack' and is playfully chewing on my hand."

The men of Alpha Company have a new mascot in their rear area, and he's a combat veteran like themselves. It took them about a minute to name him. They call him "Frag."

'Ready Rifles' net enemy

(Continued From Page 1)

The "Mountainmen" from 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry killed three enemy soldiers this past week and captured three weapons and 100 pounds of rice.

On patrol in an area northwest of Chu Lai, Alpha Company, 4/3rd Infantry engaged a small group of Viet Cong soldiers, killing two.

Near the same area, Alpha Company 4/3rd Infantry engaged and killed one Viet Cong soldier as he neared the "Mountainmen's" positions.

While on patrol, Alpha Company, 4/3rd Infantry found one structure with one AK-47 weapon and one K54 pistol inside. Both weapons were evacuated to a nearby LZ.

Near the same area of operations, The "Mountainmen" found and destroyed one military structure containing 100 cans of fish, 100 pounds of rice, and 25 pounds of salt.

An element from Bravo Company, 4/3rd Infantry, while on patrol northwest of Chu Lai, found a boobytrapped antipersonnel mine with a homemade detonator. The boobytrap was destroyed in place.

Near the same area, an element from Bravo Company, 4/3rd Infantry found one carbine rifle, which was extracted to a nearby LZ.

Action was light in the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry area, as the "Regulars" killed three enemy soldiers.

Working west of Chu Lai, a recon element from 1/6th Infantry engaged a small group of Viet Cong soldeirs, killing one. Captured in the action were three Chicom hand grenades, and one AK-47 magazine. All items were extracted to a nearby LZ.

Gunships from the 23rd Infantry Division accounted for seven enemy kills this past week.

Flying over an area south of Chu Lai, gunships from Delta Troop, 1/1st Cavalry engaged a group of Viet Cong soldiers with miniguns and rockets, killing four.

Working over an area west of Chu Lai, Delta Troop, 1/1st Cavalry gunships engaged and killed a lone Viet Cong soldier.

Gunships destroyed three enemy structures with miniguns and rockets, in an area west of Chu Lai.

Bravo Company, 123rd Aviation gunships observed two Viet Cong Soldiers evading into a military structure southwest of Chu Lai. The gunnies engaged with miniguns and rockets, killing the two Viet Cong soldiers and destroying the structure.

Highway Broadcast Teams and infantrymen from the 198th Brigade received from Vietnamese civilians this week: 159 mortar rounds, 89 artillery rounds, 24 anti-personnel minies, 25 hand grenades, 23 sticks of TNT, two 122mm rockets and miscellaneous small arms items.

Inspection team set up

CHU LAI, (23d Inf. Div. IO) – The 23d Division Artillery Maintenance Management Inspection team has accepted the task of assisting DIVARTY's units in preparing for upcoming Division, USARV and MACV inspections.

The team, composed of specialists in each Artillery Maintenance field, was formed at the direction of DIVARTY Commander, Colonel Jack R. Sadler, to inspect and correct unit deficiencies while they're still small.

Team members were selected for their maintenance proficiency in a specific field, and given further training, by the Division CMMA team, in recognizing and eliminating problems common to artillery field units.

At the completion of the studies, the team received individual identification bands and a graduation certificate from Brigadier General Bertram Gorwitz, assistant division commander (Support) of the 23d Infantry Division.

The team's abbreviated name has already become a household word, synonymous with most inspection teams; "DAMMIT."

Relaxing comes in the form of writing, reading, or just plain sleeping for these infantrymen of Charlie Company, 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry, 23d Infantry Division. (U.S. Army photo by 1Lt. Warren C. Mabie)

Lovely Yvette Mimieux, co-star of "The Most Deadly Game", puts it all together--charm, talent and beauty. Kind of makes you wonder what's so "Deadly" about the "Game."

Air Force can answer questions

CHU LAI (23rd Inf. Div. IO) – "What's the weather going to be like when I get back to San Francisco?"

Answering questions like this is not the principle mission of the Air Force weather station, but they will try and answer any questions about the weather.

Keeping the 23rd Division informed on what the weather conditions will be during the next few days or hours requires the trained eye and alert observations of the three weather forcasters and the nine observers at the Chu Lai Army Air Field.

With modern equipment and the experience necessary to predict the ever changing weather, the men work around the clock to make sure the mission planners of the division are informed on the weather.

From teletype at weather central they receive reports concerning the weather in all parts of the world. Conditions are plotted on maps and are kept up to date.

"The wind has a lot to do with the weather conditions," says Captain Joel W. Beckmann of Brookings, S. D. "One gets to the point that he can make a good guess just by the wind direction and speed."

Information on the tropical storms is supplied by teletype from the Phillipines. "The storm that hit the coast of Vietnam not long ago was a very rare case. During the dry season, no tropical storms are expected," said Beckmann.

Thunder storms, mostly in the mountains, are common this time of year.

The weathermen here do not worry about cold fronts, as Technical Sergeant Martin McFarland, Great Falls, Mont. says, "During this time of year, and being so close to the equator, a cold front would be refreshing."

One source of information are pilots, who report on conditions out of range of weather observers. An estimated 50 calls a day come from pilots who either want to know the weather conditions, or to report what it is.

Visibility is figured out by checking local land-marks, where the exact distance is known. Cloud height is measured by flashing a light which can bounce off the cloud and measuring the angle or by floating a weather ballon.

The station puts out three formal weather briefings a day, plus a new forcast every six hours.

"Experience is the best teacher," commented Beckmann. "Training can only do so much. From that time on, one learns what to expect from certain conditions."

Training is quite comprehensive. Beckmann took one year of training at the Univeristy of Michigan, and spent two years working in the States before being assigned over here. "All officers are required to have that type of training," related Beckmann.

For NCOs it is also quite involved. They get 21 weeks of basic weather training at Chanute Air Force Base, Ill. T.Sgt McFarland spent another eight weeks there to be qualified as an enlisted forecaster.

They have had many calls concerning weather in different parts of the world, such as: "How's the weather in Bangkok for my R and R? Is it going to be good sunbathing weather today? What's the illumination going to be tonight?"

Worth mentioning is the fact that the temperature very seldom rises above 103 degrees. The reason you perspire so much is the humidity being about 65 per cent during the day and 85 per cent at night.

TOP: Air Force SSgt. Walter Youman, Marseilles, Ill., observes the weather while Sp4 David Jones, Santa Anna, Calif., keeps air traffic flowing smoothly.

LEFT: Air Force SSgt William Gallagher, San Diego, Calif., Watches the teletype report on weather conditions. These reports come over the teletype from all parts of the world.

BOTTOM: Air Force Sgt. Martin McFarland (left) and Capt. Joel Beckmann discuss the weather at the Air Force Weather Station.

Photos by Sp4 Jim Richardson

and

Story by Sp4 Rick Holloway