**Weekly recap**

# 198th Bde. sees increased action

By SGT Tom Frey

CHU LAI, (198th IO)–Action increased this week in operation Middlesex Peak as the 198th Brigade infantrymen and gunships from the 23rd Infantry Division accounted for 20 enemy killed, 23 Viet Cong suspects detained and four enemy weapons captured.

Artillery accounted for seven Viet Cong soldiers killed during action early this week. G Btry., 55th Arty., was credited with four of the enemy killed, while Charlie Battery 1st Battalion, 14th Artillery and Alpha Battery 1st. Battalion, 82nd, Artillery combined for the other three kills.

Action in the 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry's area of operation accounted for three enemy killed, three Viet Cong suspects detained and two weapons captured.

An element from Charlie Company, 4th Battalion 3rd Infantry, engaged and killed one Viet Cong soldier as he approached the "Mountainmen's" position. Captured in the action was one SKS rifle, which was extracted to an LZ.

On patrol in an area northwest of Chu Lai, an element from Charlie Company, engaged and killed one Viet Cong soldier. Captured in the action and extracted to an LZ was one pack containing one anti-personnel mine and 20 blasting caps.

While in a night defensive position, Charlie Company, 4th Bn., 3rd Inf., engaged and killed a Viet Cong soldier as he approached the "Mountainmen's" position.

A recon element from 4th Bn., 3rd Inf., found three Chicom hand greandes, four NVA pistol belts, two NVA helmets, one AK-47 rifle with full magazine, and one anti-personnel mine. All the captured articles were evacuaded to a nearby LZ.

Later, a recon element from 4th Bn., 3rd. Inf. detained three Viet Cong suspects who were extracted to an LZ for further questioning. Nearby, the "Mountainmen" found an enemy structure containing 200 pounds of corn and 600 pounds of grain, which was all destroyed.

Infantrymen from 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry, killed three enemy soldiers, captured one enemy weapon, and detained two Viet Cong suspects during the week.

While on patrol, Alpha Company, 1st. Bn., 52nd Inf. observed and engaged a group of NVA soldiers, killing one. The "Ready Rifles" captured one AK-47 rifle and three magazines, which were extracted to a nearby LZ.

Near the same area, Alpha Company, 1st Bn., 52nd Inf., killed another Viet Cong soldier trying to evade from the infantrymen.

Also west of Chu Lai, Alpha Company, 1st Bn., 52nd Inf. observed and engaged a group of Viet Cong soldiers, killing one. The "Ready Rifles" also detained and extracted to an LZ, one Viet Cong suspect.

While on patrol southwest of Chu Lai, and element from Alpha Company, 1st Bn., 52nd Inf. detained one Viet Cong suspect who was evacuated to an LZ for further questioning. Nearby, the "Ready Rifles" found two Chicom hand grenades, which they blew in place.

Working west of Chu Lai earlier in the week, a 198th Brigade Long Range Recon Patrol engaged and killed three Viet Cong soldiers and captured one AK-47 rifle. The captured weapon was extracted to a nearby LZ.

The "Regulars" from 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry killed two enemy soldiers and captured one automatic weapon in action during the week.

While on patrol west of Chu Lai, an element from Bravo Company, 1st Bn., 6th Inf., observed and engaged a group of Viet Cong soldiers, killing two. Captured in action were two packs that were extracted to an LZ.

One Vietnamese "Rallier" turned himself over to an element of Bravo Company, 1st Bn., 6th Inf., earlier this week. He also gave the "Regulars" one automatic weapon and 120 rounds of ammunition.

Gunships and aero-rifle teams from Delta Troop, 1st Battalion, 1st Cavalry combined for two enemy kills and 18 Viet Cong suspects who were detained for further questioning during the week.

Flying over an area northwest of Chu Lai, gunships from Delta Troop, 1st Bn., 1st Cav., engaged and destroyed 12 enemy structures with mini-guns and rockets. An aero-rifle team was inserted into the area where they engaged and killed one Viet Cong and detained six Viet Cong suspects. The detainees were extracted to an LZ. Later, near the same area the rifle team killed a second Viet Cong.

Flying over an area west of Chu Lai, gunnies from Delta, 1st Bn., 1st Cav., observed enemy suspects with packs moving along a streambed. "Blues" were inserted and detained 12 Viet Cong suspects with packs, who were extracted to a nearby LZ for further questioning.

Finally, the 198th Brigade's Highway Broadcast Team received from Vietnamese civilians during the week, 31 artillery rounds, 27 mortar rounds, seven anti-personnel mines, nine 57mm recoiless rifle rounds, and five hand grenades. All the articles were destroyed.

SOUTHERN CROSS
AMERICAL DIVISION

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# Processing center opened

By Sp/4 William Hutchison

CHU LAI, (23rd Inf. Div. IO)–With two snips of the ribbon the new civilian processing center located at Gate One was opened. Colonel William R. Richardson, Chief of Staff for the 23rd Infantry Division and Lieutenant Colonel Thanh, District Chief for Ly Tin, presided over the ribbon cutting ceremony.

This new processing center will handle about 4000 Vietnamese civilian employees who work on the Chu Lai base. This new facility has an additional inspection lane and is located entirely within the confines of the military base. Its new location was selected because it afforded greater security than the old center located on the edge of the perimeter. The old building was considered outmoded and could not handle the increasing flow of civilian employed.

With its new location and expanded facilities, Gate One Processing will be able to carry out its duties with much needed efficiency and speed. At the center the civilians have their ID cards checked and are carefully searched for any contraband items they may be trying to get on or off the base.

This new installation was built entirely by the men of 160th Engineer Detachment (Utilities). Under the command of First Lieutenant Edward Twaddell (New York, N.Y.) the engineers put over 20,000 man-hour into the construction.

Lacking the technical skills of electricians, welders and carpenters, the men went ahead and picked up these skills---''OJT'' (on-the-job-training) s they were needed. The foundation was hauled in, put down and worked into shape by the same engineers who were usually short of the necessary tools.

On dedication day with many small jobs to be finished the engineers hurried about, obviously quite proud of their accomplishment. And rightly so.

"With what little they had, my men did a hell of a good job here," remarked Twaddell.

Lieutenant Colonel Thanh, District Chief for Ly Tin, snips the ribbon to open Chu Lai's Gate One Processing Center for the base's civilian employees. Colonel William R. Richardson, Chief of Staff for the 23d Infantry Division looks on. (U.S. Army Photo by Sp/4 William Hutchison)

# Major Getz receives Army DSC for valor

CHU LAI, (23rd Inf. Div. IO) -- Major Charles E. Getz (Prattville, Ala.) commanding officer of the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry, was presented the Army's Distinguished Service Cross, the nation's second highest award for valor, by General Creighton W. Abrams, commanding general of MACV.

Major Getz distinguished himself while commanding an air assault operation near Thach An Dong, Son Tinh. Prior to troop insertion, he was reconnoitering the area in his control helicopter when an enemy force was observed near a small hamlet. While flying low level in order to mark the first landing zone for the delivery of his troops, his chopper began receiving enemy ground fire.

Ignoring the heavy volume of fire concentrated at his aircraft, Major Getz directed his pilot to the second landing zone, marking it with a smoke grenade. Moments later, his helicopter landed so that he could personally direct the ground movements of his two platoons against the opposing force.

To coordinate the advance of both platoons, Major Getz raced 200 meters across an open rice paddy although enemy fire was directed almost entirely at him. Advancing to an enemy emplacement through a barrage of fire, he eliminated the position and its three occupants. As he continued forward, he discovered an enemy tunnel. He unhesitatingly entered the tunnel and captured a North Vietnamese soldier and his weapons.

Continuously exposed to hostile fire, he effectively maneuvered his two platoons in a successful assault against the well fortified enemy emplacements. Throughout the entire engagement, Major Getz aggressive and determined efforts boosted the morale of his troops, inspired them to maintain the offensive and defeat the hostile force.

General Abrams also made several other presentations to valorous members of the 1st Bn., 52nd Inf. during the awards ceremony held at the 198th Brigade's parade field.

Five Bronze Stars for Valor were presented. The recipients were Captain James A. Pace, Jr. (Swannanoa, N. C.), Sergeant Royce M. Cash (Maysville, Ga.), Specialist Four Roy M. Dotson (Bells, Tenn.), Specialist Four

(Continued on Page 8)

# Nighthawk's menu includes VC, NVA

By Cpt. John J. Hollingsworth

FSB BRONCO, (11th Brigade IO) – The real Nighthawk flies in search of insects. Vietnam's Nighthawk flies the night skies also; but unlike the real Nighthawk, insects are not on its menu--VC and NVA soldiers are.

Nighthawk is the name given to hunter-killer teams of Huey helicopters. The teams fly a high and low ship concept to ferret out VC and NVA soldiers during the hours of darkness. High ships provide illumination and spot targets for low ships by dropping parachute flares.

Low ships have Xeon searchlights for pinpointing targets and miniguns, .50 caliber machineguns and M-60 machineguns for handling anything they find while snooping around nightly in the 11th Infantry Brigade's area of operation (AO).

Captain Norman W. Hayes, West Barnstable, Mass., a low ship pilot, explains how Nighthawk operates. "Low ships work at lower altitudes and we fly at slow speeds. Low ships are important members of the team, but people don't put enough emphasis on the importance of high ships. They help by dropping flares and relaying communications. Captain Douglas Delp, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., a high ship pilot, more or less provides command and control," Hayes said."

Specialist Four James R. Carmean, Chesapeak, Va., a low ship crew chief, pointed out other important functions of the high ships. "They tell us is we are taking fire from directly underneath the ship and the high ships will act as recovery ships in case we go down."

Carmean also operates the low ship's minigun. He had to clear and readjust the minigun three times in a short time. All repairs are done in the dark or by the light of flares from the high ship. "It's kind of embarrassing," he said about the gun's failure, "just before we picked you up, I fired 300 rounds through the minigun."

Carmean worked in a gun store before coming into the Army. He attributes his ability to repair the gun in the dark because "the first thing I learn to do is field strip a weapon and then I learn to fire it."

Working at night adds a new twist to flying and indentifying targets. Carmean said it took him about two weeks just to get use to the radio. Then, he said, "I was along for the ride until I started finding targets. The main thing is be observant retain what you see."

Hayes added, "darkness doesn't present a problem for the pilots. After you work an area you really don't need a map to get around. You just need the map to plot targets."

Hayes has high praise for some "Jungle Warriors" he knows only by their initials. The men operate a radar unit on FSB Liz. Hayes says, "Never in my Nighthawk career could I find anyone who utilizes their assets any better to find targets. One night they told us to move 25 meters to the left and you'll be right over them--that's how good they are."

Nighthawk has to be a little deceptive every one-in-a-while to catch the VC soldiers off guard. Hayes said Nighthawk has been successful "because we learned the VC soldiers' habits. Sometimes we leave an area and the VC soldiers think we have gone for the night, sometimes we come back and catch them."

The VC soldiers try to deceive Nighthawk, too. The soldiers will set out ambushes for us.

Nighthawk provides an important service for the 11th Inf. Bde., and keeps the VC soldiers honest at night.

# LCC set up to ease R & R hassle

By MSG Bill Pickett

CHU LAI, (23 Inf. Div. IO) – Going home on a 14 day leave?

Your trip home–and your return to your unit can be made easier since the recent establishment of a Leave Control Center (LCC) at Tan Son Nhut Civilian Air Terminal.

In addition to providing assistance in processing, the LCC will help you with billeting if needed, and will arrange for in-country transportation for return to your unit. Personnel at the LCC will also check your personal appearance to insure uninterrupted travel as required by current regulations.

Personnel departing on, or leaving from ordinary leave in the United States (CONUS) must report to the LCC prior to departure and upon return. The combat tropical uniform is not acceptable for wear on either R and R or leave aircraft. The summer uniform or appropriate civilian attire is required.

Upon return to Tan Son Nhut, personnel will again process through the LCC, where orders will be date-stamped so there will be no question as to when the individual returned to Vietnam.

If transportation is not immediately available to return the man to his unit, he will be detained in the Saigon area. If the delay is more than three days, the LCC will notify the parent unit.

Leave starts upon sign out from the unit and is terminated upon signing back in.

The LCC Is staffed by personnel furnished by each Region Zone Coordinator, including one officer and one liaison NCO from XXIV Corps.

The 23d Infantry Division continues to maintain a liaison NCO at Tan Son Nhut to provide additional assistance to division personnel departing on leave or R and R.

# Roscoe didn't have ID's

By Sp/4 Jerry Kief

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

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

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

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

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

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

# Scout Dogs sniff out enemy

By SP4 Greg Wright

FSB BRONCO (11th Brigade IO) – These two "old-timers" have spent most of their lives working with American troops in Vietnam, always walking point, seeking traces of the enemy.

The oldsters, Andor and Little Duke, are quite proficient at their job and are two of the most respected members of the 59th Infantry Platoon (Scout Dogs) at Fire Base Bronco.

Having passed seven years service, both German Shepherds are advancing into middle age but, according to First Lieutenant Homer Still, Tulsa, Okla., platoon leader, the dogs are still capable of doing their job.

"There is no retirement age for these dogs," explained Still. "As long as they are physically able to work they will be kept on the job."

This seems to be satisfactory for both dogs. In fact, Little Duke takes his job so seriously that he refuses to relax while in a harness. If he is in the field with his handler, the harness must be removed before the dog will settle down enough to sleep.

Such diligence has often paid off as Specialist Four William Whitehouse, Little Duke's handler, Private First Class and Gregory Strauch, working with Andor, are quick to point out.

"Andor's greatest accomplishment was the discovery of a boobytrapped 250 pound bomb," said Strauch. "He was walking point for Delta Company, 3rd Bn., 1st Inf. at the time. A bomb that size could have killed a lot of people, but Andor was able to detect the enemy's scent and alert his handler."

Little Duke has also compiled an impressive record of boobytrap detection. He has been so effective, in fact, his handler recently was awarded the Army Commendation Medal. Specialist Whitehouse does not hesitate to give Little Duke his fair share of the credit.

Both Little Duke and Andor are scout dogs, trained to detect the scent of enemy personnel and alert their handlers. Other types of dogs include trackers, used for trailing the enemy, and mine dogs, trained to detect booby-traps and explosives.

According to Still, a problem sometimes encountered is commanders in the field requesting the use of a dog when they don't realize what type of dog is needed. Also it is sometimes not understood that the dog's efficiency can be decreased by bad working conditions. These problems often lead to doubt of the dog's worth.

However, troops who have witnessed the work of Andor and Little Duke know that they could not find better pointmen than these two who have spent most of their lives sniffing out the enemy.

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# San Juan turned over to ARVN regiment

By Sp/5 Greg Wright

SAN JUAN HILL, (11th Inf. Bde. IO) – The name San Juan Hill goes down in history again. Although not as historically significant as its namesake, the little hill 18 kilometers west of Duc Pho has played an important role in the Vietnam conflict.

The 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry, has seemingly made a habit of closing down firebases. The first was Charlie Brown, located in the Anamite Mountains; the second was Debbie, from which the fertile "rice bowl" area was controlled; and now the isolated mountaintop known as San Juan.

The 1300 foot hill has long intimidated NVA soldiers in the mountainous area northwest of Duc Pho. From their firebase atop San Juan, Americal troops could keep a watchful eye on a major infiltration route. It didn't take long for the NVA soldiers to learn that American eyes are keen and vigilant.

According to Lieutenant Colonel Vernon B. Sones, Butler, Pa., commander of the 4/21st Inf., the two rifle companies based at San Juan Hill have been successful in their operations there.

"Our mission in the San Juan Hill AO (area of operations), was the interdiction of enemy communication and infiltration routes through these mountains," said Sones. "The two companies from 4/21st Inf. were put there in January and since then have been getting the job done. Now ARVN troops have accepted the responsibility for the area, and indications are they will continue to successfully carry out their mission."

Accessible only by air, San Juan Hill was often completely isolated by rain or fog. It was a small firebase, and its facilities were far from luxurious. To the infantrymen based there, however, the hill was a little bit of "home". It was a chance for showers, hot chow, and an occasional movie. It provided a degree of security which enabled men to relax and forget the tensions of the field.

With the troops of 4/21st Inf. gone, San Juan Hill is now occupied by men of the 1st Company, 2nd Battalion, 4th ARVN Regiment. Although the hill has changed hands, it is no less a threat to enemy personnel in the area. Perhaps its meager comforts will also be appreciated by the new tennants.

**ABOVE: Infantrymen from Bravo and Delta companies, 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry, take the pause that refreshes while helping tear down FSB San Juan Hill. Whatever was in the container attracted numerous samplers who went away smiling.**

**LEFT: No it is not a bucket brigade, just a bunch of grunts formed in a line to pass wood to the fire. All part of the routine of doing away with a firebase.**

**ABOVE: "Look out below", as the roof supports for one of San Juan's numerous bunkers is toppled from its roost. These men are part of 4/21st Bn., whose job it was to remove part of the FSB In preparation for the ARVN's taking over the remaining half.**

**LEFT: Members of the 4/21st's Echo Recon "ham" it up for the photographer while trying to demolish the roof of a well constructed bunker. The work was hard, they consider finding "Charlie" more like their "cup of tea". (U.S. Army Photos by SP/4 William Hutchison)**

ABOVE: The officers of 6th of the 11th Artillery give one final fruitless yank in their tug-of-war against their enli ted counterparts.
BELOW: Specialist Five Henry E. Bell and Specialist Four David Masters (far right) attempt to prove that three legs are better than two, while their opponents drop out of the competition. The race and tug-of-war were part of Organization Day.

# elebration at 6/11th Arty
# oes down as EM triumph

FSB BRONCO, (23d Inf. Div. Arty.)–"For the officers it was a good day; but for us it was great."

That's how Staff Sergeant George "Bull" White summed up the activities for Organization Day, 6th of the 11th Artillery, which marked the beginning of the unit's 55th year.

Ceremonies started with a brief historical narrative of the battalion by Major James Broadus, after which the men and guests of 6th of the 11th were invited to a steak and brew dinner by their commanding officer, Lieutenant Colonel Guy Hobbs.

This completed, the stage was set for the days' important activities; the competitions. Battle lines had been drawn weeks before between the enlisted and commission ranks for the day's action.

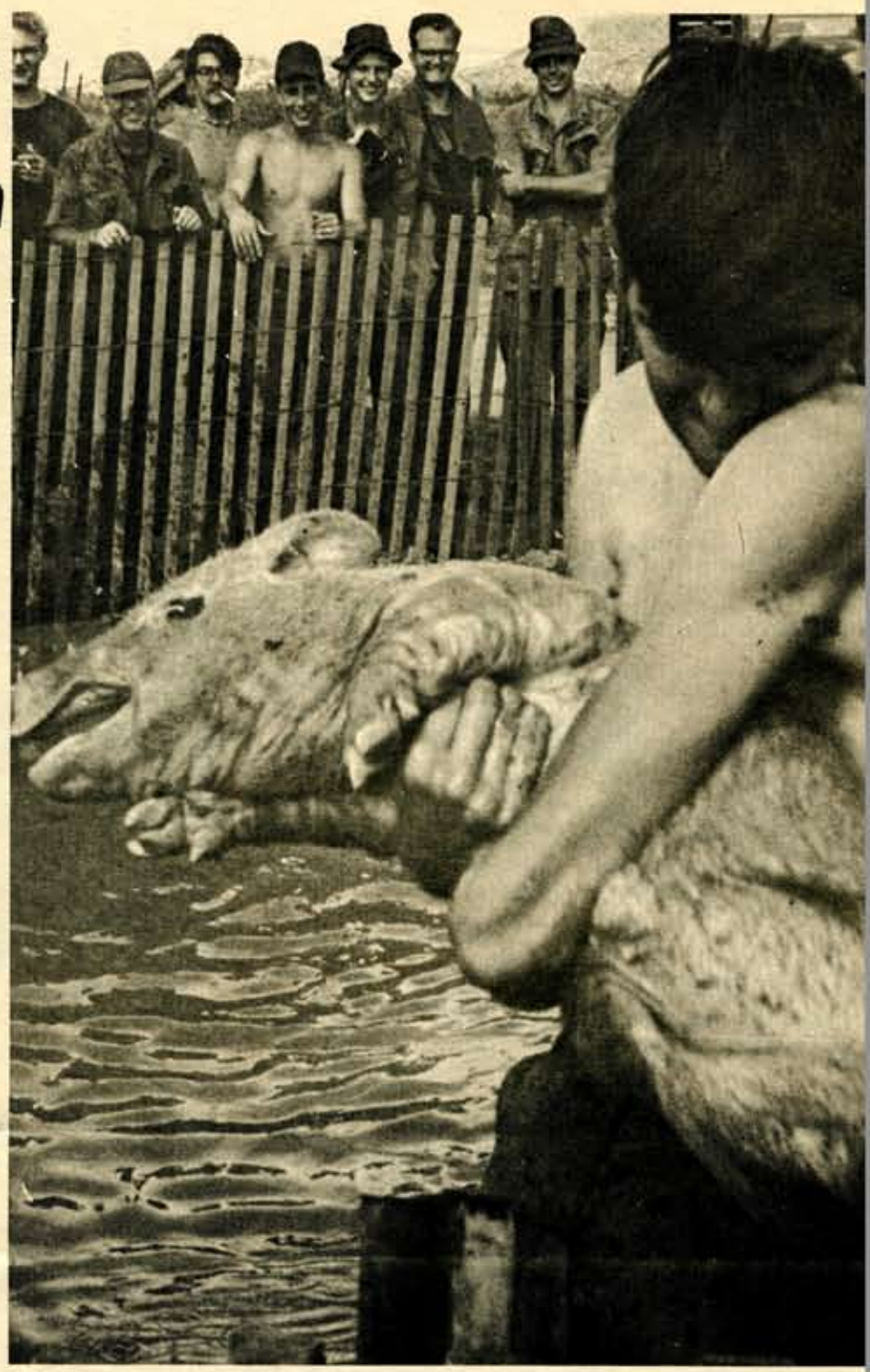
The tug-of-war was first. The enlisted men rallied in front of anchor man, "Bull" White, and pulled the officers into a mud hole reserved for the second place team. Officer representation in the three legged race came from Lieutenant Glen Hirabayashi and Warrant Officer Ray Sisko for about 25 yards, where coordination gave way and they literally dropped out. It was won, 100 yards in 20 seconds, by Specialist Five Henry E. Bell and Specialist Four David Masters.

The officers were determined to avenge themselves in volleyball and softball, but not determined enough. They were shut out in volleyball 10-0, and were slammed in softball, 39-4 (called at 4 innings).

In the final event, the greased pig chase, the brass conceded to Specialist Four Vic Abitz, as he stepped into the ring. Abitz, born and raised on a Kentucky farm, can stare down a sow at 50 paces. He did it three times just to stay in practice.

And so went Organization Day at 6th of the 11th: EM's 5, officers O. But strangely, as the day drew to a close and as the vanguished teams sought to console themselves, one comment that almost always accompanies the losers in their defeat was missing. For some reason not one officer was willing to say, "Just wait 'til next year."

**Story and photos by 1Lt Fred Vigeant**



**ABOVE: Specialist Four Victor Abitz, a Kentucky farm boy with 6th of the 11th Artillery, demonstrates the proper technique involved in catching holding a greased pig.**
**BELOW: This pig doesn't plan on being caught although the GI behind him is making an effort to change those plans. The greased pig chase w celebration of 6/11th Arty's 54th birthday.**

## Daily wrapup

# 'Jungle Warriors' kill seven enemy

**Tuesday June 8**

H Troop, 17th Cavalry of Task Force 23 found and destroyed a row of punji stakes 150 meters long while working east of Mo Duc. They also found and destroyed one punji pit six feet square.

While working northeast of Mo Duc later in the same day, H Troop found a can filled with various military supplies. Later, they found and destroyed one bunker while working east of Mo Duc.

Elements of the 11th Brigade collected 18 mortar rounds, one recoilless rifle round and one boobytrap from Vietnamese civilians along QL-1 under the VIP program.

**Wednesday June 9**

Charlie Company, 1/20th Infantry had a mechanical ambush detonate while in their night defensive position northwest of Duc Phoo. They checked the area and found one VC soldier killed in the action and they captured one rucksack.

The recon element of 1/20, while on patrol northwest of Nghia Hanh, spotted two VC soldiers walking toward them on the same trail they were on. They engaged the enemy soldiers with small arms fire, killing both VC soldiers and capturing one AK-47.

H Troop, 17th Cavalry found and destroyed one bunker while patrolling northeast of Mo Duc. Continuing to patrol near the same area, they found four NVA ponchos.

Later, H Troop also found five plastic tubes sticking up out of the ground. They thought them to be air vents for an underground bunker. Checking, they found and destroyed one underground bunker.

While working with a Popular Forces Company, H Troop detained two females and one male with no identifications. Inside a hootch they found a trip wire and several smoke grenade cans filled with stones. The detainees were taken to Mo Duc.

Continuing to work near the same area, they found and destroyed four bunkers, three spider holes and one hootch.

Bravo Company, 26th Engineers, while working west of Quang Ngai found and destroyed a tunnel containing one 60mm mortar round.

Elements of the 11th Brigade collected from Vietnamese civilians eight mortar rounds along QL-1, under the VIP program.

**Thursday, June 10**

While flying a helicopter east of Mo Duc, a member of H Troop, 17th Cavalry spotted one military age male evade into a bunker. A patrol was sent to check the area and they destroyed the bunker. There were no signs of any personnel in the area. H Troop later found and destroyed another bunker in the same area.

While patrolling with an Regional Forces Company, H Troop found and destroyed four bunkers. Inside one bunker they found 200 pounds of rice and 15 pounds of clothing.

Alpha Company, 1/20 Infantry, while patrolling northwest of Mo Duc, found and destroyed a boobytrapped can of petna with a pressure release firing device.

Elements of the 11th Brigade collected 13 mortar rounds and one 40mm round from Vietnamese civilians along QL-1 south of Duc Pho under the VIP program.

**Friday, 11 June**

Bravo Company, 123rd Aviation Battalion, while on a Visual Reconnaissance (VR) west of Ba To, engaged and killed three NVA soldiers with weapons.

H Troop, 17th Cavalry, while working southeast of Mo Duc, found an ammo can filled with miscellaneous military equipment. Continuing to patrol, they found and destroyed two punji pits, one pit contained a can of petna. Following a trail leading from the punji pits they found a bunker. Inside the bunker, they found two black outfits, miscellaneous clothing, rice bowls and 2½ pounds of petna. All items were destroyed.

Continuing to patrol, H Troop found and destroyed one bunker, 30 pounds of rice, one B-40 rocket, 16 rounds of AK-47 ammo and one 105 round.

E Troop, 1st Cavlary patrolling northwest of Mo Duc, found and destroyed one bunker containing boobytrap equipment and cooking utensils.

Continuing to patrol, they found and destroyed three more bunkers, a can of petna with trip wire firing device and two 2.75 inch rockets. E Troop also found 300 pounds of unpolished rice. The rice was evacuated to Mo Duc.

Alpha Company, 1/20 Infantry found and destroyed a boobytrapped 60mm round while in a base camp west of Mo Duc.

The 75th Rangers, while patrolling west of Duc Pho, sighted 15 enemy moving southwest of their position. They engaged the enemy and killed two NVA soldiers.

**Saturday, June 12**

The 75th Rangers, working northwest of Duc Pho, found various medical supplies, eight NVA ponchos, eight NVA pistol belts, five rockets, 300 pounds of rice, 500 AK-47 rounds, two AK magazines, one gas mask, some civilian clothing and twenty hammocks. All items were extracted to a near by Landing Zone.

Alpha Company, 1/20 Infantry found and destroyed two booby-traps made from 60mm mortars while working west of Mo Duc. The booby-traps had pressure release firing devices.

Echo Troop, 1st Cavalry, while patrolling northwest of Mo Duc, found and destroyed two bunkers.

**Sunday, June 13**

Echo Troop, 1st Cavalry, found and destroyed one spider hole while on patrol west of Mo Duc.

Elements of the 11th Brigade collected one mortar round and one 40mm round from Vietnamese civilians along QL-1 south of Duc Pho under the VIP program.

**This Sheridan tank of H Troop, 17th Cavalry stands guard as part of their night defensive perimeter (NDP) 40 miles southeast of Chu Lai. (U.S. Army Photo by Sp/5 Ted Powell)**

**Using a hand towel plus his helmet, this trooper of H Troop 17th Cavalry tries to protect himself from the sun during an operation southeast of Chu Lai. (U.S. Army Photo by Sp/5 Ted Powell)**

# 'Legionnaires' kill VC

**By Sp/4 Ralph J. Winter**

FSB 4-11 (11th Brigade IO) – "It was after 1700 when we arrived at our night defensive position," said Private First Class Ronald Werner, Medford, Wis. "The first thing I did was put out my 'mechanical' with the help of Private First Class Candelarie Amava, Del Rey, Calif."

"It was already dark by the time the "Legionnaires" of Charlie Company, 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry's 3rd Platoon, sat down to eat their evening meal. "We heard an explosion, and I knew my claymore had been detonated," stated Werner. "I opened fire with my M-60 and Amaya and Private First Class Charles Vidrine, Bunkie, La., opened up on the target with M-79 grenade fire."

The 1st and 3rd squads were dispatched to check out the area. Their findings was one VC soldier killed. The "Legionnaires" also observed one enemy personnel fleeing from the area.

In the morning, a patrol led by Staff Sergeant Martin Guzman, Mercedes, Tex., made a further check of the area and uncovered several ammo bags of enemy clothing.

# 1/52d kills 2 NVA, captures supplies

**By SP4 Thomas F. Boehler**

CHU LAI, (198th Inf. Bde. IO) – Patience, good judgement and quick reflexes paid off for infantrymen from the 23rd Infantry Division's 198th Brigade as they killed two NVA soldiers and captured two enemy weapons and other equipment on a recent mission in a mountainous area southwest of Chu Lai.

An element from Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry, has moved from their day laager position to an ambush site on a high bank overlooking a river.

"The machinegunner, who was our flank security, saw the NVA soldiers when they were about 300 meters qway", said Specialist Four Bruce Lemay, Thomaston, Conn., a grenadier. "We waited until they were all in the open and directly across from us 150 meters away."

The infantrymen engaged the enemy with small arms fire and saw one drop and two others evade into thick vegetation. A patrol was sent across the river under cover from the remainder of the element to check out the situation.

"They were almost to the other side when we saw one of the enemy emerge from the bushes," said Lemay. "We fired at him again and saw him fall back under cover."

When the patrol reached the far back and began searching the area, they found one dead enemy and were about to search further when they received fire from thick bushes near the river.

"When we began taking fire again, I whirled around and returned fire into the area," said Specialist Four Gary Shinn, Holly, Mich., a squad leader. "We swept the area and found a second dead enemy, and in all we captured one AK-47 rifle, a 9mm Chinese pistol, two Chicom hand grenades and a factory made boobytrap."

The items were extracted to a nearby LZ.

All smiles, lovely Jill St. John epitomizes what every well rounded pool should have. Need we elaborate?

# Major Getz receives DSC —

Major Charles E. Getz, Prattville, Ala., commander of the 1st Battalion, 52d Infantry, is congratulated by General Creigton W. Abrams, commanding general MACV. Major Getz had just been awarded the Army's Distinguished Service Cross. The DSC is the nation's second highest award for valor. (U.S. Army Photo By Sp/4 William Hutchison)

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Donald R. Theel (Worthing, S. D.), and Private First Class Virgil W. Steadman (Conneaut Lake, Pa.).

Luc Luong Scout Do-Van-Gioi was presented the Army Commendation Medal for Valor.

Along with General Abrams, other distinguished persons present included Lieutenant General James L. Sutherland, commanding general XXIV Corps, Major General James L. Baldwin, commanding general of the 23rd Infantry Division, and Brigadier General Bertram K. Gorwitz, assistant division commander for support. Also in attendance were Colonel Khan, chief of staff for the 2nd ARVN Division and Colonel Loi, province chief of Quang Ngai province.

The 1st Bn., 52nd Inf's awards ceremony was an impressive event. But not nearly so impressive as the valorous deeds performed by the medal recipients–most notibly Major Getz.

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Captain James B. MacArthur concentrates on the music sheet as he plays a spiritual number--a style he is not particularly familiar with. (U.S. Army Photo)

# Captain MacArthur now Division Chapel pianist

By SP/4 William Hutchison

CHU LAI, (23rd Inf. Div. IO)--The 23rd Infantry Division's chapel has a new pianist for its Sunday morning Protestant services. Captain James B. MacArthur, Saginaw, Mich., Commander of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 523rd Signal Battalion, is lending his talent to the chapel's piano every Sunday.

The busy captain is also mess officer and officer-in-charge of the local MARS station. Yet he has gladly taken time from his busy and demanding schedule to play for the chapel. But to MacArthur this is certainly no bothersome task, for he derives great pleasure and relaxation from his playing.

Being in Vietnam has sorely dampened his piano playing—his full schedule and the lack of readily accessable pianos are two of the biggest reasons. He often plays on one of the Special Services pianos here in Chu Lai in any spare time he can get together.

"When I am playing my problems just sort of fade away, I guess to me the piano is my narcotic," stated MacArthur.

The young captain started out on classical music during most of his eight years of piano instruction. Lately he has turned to the pop music field, especially to the music of Burt Bacharch.

"I can really find a tremendous amount of pleasure out of just sitting down at the piano with a few friends and having an old fashioned sing-along," remarked the young pianist.

Though limited to spiritual music, Captain MacArthur has brought a little something extra to the Sunday Protestant services.

# 198th Bde. gains title with 4-2 softball win

By MSG Bill Pickett

CHU LAI, (23d Inf. Div. IO) – The 198th Inf. Bde. came from behind in the final two games of the 23d Infantry Division Fast Pitch Softball Championship and twice defeated Company A, 523d Signal Battalion to win the division title.

The champs battled through the losers' bracket of the double elimination tournament which began May 11, and in game 52 of the tournament, Jeff Stevens hit a grand slam home run to provide the winners with all the runs they needed in the 4-2 win.

The winning runs were scored in the last of the sixth inning after Company A had taken a 2-0 lead on home runs by Bill Klaus and Everett Kitchen in the third and fourth innings respectively.

Those home runs were the first two hits of the game off winning pitcher, Chaplain Don Grover, who bested the Signaleers' Art Quackenbush in the semifinal game of the tournament, with Company A holding a 1-0 lead. But the brigade men notched two runs in the sixth inning and added six in the seventh frame for an 8-1 victory, earning another chance for the title.

Third place in the tournament went to 635th Military Intelligence Company, while another 523d Sig. Bn. team-Company C–earned fourth place. Team trophies and individual awards were scheduled to be presented to the top four teams.

Third baseman Klaus got the first hit off for the Alpha Company nine when he homered to left field in the third inning. Catcher Woodson's fourth inning blast was nearly caught by right fielder Dave Reen, but the ball barely tipped off his glove as he reached over the fence.

A momentary loss of control in the fatal sixth inning got loser Quackenbush into trouble. He walked Terry Dagit to lead off the inning, then hit shortstop Tom Frey with a pitch. Renn then singled up the middle, setting the stage for Stevens' game-winning home run.

The losers threatened in the seventh inning when Charlie Penn walked with one out, after a pinch hit single put runners on first and second. Chaplain Grover got the next two batters out to snuff out the threat.

In the semifinal contest, the signal team scored in the first inning on a hit batsman and a triple by Dagit. The teams battled on even terms until the 198th tallied two runs in the sixth and added six more in the seventh inning, three runs scoring on a home run by Renn.

Division Special Services office personnel, encouraged by the participation in the softball tournament, have scheduled volleyball during July, and are planning a slow pitch softball tournament for later this summer.

Safe at third base is Terry Dagit as the ball gets through Alpha Company third baseman Bill Kaus. Dagit scored on the play, which occurred in the semifinal game, won by the 198th, 8-1 (U.S. Army Photo by MSG. Bill Pickett)

# 27th Surg inactivated after 3 years

By PFC Sam Rousso

CHU LAI, (23d Inf. Div. IO) – In a simple military ceremony, the 27th Surgical Hospital was inactivated here June 11.

Operational at Chu Lai since April 13, 1968, the 27th Surg., according to Major General James L. Baldwin, commanding general, 23d Infantry Division, "has truly been a member of our team." In the hospital's three years here, it treated 24,000 American and Vietnamese patients in support of the 23d Division.

In addition to General Baldwin, the list of distinguished guests included Colonel Philip J. Noel Jr., commander of MEDCOM and Colonel Willaim T. Bethea, commanding officer, 67th Medical Group. Major William W. Eversmann commanded the 27th Surgical Hospital.

According to Colonel Noel, the standdown was not "in a sense of failure or incompletion...it is with honor. and part of the mission so well accomplished."