DFO survey finds no reason for delay

By SP4 Mike Cassidy

CHU LAI, (23d Inf. Div. IO) -- Recently the Division Finance Office took a survey to find the reason for delayed delivery of checks mailed from here. The survey could find no reason or problem.

There were over 200 complaints about the delivery of this division's pay checks to U.S. addressed in May of this year. Brigadier General Bertram K. Gorwitz, assistant division commander for support, ordered that questionnaires be sent to other units. They replied that they were not experiencing any problem.

Major K.G. James, Americal Finance Officer, in an attempt to locate the problem, enclosed return-addressed questionnaires with the pay checks. The addresses were asked on which day the check was received and how the delivery compared with previous months.

The conclusions of the surveys for June and July were:

Most checks arrived on the fouth or fifth day, that is, the first or second of the month. Addresses in the Midwest received their checks later than those in other areas.

The checks took between three and eight days to arrive after they were mailed on the 27th of the month.

Comments from the addressees said that this was the earliest that they had received the checks. Though there are no apparent problems, the finance office has continued the survey for August.

Finance Office Sergeant Major J. S. Vargo ponted out that mail problems can presently be eliminated by use of a Class E allotment. Class E allotments allow the payee to have a set amount sent by check to an individual or a financial institution every month. Since the checks are sent from the U.S. Finance Center, Ft. Benjamin Harrison, Ind., the time the check spends in transit to a stateside address is shorter.

Three Americal soldiers are outlined against the falling sun as they relax on their Sheridan Tank. (U.S. ARMY PHOTO)

SOUTHERN CROSS
AMERICAL DIVISION

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RPGs down resupply bird

By SP4 Larry Rich

DA NANG, (196th Inf. Bde. IO) – Resupply day in the field is usually a happy occasion. When the resupply bird makes a crash landing outside your perimeter, however, it gets a little unnerving.

"The bird was just starting to lift off when the first RPG (rocket propelled grenade) round hit the tail section," said Specialist Four Donald D. Reich (Aberdeen, S.D.), a rifleman with the 3d Battalion, 21st Infantry. "The pilot immediately tried to fly the helicopter out. A second RPG hit near the door and it went down."

The craft landed over 100 meters from the "Gimlets'" perimeter. "It was downhill from us," Reich recalled, "lying in a rice paddy."

Exposing himself to enemy fire, the rifleman ran to the fallen helicopter. Helping to drag the crew from the wreckage, Reich also provided cover fire for the rescue.

The word was passed to move into the surrounding bush in order to obtain more cover. Reich decided to stay in the open rice paddy and serve as security for the wounded crew.

"I looked around," he recalled," and saw the medic (Specialist Four David V, Crawford, Porter, Ill.) standing up treating the crew. He'd already exposed himself (to the enemy) twice by crossing the resupply point to where the bird was down."

Ignoring the risk, the rifleman stayed with the medic in the open rice paddy. Seemingly oblivious to the danger, the medic continued to give first aid until a chopper arrived to transport the injured crew members to the hospital.

For their efforts on behalf of the wounded, Reich and Crawford were each awarded the Bronze Star for valor.

Captain Tom Burris (Columbia, S.C.) injects novocaine into a Vietnamese patients' mouth prior to extracting a tooth during a MEDCAP at My Hue 1. (U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY SP4 SAM ROUSSO)

MEDCAP helps people of My Hue 1

By SP4 Sam Rousso

CHU LAI, (23d Inf. Div. IO) -- Elements of the 23d Infantry Division's (Americal) 23d Medical Battalion, in conjunction with the Republic of Vietnam's Health Service and Navy, made their way down the Tra Bong River to the village of My Hue 1 on a recent rainy day.

Doctors, dentists and medics from Headquarters and Company A, 23d Medical Bn., undeterred by the inclement weather participated in the MEDCAP (Medical Civic Affairs Program) with nurses from the Republic of Vietnam Health Service.

Transportation down the Tra Bong River, coordinated by the U.S. Navy's Coastal Advisory Group 15, was provided by Republic of Vietnam Navy.

A MEDCAP is conducted with two purposes in mind--to give treatment to those that need it, and to involve the government of Vietnam more fully in the medical welfare of its people--sort of a medical Vietnamization.

MEDCAPs have been conducted in the Republic of Vietnam since the United States was first involved in assisting this country. All American armed services conduct MEDCAPs, but under different acronyms.

In the Americal Division's area of operations, over 1500 MEDCAPs have been conducted since January. Since the formation of the division, an average of over 3000 MEDCAPs have been made annually.

Once everything was ready at My Hue 1, the people started coming like water after the dam had "busted". In a little over four hours, the doctors treated about 250 villagers, while the dentists treated about 40--mostly for tooth extractions.

Problems treated by the doctors ranged from abscesses to stomach aches. A few cases, notably of cerebral palsy, were beyond the capability of the MEDCAP team to treat. It was recommended to these people that they report to a province hospital for treatment.

At times, the makeshift hospital--in reality a town hall-overflowed with people, especially children. Like other children the world over, the children of my Hue 1 exhibited great curiosity--about cameras, radios, medicines and what was happening in general.

All the 23d Med. participants expressed a desire to participate in further MEDCAPs. "It was a fantastic experience, one of the greatest of my medical career. I'd like to go out on another one of these soon," said one doctor.

Case 1

On August 26, Private First Class Larry E. Mitchell, Company C, 23d Medical Battalion, was tried and convicted by a General Courts-Martial for possession, use and sale of heroin.

He was sentenced to forfeit all pay and allowances, to be confined at hard labor for 15 months, to be reduced to the pay grade of private (E-1) and to be discharged from the service with a Bad Conduct Discharge.

Case 2

On August 29, Specialist Four Richard L. Buffum, Headquarters, 23d Supply and Transportation Battalion, was tried and convicted by a Special Courts-Martial for possession of heroin and failure to obey a lawful order.

He was sentenced to forfeit $75 for two months, to be reduced to the pay grade of private (E-1) and to be discharged from the service with a Bad Conduct Discharge.

So You Think Drugs Won't Hurt Your Future

Dear Major Williams:

We are happy to write you and let you know our corporate attitude towards drugs and drug users.

Our company is made up of some eight or nine different corporations and we employ people from general utility, lay-out fitup men, welders, professional drivers, crane operators, data processing managers and engineers.

As a corporate policy we take the same stand on drugs that we do on alcholism; we refuse to employ those addicted to the use of either of the two because we feel that we have a responsibility to our present employees to provide for their safety as well as to the safety of the general public. Employees who become users of either, are usually terminated within a short period of time.

With regard to an undesirable discharge, we currently have only one employee who has received an undesirable discharge. This man is doing an excellent job and has received several promotions even into management, however; he is the exception rather than the rule. We have not had a good record of employing those with undesirable discharges.

Sincerely,

BRENNER INDUSTRIES

W. E. Vaughan-Lloyd
Service Administrator

There It Is

It was one of those quiet September days when the grass is turning brown and the trees are losing their grandeur. Ralph was busy raking leaves in the yard. He seemed very busy, but his mother noticed that he wasn't accomplishing much. She went out on the porch to discover that Ralph was raking with the teeth of the rake up. "It's easier this way, Mom," explained the youth. And it was!

It was one of those busy September days when you can hear the office machines clattering and the clerks are moving from their desks to the water cooler. PFC Rear was typing letters for the CO. Now and then he would answer the phone or chat with someone passing through to the ice box. He seemed busy, but his boss noticed that nothing but blank stationery filled the "out" box. The Captain walked over to the desk to find that Rear had removed the ribbon from the typewriter. "It's easier this way, Sir," said the lad, "now I don't have to make corrections." And it was!

It was one of those September days when you can see the "newbies" coming in and the "shorts" DEROSing. Specialist Grunt was occupied with completing his tour. Now and then he would obviously sham a little, but all in all, he gave the appearance of being very busy and successful. But the Chaplain noticed that he was trying to live without God. He spent no time in worship. He was not concerned with his fellow man. He did not worry about his spiritual needs. "Oh, I don't bother with that stuff," explained the trooper, "it's easier this way." And it was!

SOUTHERN CROSS
AMERICAL DIVISION

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Major General Frederick J. Kroesen . . . . . Commanding General
Lieutenant Colonel Daniel R. Zenk . . . . . Information Officer
Specialist Four Mark A. Schulz . . . . . Editor, Production Editor

Studies note harmful marijuana effects

In the past few years, the smoking of marijuana and the use of stronger forms of cannabis have increased to the point that it is now a major problem in the United States. The reasons for this are complex and solutions equally complex. Yet, some aspects of the problem are clear and they should be made part of the record. In regard to the use of marijuana and hashish, there appears to be no reason for their use in our society other than pleasure seeking. Presently identified physical and psychological effects indicate actual and potential harm to some users.

Here are some facts about marijuana as collected by the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs:

(1) Usage and arrests for marijuana possession and sale are increasing.

(2) Possession and sale are prohibited by law in most nations of the world; 70 countries have agreed to control the drug under a United Nations treaty.

(3) Heavy marijuana use is seldom isolated from the abuse of other drugs such as LSD, amphetamines, and barbiturates.

(4) Scientific studies have revealed tetrahydrocannabinols (THC's) as the psychoactive ingredient in marijuana.

(5) THC's are powerful, mind-altering drugs like LSD.

(6) Frequent heavy use of more concentrated forms of cannabis such as hashish has been associated with physical, mental, and social deterioration.

Marijuana's Effects

Marijuana and all the known products extracted from the plant material have mixed depressant, sedative, and hallucinogenic properties. Marijuana acts principally on the brain. In low doses, it can produce hallucinations, and in higher doses, it can result in bizarre behavior and a psychotic state.

The effects of marijuana on an individual are dependent upon numerous physical and psychological factors. One such factor is the dosage of the drug, measured by the potency of the preparation. Other factors involved in variation of effects are the expectations of the user, prior experience with drugs, and the setting, both physical and social. It appears that a person must "learn" to experience some of the effects of marijuana. On the other hand, it may be that neuro-physiological changes which accompany sustained use may influence the effects. Both factors may be true. Because of the great inter- and intra-individual variation in responses to marijuana, there is much confusion and disagreement about effects.

Some frequently reported short-lasting physical effects of marijuana (low dosage) are:

(1) Dilation of the blood vessels in the eye which causes a "bloodshot" appearance, increase in heart rate, irritation of the throat, and dryness of the mouth.

(2) Appetite for food is often increased, and some marijuana users become drowsy.

(3) Although these changes may occur, all of them are not necessarily found in every person using the drug.

Marijuana has sometimes been called an aphrodisiac, however, there is no evidence that it stimulates sexual desire or potency. Its use, like the use of alcohol, may reduce inhibitions.

Some commonly experienced short-lasting psychological and social responses to marijuana intoxication (low dosage) are: euphoria (a high or heightened sense of well-being), a feeling of detachment and relaxation, a feeling that sensations are more intense, changes in the perception of distance and time, the tendency to be easily distracted, disruption in thought and speech, increased suggestibility, increase sense of sociability, and hilarity.

These are the experiences of a mild marijuana "high."

The effects of very high doses of THC resemble those of the more potent hallucinogens such as LSD, including psychotic behavor. In a recent THC experiment, most subjects on very high doses experienced marked distortion in visual and auditory perception, de-personalization (a feeling of being separated from one's body), a feeling of unreality, and sedation. High doses have, in some cases, led to temporary auditory and visual hallucinations, panic, or, rarely, acute psychotic episodes. Violent behavior is uncommon.

Long-Term Use

Cannabis preparations such as hashish, which contains high concentrations of THC, have been used for centuries in some Eastern countries. Long-term heavy use of these preparations appears to degrade persons in much the same way that chronic alcoholism does. There is neglect of health and appearance, incapacity for work, personality change, apathy, and loss of normal social or family life. Although some of these effects have been noted in human subjects in controlled experiments with THC by scientists in the U.S., cause and effect relationships have not yet been demonstrated. However, until a few years ago, it was not known that long-term tobacco smoking can cause or contribute to serious diseases of the lungs and heart.

Experimental Studies

Although research on the effects of marijuana has been done in the past, the recent increase in the use of the drug has stimulated an increase in experimental studies, especially since the identification and synthesis of THC, the development of analytic techniques, and the availability of standard cannabis preparation have provided researchers with a basic tool, the ability to quantify doses.

A recent study by F. T. Melges, et al., using humans to determine the effects of orally administered THC, indicated that the THC impaired performance on arithmetical tasks. The impairment increased with increases in dosage and persisted for as long as 5½ hours after administration of the highest doses. The study showed that long-term memory operations were not significantly impaired, but that short-term memory was impaired by the THC.

Dr. R. C. Pillard reports three types of acute adverse psychologic reactions: reactive fright and panic; toxic psychosis marked by symptoms of thought disorganizations, paranoia, de-personalization, and hallucinations; and "flashback," a condition in which the subject suddenly feels the drug effect even though he has not used the drug for days or weeks. John A. Talbott and J. W. Tague, who studied 12 cases of acute toxic psychosis in soldiers in Vietnam, indicate that it appeared to be a valid clinical syndrome. All 12 cases were first-time users and 11 of the 12 cases were diagnosed by more than one psychiatrist.

Clinical observers are now finding certain adverse effects in patients being treated for psychiatric problems. Dr. Harold Kolansky and Dr. William Moore have reported adverse psychological effects in 38 individuals from age 13 to 24 who smoked marijuana two or more times. Although they had seen many other patients who had used marijuana, this group of 38 was analyzed because they had used no other drugs and did not show a predisposition to serious psychiatric problems. Their study demonstrates "the possibility that moderate-to-heavy use of marijuana in adolescents and young people without predisposition to psychotic illness may lead to ego decompensation ranging from mild ego disturbance to psychosis."

Another clinical observer, Dr. Harvey Powelson, who has treated many students in his position as psychiatrist at the University of California at Berkeley, has found neurologic signs, symptoms, and psychological effects similar to those reported by Dr. Kolansky and Dr. Moore.

The belief that marijuana use almost invariably leads to the use of heroin

(continued on page 7)

Nine girls 'star' in fashion show

From the "land down under" comes this very functional raincoat--just in time for Chu Lai's seasonal showers. Wearing the coat and hat is Miss Joan Norby (Bronxville, N.Y.), Seabreeze Service Club program director. (U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY SP4 WILLIAM HUTCHISON)

By SP4 William Hutchison

CHU LAI, (23d Inf. Div. IO) – Vicki, Susan, Jean, Julah, Judy, Renee, Jean, Susie and Jan are not names from the latest movie, but they were the stars of the recent fashion show held at the Special Services Sandpiper Services Club.

The girls, all from the American Red Cross or Special Services, modeled a modish array of fashions from around the world. The girls strolled across the stage to the accompaniment of music from the Americal band's combo.

Specialist Four Rick Fenwick (Anderson, Ind.) was at the piano, Private First Class Rick Burgess (Fredericksburg, Tex.) was on the drums and Staff Sergeant Robert Williams (Nashville, Tenn.) supplied the base. Specialist Five William Columbus (Dallas), of the Division Information Office, was Master of Ceremonies for the night.

Each girl modeled three different outfits. Many outfits were bought while the girls were on R&R. From mini-dresses to pants to camouflaged fatigues--the audience was treated to sights not often witnessed in Vietnam. The latest styles and plenty of bright color kept the GIs on the their toes and clapping.

Susie Anderson, (Waterloo, Wis.) of the Sandpiper Service Club, provided the intermission entertainment while the rest of the girls changed. With the help of the combo she sang "I Got To Be Me" and "God Bless a Child" from the "Blood, Sweat and Tears".

For all, the evening proved to be an enjoyable one. The girls enjoyed getting out in their finery for the benefit of the audience--who equally enjoyed the sights and sounds that were there for the beholding.

A Donut Dolly, Miss Jan Foster (Lafayette, Ind.) wears a beautiful and patriotic dress for the Special Services fashion show (U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY SP4 WILLIAM HUTCHISON)

"Shorttimer" Susie Anderson (Waterloo, Wis.), Sandpiper Club program director, directs a lot of attention in her stunning red pantsuit. (U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY SP4 WILLIAM HUTCHISON)

Orphans enjoy steaks

By SGT Tom Mano

CAMP FAULKNER, (196th Inf. Bde. I0) – Recently 205 orphans here traded their usual rice, soup and vegetables for steaks, hot dogs and GI smiles.

For seven hours the children of the Sacred Heart Orphanage were able to forget their deprivations and concentrate on more important things, such as how much mustard to put on their hot dog or whether to take a truck ride or play volleyball.

The day before, at a beach party given by the S-5 section of 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry, a call was put out to any GIs who would like to participate in the event. The response went far beyond their expectations.

"We got 25 guys right off the bat," related Sergeant Frank Torress (Barrigagda, Guam), NCOIC of the S-5 section. "I guess many of them hadn't seen real kids for a while. I was out in the bush for 22 months and the kids out there are always trying to steal from you," continued the NCOIC. "We're trying to erase that as a stereotype of Vietnamese children."

Along with the 25 good samaritans, the S-5 was able to enlist the mess sergeant to do the cooking. For him this proved to be a new experience.

"When the steaks were done, it was like a free-for-all," mused Torres. "All I saw were hands and the next thing I knew, the mess sergeant was smiling, shaking his head and putting more steaks on the grill. It was quite a compliment."

"We brought a two-and-a-half ton truck to give the kids rides," said Torres. "For them it was like a ferris wheel is to us; they really dug it."

"We played volleyball and then introduced them to football," added the NCOIC.

All too soon it was time to go. As the GIs piled in the trucks to return to Camp Faulkner, two Veitnamese boys were arguing.

Had the Americans brought dissension to the orphans?

"Not really," laughed Torres. "They were just discussing who would play center at the next party."

SFC Rowland helps Viets rebuild fire-ravaged homes

DA NANG, (196th Inf. Bde. I0) – Asked why he does his job, a sergeant here looked puzzled and then said, "I like to help people; why, don't you?"

If helping people means paralleling Sergeant First Class Bob J. Rowland's (New Llano, La.) efforts, then one has to come a long way. This was perfectly exemplified in his recent action to help villagers repair their fire-ravaged homes.

When workers here at the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry told him that 64 families lost their homes at Hoa Phat, a nearby village, there was no time for dilly-dallying. Food, clothing, lumber and money were their first concern.

"We managed to scrounge C-rations, lumber, tin and nails," said Rowland. "When this thing is done, those people are going to have better homes than they had before."

On the financial side, Rowland requested 50,000 piasters through the 196th Infantry Brigade S-5. Then he went to the workers and men from the battalion.

Before long he had accumulated 15,000 piasters from the workers and 5000 from the Security Police, of which he is the chief. Rowland's experience on his last Vietnam tour helped him tremendously.

I was with MACV before and we rebuilt burned villages then too," commented Rowland. "You could say I was kinda ahead of the game."

ABOVE: Sergeant Dana Monaco (Billings, Mont.) jumps from a helicopter into a landing zone (LZ) just east of Hill 510 in northern Quang Tin Province. He is with Company D, 3d Battalion 21st Infantry, 196th Infantry Brigade.
BELOW: Specialist Four Russel Webb, (Aspen, Colo.), Sergeant James Gaston (Miami) and Specialist Four Narine Singh search for weapons caches east of Hill 510. (U.S. ARMY PHOTOS BY SP5 DALLAS J. RIDDLE)

196th Bde gr

ABOVE: Radio telephone operator (RTO) Sergeant James Gaston (Miami) talks to another squad of Company D, 3d Battalion, 21st Infantry, 196th Infantry Brigade after they found four enemy mortar rounds while on patrol east of Hill 510 in northern Quang Tin Province.

BELOW: Specialist Four Russell Webb (Aspen, Colo.) moves along a trail in search of weapons caches in northern Quang Tin Province. (U.S. ARMY PHOTOS BY SP5 DALLAS J. RIDDLE)

ABOVE: Staff Sergeant John Martindale (Little Rock, Ark.) gives last minute instruction to his squad be night defensive position (NDP).

BELOW: Specialist Four Russell Webb (Aspen, Colo.) checks out a possible NDP for boobytraps east Province. Webb is with Company D, 3d Battalion, 21st Infantry, 196th Infantry Brigade. (U.S. AR RIDDLE)

unts perform 'active defense'

Active defense!

This is the name of the game, and for the infantrymen of the 196th Infantry Brigade it means daily patrols in the field.

This is one of the major facets of the current mission of the 23d Infantry Division (Americal). Besdies defending U.S. bases and installations, men of the Americal are tasked with insuring Vietnamization of the war effort and assisting the Vietnamese through pacification programs.

Support for ARVN and Regional Forces includes artillery, aviation and logistical support, training assistance and combined operations.

The objective of the Americal's active defense is to prevent the enemy from establishing rocket launching sites or stocks of weapons and other supplies that could be used to attack American bases. Of course, it also prevents the enemy from assembling possible attack forces.

For the grunts of the 196th, it means another long hot day in the bush, a day spent looking forward to a cold shower, a hot meal and something cold to drink when the mission is over.

The infantryman faces the same enemies every day he spends in the bush–enemy soldiers, boodytraps, heat, dust, insects, boredom and carelessness.

It is a hard, dirty job that no one wants, but that the grunt takes in stride.

He has no country

By SGT Tom Mano

DA NANG, (196th Inf. Bde. I0) – He has no country, yet he calls two his own. He has fought for one. He might have died for the other.

When Specialist Four Ramon C. Calafell (Tampa, Fla.) fled Cuba at the age of nine in 1959, he was accustomed to the sound of gunfire. His ears still ring with vivid memories of political prisoners being stacked against walls to face firing squads.

Arriving in Vietnam with his orders as an 11 Bush (infantryman) he thought he had been through the worst of life. Graduating "trainee of the cycle" both in basic and AIT, (Advanced Individual Training), he was denied both NCO (non-commisioned officer school) and OCS (officer candidate school) because he was an alien, though he scored exceptionally high on both tests.

Calafell had never relinquished his Cuban citizenship because of the hope that someday he might return to his birthplace. But by coming into combat for another government, his nationality had disappeared.

Bitterness is not in this man's repertoire of emotions. He figures he's "just serving his time."

Now, having competed the paperwork to be naturalized, Calafell will journey to Hawaii in October to be sworn in by a federal circuit judge. For him it will be the answer to many questions.

"I remember getting into politcal debates in college which ended with the professor saying, 'well, when elections come up, you can have your say," commented the SP4. "Each time I had to tell the prof that I couldn't vote because I was an alien."

Calafell served ten months in the "bush" with Company B, 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry. But in retrospect he has not regretted his experience.

"Sure, it kicked my butt, and sometimes made me hate the people at home, but it helped me lose weight, see the true good and bad in people and gave me a greater appreciation of being alive," said Calafell.

"Some of my friends who are full-blooded Americans will never know the experience," added the grunt. "They'll never see a CIB (Combat Infantryman's Badge), something I'm very proud of."

For Calafell, Vietnam is much like what he remembers of Cuba. When the sun sets on the rolling hills, he sometimes imagines he's back.

"Vietnam, like Cuba can be beautiful, especially in the highlands," he reflected.

Though soon to become an American, Calafell's heart still lies in Cuba. "Back to Cuba" adorns his shortimer's calendar and he has nicknamed the arms room he controls "Little Cuba".

Neither will the men he humped with forget his origin. While home on a two-week leave, he received a letter from a fellow grunt addressed to "Ramon Che Calafell", much to him mother's dismay.

But would he be willing to return to his birthplace if the regime changed? Would he be willing to fight?

"I definitely would; there's something the land where you were born has over you," said Calafell. "I'm also adventurous, and I have 14 or 15 other guys who said they would fight with me."

I realize that sometimes you have to be aggressive and maybe that's why I didn't mind being a grunt."

Dreaded low crawl nets 7 VC soldiers

By SP4 Lawrence Mickanis

CHU LAI, (198th Inf. Bde. 10) – Low crawling, dreaded by most basic trainees, came in handy for a group of 198th Brigade infantrymen in an operation northwest of Chu Lai, enabling them to sneak up and kill seven VC soldiers.

After running patrols and breaking trail for most of the morning, an element of Company A, 4th Battalion, 3d Infantry decided to take a chow break. No sooner did they start eating when they heard noises coming from up the trail.

Sergeant James Williams (State Center, Iowa), a squad leader for the element, immediately assembled his squad and moved up the trail to investigate the noises. After proceeding up the trail a short distance, Williams passed the word back to be quiet because he heard voices up ahead.

The squad then proceeded cautiously toward the voices. Williams explained that the element was quite familiar with the area. They had operated in the area about one month before and killed one VC soldier and captured two enemy suspects there.

"At the end of the trail were three hootches surrounded by a garden," Williams said. "We low crawled through the garden to get as close to the hootches as possible without being detected."

Seeing the enemy, the men opened fire. Williams and Specialist Four Willis Crossland (Buena Park, Calif.), the greadier for the element, proceeded to check out the area. Upon entering one of the structures, Crossland found two dead VC soldiers. He informed Williams and the rest of the element of his find.

Williams discovered a blood trail outside one of the structures, regrouped the squad and followed the blood trail to a bunker.

The bunker was immediately engaged with small arms fire and grenades. Investigation of the bunker revealed five dead VC soldiers, new clothing, three Chicom grenades and small quantities of rice and corn.

The structures and bunker were destroyed; the clothing, food and grenades were extracted to a nearby LZ.

MR 1 Jewish GIs observe holy days

By SP4 Sam Rousso

CHU LAI, (23d Inf. Div. I0) – The Jewish High Holy Days, Rosh Hashanah (New Year) and Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement) were observed by Jewish soldiers in Military Region 1 at Camp Swampy, Da Nang Air Force Base.

Rosh Hashanah, which is also called the "Day of Remembrance", was observed from sunset September 19 through sundown September 21. Yom Kippur was observed from sunset September 28 through sundown September 29.

The Jewish New Year, Rosh Hashanah, according to the Jewish philisopher Joesph H. Hartz, "is far other than the mere opening day, according to the olden Jewish reckoning, of another year in the flight of time. Unlike the New Year celebrations of many ancient and modern nations, the Jewish New Year is not a time of revelry, it is a solumn season of self-examination and self-judgment in the life of the Jew".

Yom Kippur is the most sacred day in the Jewish calendar. It occurs ten days after Rosh Hashanah and is observed by 24 hours of fasting, prayers and supplications. It is also known as the "Day of Judgment."

It is said that on Rosh Hashanah the Book of Life is opened, and in it is inscribed the fate of mortal man. On Yom Kippur, the book is sealed, as man's destiny has been decided. Furthermore, on Yom Kippur, God forgives (if repentance is sincere) man's sins against Him.

Man's sins against his fellow man, according to Jewish tradition, can be forgiven only if he makes atonement to the individual harmed. It is the Prophet Micah who declared: "What is it that the Lord asks of thee? Only that thou shalt do justice, love righteousness."

For Jewish people, the High Holy Days are two steps in that direction.

Members of the 11th Infantry Brigade re-up team pose after they were awarded the Americal Division's monthly reenlistment award. From left to right are Staff Sergeant Charles E. Bowen (Bailey, Miss.); Sergeant First Class Thruman T. Gallaway, (Commerce, Tenn.); Staff Sergeant James J. Bobo (Salt Lake City, Utah); Staff Sergeant Freeman Frierson (Nashville, Tenn.); Staff Sergeant James L. Rooke (Halker Heights, Tex.) and Staff Sergeant Abe T. VanDerWerf (Drachten, Netherlands). (U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY SP4 WILLIAM HUTCHISON)

Happiness is comfort items from Red Cross

By SP4 William Hutchison

CHU LAI, (23rd Inf. Div. I0) – For patients at the 91st Evacuation Hospital, happiness is a cart full of comfort items, a pretty smile or it could even be an exciting game of baseball–concentration style. All three are cheerfully provided by two ladies of the American Red Cross (ARC).

For Judy McAbee (Spartanbury, S.C.) recreation supervisor, and Cindy Connor (Springfield Ill.) recreation worker, its a full time job trying to bring a bit of sunshine into the patients' stay at the hospital.

These two entergetic ladies in "pin stripes" handle all of the 91st's social work and recreation. Judy, who is here on her second tour (the first one with the ARC's Field Recreation Program) handles the bulk of the social work.

"We are here to try and keep up communications between the servicemen and his family in emergencies. Unlike the other Red Cross offices, we deal mostly with family inquiries into a patient's situation. We'll go to the ward and get a personal message and maybe a doctor's statement to send back to the concerned people back home. We can also check on trouble at home and the extent of illness in a GI's family.

"Prospective fathers can be kept up to date on their wives' conditions. It's a lot of paperwork, but you can get a lot of satisfaction out of helping these guys," explained Judy.

Recreation is really the name of the game with such things as a well equipped lounge complete with pool and ping-pong; a "happiness cart", stocked with writing materials, magazines, books, games, paints, puzzles-all of which are supplied by the Red Cross chapters of central Pennsylvania; games, such as football-a question and answer game to gain yardage, "tic-tac-toe" hospital style-which would have to be seen to be believed; and shows, organized by the girls, like the band visits, floor shows and USO shows.

Cindy, who taught kindergarten for a while before joining the Red Cross and heading across the "big pond", handles much of recreation program.

"I enjoy working with the guys, you never know how they will take a game. During one game of 'tic-tac-toe' they were tackling each other and really were getting excited over trying to keep the other team from getting three in a row—some even were grabbing the other guys pajamas to try and stop them," described Cindy.

"We just try and get their minds off their problems for a while and get them involved in games with their fellow bed patients."

When a GI enters the hospital the girls are there with a pretty smile and a "Hello, can I get you anything? "

A Welcome Booklet is presented, it's cover was hand colored by a child in the states. It contains a description of the ARC's job and what is available to the patient. Also found inside are games, puzzles and an assortment of mind teasers.

Accompanying the booklet is a ditty bag which contains all of the toiletry articles a patient will need during his stay.

Ask a patient what he likes most about the services offered by the Red Cross. He would probably state that it was the girls' warm smiles, the special attention they show to each individual and their enthusiasm-like when they try to tell a patient he was wrong when he states Mickey Mantle only played for one major league team–the New York Yankees.

Major Wigger gains gold medal

By SP4 Sam Rousso

CHU LAI, (23d Inf. Div. 10) – Major Lones W. Wigger, Jr. (Carcer, Mont.), the Officer in Charge of the 23d Infantry Division's Advanced Marksmanship School, added one more to his list of medals won in shooting competition by winning a gold and silver medal in the recent Pan American games, held at Cali, Columbia.

Wigger finished second to teammate John Writer, an Army Reservist from Illinois, in the small bore (.22 caliber) three position matches. The U.S. Shooting Team finished first overall in the competition.

To be named to the team, Wigger had to compete at Phoenix, Ariz., in the International Shooting Championships, where he finished second--to Writer--during a two-week CONUS leave. After being invited to join the team, he submitted a letter requesting that he be allowed to participate in the Pan Am games to the Commanding General, United States Army, Vietnam (USARV). It was approved, and he returned to the United States at the end of July. From there, it was on to Cloumbia.

After the Pan Am games, Wigger purchased his own ticket back to the United States so that he could particpate in the National Small Bore Position Championships at Camp Perry, Ohio, August 11 and 12. He won the title there, as he has six times in eight years.

Since 1963, he has won 30 medals in shooting competition. In the Pan Am games that year, he won a gold and a silver medal, as he did during the Tokyo Olympics the next year. In 1966, he won five medals in the World Championship meet at Wiesbader, Germany.

Participating in the CISM "Military Olympics" in 1968 and 1969, he won eight medals.

During 1970's World Championship meet at Phoenix, Wigger won 11 more medals. With those he won this year, his total is now 30.

DA schedules E-7 board for around November 1

By MSG Bill Pickett

CHU LAI, (Special) – The next Department of the Army Selection Board to consider individuals for promotion to pay grade E-7 is scheduled to convene about November 1, it was announced by the 23d Infantry Division (Americal) adjutant general section here.

According to a message from DA, the primary zone of consideration for the board will include all personnel on active duty in pay grade E-6 who have a date of rank (DOR) of Dec. 31, 1967 or earlier, and a basic active service date (BACT) of June 30, 1961 or earlier.

Secondary zone consideration will include those E-6s with a DOR of Dec. 31, 1967 or earlier and a BASD of July 1, 1961 through June 30, 1963.

All personnel who are considered and not selected for promotion to E-7 by the initial DA borad for that grade which adjourned Sept. 22, 1970, will be considered regardless of the eligibility criteria outlined above.

Those personnel who will not be on active duty on Jan. 1, 1972 will not be considered. Commanders have been directed to determine those personnel within the zones of consideration and to prepare and submit promotion packets to DA.

Individuals are not authorized to appear in person before a selection board in his own behalf or in the interest of another person who is in the zone of consideration.

The current recommended list to E-7 is carried in DA Circular 624-98. Of 3250 persons on the list, 2034 had been promoted through August.

No boards are scheduled at the present time for consideration for promotion to E-8, E-9 or command sergeant major, according to the division AG.

PACEX catalogues due here now

CHU LAI (special) – The presses are rolling. The new PACEX Mail Order Catalog has been printed and initial copies are being "air rushed" to selected Pacific areas from Japan beginning Sept. 1.

"Better than ever," are words describing the 324 page volume from Pacific Exchange System Headquarters. Now the customer will be able to choose from a vast number of more than 1500 popular gifts from the orient--and have these gifts mailed directly to persons back home.

"This will generate considerable customer enthusiasm," said Brigadier General Robert E. Brofft, ASAF, commander, PACEX, referring to the all color display of not only an updated assortment of popular items and the introduction of some not previously offered.

All merchandise is foreign-made representative of countries in the Pacific, where American troops are assigned or visit.

Since only a limited number of the planned total of 500,000 catalogues can be assembled each day, priority in distribution will be given servicemen stationed in Vietnam, Thailand and Korea. Pacific-wide delivery should be completed within a month.

Sharon Pinto (Tonawanda, N.Y.) makes a clean catch of the Frisbee at Daytona Beach--No guys, she wasn't here at the Chu Lai Special Services Beach--but maybe someone SHOULD invite her.

(Dayton Beach Resort Areas Photo)

Facts about marijuana

(continued from page 2)

stems from the observation that most heroin addicts used marijuana prior to the first use of heroin. Until recent years, statisticians did not look first at marijuana smokers as a group to determine how many of them went on to use heroin. Nor did they look for other reasons that might account for the use of both marijuana and heroin.

Marijuana and Heroin Addiction

Recent analyses of new data have gone beyond the assumption that there is a simple, direct-relation between marijuana and heroin use. They lead to three conclusions:

(1) Some marijuana users go on to use heroin, but the incidence varies in defferent kinds of groups. As few as six percent of one group of college students who used marijuana were known to have used opiates. In a group of urban black men in their early thirties, about a fifth of those who had ever used marijuana later turned to heroin.

(2) Other factors appear to be as important as marijuana in predicting eventual heroin use. In the case of the college students, it was a feeling of alienation. In the case of the black men, it was teenage delinquency.

(3) The sequence from marijuana to heroin does not appear to be inevitable. If such a sequence does occur, it may be the result of the person's group life, has contact with drug peddlers, or the particular needs these drugs fill in his life.

Marijuana is clearly involved in use of other illegal drugs. It is prominent in a new pattern called "polydrug use" whereby a person uses a wide range of drugs deliberately to bring about desired moods and motives. Several recent studies show that marijuana use, especially if frequent and in large doses, is closely allied to dependence on other drugs and to polydrug use. The question still remains as to the reason why it is so called. Frequent use of marijuana may facilitate the progression to "hard" drug use—through commitment to the drug-using group, through buying and selling, and through the desire for the effect of mind-altering drugs.

The setting for almost all first use of marijuana is a group. Sometimes young people find that marijuana smoking is the key to acceptance by a group. If the group includes members who are "chipping" heroin, (using it at irregular intervals), there is a chance that new members of the group may be tempted to try it. If the group includes LSD users, this route is also open. The more closely a person is tied to a drug-using group, the more likely he or she will wind up using drugs. The power of groups to encourage or discourage the behavior of its members is enormous.

Conclusion

Marijuana has become the focal point and symbol of a social controversy in which the essential question is, "To what extent may society limit an individual's use, possession, and disposition of substances which can be physically and psychologically harmful and others?" The implications of this question are social, moral, scientific, political, and legal.

A conclusive answer to the consequences of marijuana use is not possible today. Scientific evidence presently available indicates that the drug has both physical and mind-altering effects similar to other hallucinogens and lacks medicinal value. The clouds of controversy surrounding marijuana use will not be quickly dissipated by scientific fact.

An increasing number of research reports on marijuana indicate that, at the very least, the drug is a dangerous substance which, depending on the dosage, can be the cause of varying amounts of temporary loss of physical and mental function. Research now in progress, in the opinion of many experts, is not expected to reverse this finding.

Two service clubs open near Chu Lai

By SP4 Sam Rousso

CHU LAI (23rd Inf. Div. IO) – Unknown to many soldiers in the Chu Lai area, there are two service clubs for their use--the Sandpiper and the Seabreeze.

The Sandpiper Service Club, near the division's headquarters area, offers such divertissements as movies every night (except when there's a floor show), coffee calls, television, pool tables and programs--games, panel discussions and crafts sessions--every night.

For all the chowhounds, the Sandpiper has an outstanding food program. Every Friday night a different type of food is served--cheesburgers, spaghetti, and chicken are some of the foods featured recently.

Coffee calls are held for officers on the second Thursday of each month, while NCOs are invited for coffee--and donuts! On Sunday everyone is invited for coffee and donuts.

Vicki Brooks is the manager of the Sandpiper. Working with her is Susie Anderson, program director. Together, they head a staff that includes nine men. Five men are on duty during the day, four at night. The club is open seven days a week. It opens at 10 a.m. every day except Tuesday--when it opens at 1 p.m. Closing time is 10 p.m. daily.

Miss Brooks credits Miss Anderson with much of the success of the Sandpiper's program. "Since Susie has arrived, the program has grown considerable. As a testimony to its effectiveness, we have the highest rate of attendance of any service club in M.R.1"

As an added service, soldiers in the Chu Lai area are able to call home on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday. Sign-ups begin at 8 a.m.–on phone call days only–and run through the day. The phones are operational from 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Callers can phone the continental United States, Alaska, Hawaii, Mexico, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and Canada collect. The rate is $15 station to station or $20 person to person for a five minute call.

One of the many activities of the Sandpiper Service Club is NCO Coffee Call, held on the third Thursday of each month. Here some senior NCOs relax, enjoying coffee and donuts during Coffee Call. (U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY SP4 SAM ROUSSO)

Major General Frederick J. Kroesen, commanding general of the 23d Infantry Division (Americal) presents Staff Sergeant Clarence E. Titus (Markin, Ill.), re-up NCO for the 6th Battalion, 11th Artillery, with a plaque recognizing him as the battalion re-up NCO for the month for the Americal Division. (U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY SP4 WILLIAM HUTCHISON)

Group tries to bridge gap

By SP5 William Columbus

CHU LAI (23d Inf. Div. IO) – The Human Relations Committee helps bridge the gap in the chain for soldiers of the 23d Infantry Division (Americal).

The purpose of the committee covers many areas, all of which help the individual soldier perform his duties more efficiently. Basically, the committee was established to promote racial harmony within the division. Today everything from drugs to dog vaccination is discussed.

The human relations officer for the division is Lieutenant Colonel Desmond Dewey, G-1. The committee's chairman is Brigadier General Bertram K. Gorwitz, assistant division commander for support.

There are representatives from all major subordinate commands within the Americal. The committee meets once each month and discusses problems that exist in their respective units and possible ways these problems may be solved.

Each unit must submit its minutes to the chairman of the divisional committee. There they are reviewed and any appropriate action is taken. Each company has been given a sample plan to guide them in their discussions.

The committee is implemented by a contact team headed by Captain James Dierick and assisted by Sergeant James Flynn. The contact team checks to see if the individual committees are functioning properly. They also investigate complaints from individual soldiers.

After the contact team has completed its investigation, the findings are reported to the commanding general.

According to statistics, the human relations committee has proven successful in promoting harmony among the men.

At a recent division level meeting, an unusual project in the 196th Brigade was brought to light. Called "Project Brotherhood" it was started by several black NCOs to help other blacks occupy their off-duty time and learn a trade. Such things as radio and TV repair, masonry and carpentry are taught.

The project has become so successful that it has been expanded to include all persons who wish to participate.

Ranger captures Russian pistol from killed enemy

By SGT Tom Mano

CAMP REASONER (196th Inf. Bde. IO) – "I've been in the bush for 32 months and I've never seen one like it before," commented a ranger staff sergeant here as he turned the pistol over in his hand.

Fascination was expressed by all six men of Paris team, Company G, 75th Rangers when they discovered the weapon on an enemy killed in recent action in the 196th Infantry Brigade AO.

"It's called a Makarov," said Specialist Four Ronald C. Hicks (Holleywood, Fla.), the proud owner of the 9mm Russian-made pistol. "It's going back with me as a souvenir."

"I've seen many Chinese Communist-made 9mm pistols," interjected Staff Sergeant Larry G, Ousley (Belleville, Mich.), team leader of Paris Team. "But the writings on this one mark it as distinctively Russian."

The pistol was "awarded to Hicks, because it was his kill which brought about its capture. It was taken from a political officer who had been operating in the area obtaining rice for his comrades.

"We knew he was an officer by his cloths and haircut," mused Ousley. "Their enlisted men are like ours; they just don't like to cut their hair."

Hicks realizes the value of the weapon. He plans on firing it over here, but not taking it back to the field. "Guys have told me I could get $250 for it back in world," stated Hicks. "It will probably adorn my wall when I get home."

"We managed to scrounge up an Army manuel on enemy weapons," continued the Ranger. "It shows how to disassemble and clean it, so that will be no problem."

When the weapon is displayed in Hicks' home, it will provide him with a constant reminder of an NVA political officer.

This pilot flies VR missions but performs like quasi-medevac pilot

By SGT Tom Mano

DA NANG (196th Inf. Bde. IO) – When a chopper pilot here came to Vietnam recently, he didn't know what his job would be. Looking at the record of his first two months, it's still hard to determine what branch of lying he's in.

Though his main job is flying visual reconnaissance (VR) missions for the 196th Infantry Brigade, Warrant Officer Alan G. Reeves could consider himself a quasi-medevac pilot. Among the passengers in his LOH have been men suffering from appendicitis, epilepsy and an infected eye.

"Sometimes, it takes the medevac bird 20 minutes to reach the wounded," said Reeves. "If I'm in the area, I figure the time I cut could save their lives."

Recently, two men from 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry hit a boobytrap while Reeves was operating above. A dustoff (medevac chopper) was called, but it was determined Reeves could save 20 to 30 minutes by flying them in.

Swooping down, Reeves had to oust the captain with him to make room for the two soldiers. He strapped one in the front seat and the other in the back near his door gunner.

"The guy in front looked all right, but the one in back worried me," related Reeves.

After arriving at Company C, 23d Medical Battalion and receiving emergency aid, the men were transferred to a dustoff and relayed to the 95th Evacuation Hospital.

Even with his thoughts that wounded soldiers are "number one," Reeves wouldn't like to be a permanent dustoff pilot.

"I know they often get the undying thanks of their passengers," said Reeves. "But I couldn't start a mission and then be diverted to another because it had a greater priority."

"You know that the guy you were going after is also hurting," added the LOH pilot. "There's nothing you can do about it."

PROJECT HELP, Question of the Week

QUESTION: If we stand down, can we give our appliances to a school or orphanage?

ANSWER: In the event of a unit's redeployment, collection points would be established at unit level to collect items being donated to worthy Vietnam organizations. The donations would be distributed to orphanages, schools, hospitals and refugee centers. Publicity of the collection points would be handled by unit chaplains. Collection would be coordinated by unit S-5 officers who would in turn coordinate through G-5.

If you have any questions to be submitted to Project Help, dial HELP any time of the day or night. Any question on Army policies or personal problem will be answered.

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16 cents First Class
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*does not meet requirements for free mail