

1/6th Infantry Battalion Compilation of Vietnam Articles

Forwarding note from Leslie Hines, ADVA Vietnam era historian for 2018.

The Americal Division Veteran's Association Historical Data Base contains many news articles, reports, unit albums, casualty reports, KIA information, videos and maps relating to units that served with the Americal Division. My work on this effort began way back in the 1980s. Many items came from veterans sharing their news articles with me or from tedious efforts to locate and transcribe the text and images from microfilm copies. Today the data base now holds approximately 40% of the stories of our service in the Americal Division and supporting units. But it is the result of my best effort.

I have realized that it might be difficult for a veteran to find stories about their battalion from the data base if they did not have some computer skills. This compilation may come too late for some, but it is always something that I hoped that would be done by a unit's web master or some other helpful soul as I continued to add more material to the data base. But it is time that I start making the effort. If for no other reason than to illustrate what can be done if someone makes the effort to compile their own unit stories from the data base.

This compilation limited to only news stories. These come from "Pacific Stars & Stripes" and the "Army Reporter" which published many of the articles provided by the Americal Division Information Office. It also includes brigade command newsletters (198th LIB), the division daily newsheets, the Americal Division magazines (12 issues), the Americal Division Book (printed in July 1970), and 117 issues of the "Southern Cross" published in Vietnam were included. Notable sources of stories that were not included in the compilation were the ADVA Newsletter/Journal stories and the 1/46th Battalion Newsletters. Some of the ADVA "Newsletters" have been scanned as read only images. The issues of the ADVA "Journal" can be searched electronically and currently is complete. It would be possible to select several more articles if I had time to research stories that did not provide the company name. For example a story might only refer to the action of a unit of the Americal Division or the 198th Bde engaging the enemy. If the story indicated they were 23 enemy killed and a cache of 12 B-40 rockets I might be able to identify that the company was from the 1/6th Inf. Bn. Without this determination we only know that it was an Americal or 198th Brigade unit.

Note: References to photos may indicate that we have an image taken from microfilm or xerox copy. These may be found in PDF files in the historical data base or you may request copies of the images the ADVA historian.

No tour books for the 1/6th Inf. Bn. have been located. These books are similar to high school year books. These were created under the direction of the officer assigned duties as historian for the battalion. We have located 2 or more of these for other similar units like the 1/46 and 5/46th Inf. Bn. and are hopeful to find some for the 1/6th Inf. Bn.

Also, there were battalion newsletters printed for infantry battalions in the 198th Inf. Bde. as well as a newsletter for the 198th Inf. Bde. To date we have not been able to locate some of the 198th Bde newsletters Bayonet. To Date none of the the 1/6th newsletters have been located, except some from the trip to Vietnam on the U.S.S. Upshur. And there are very few 1/6 Inf. Bn. Battalion S2/S3 images. Some quarterly historical summaries exist for the 5/46th Inf. Bn but none exist for the 1/6th Inf. Bn. The best source of 1/6th Information may have been created by Ray Tyndall and Col. Wayne R. Johnston. Recently found are some newsletters from the ship that the 1/6th Inf. Bn. 1st came to Vietnam on.

Another source that has not been worked is the news releases sent to home town newspapers with stories about our veterans.

UNIT CITATIONS AWARDED

SOURCE: Department of the Army Pamphlet 762-3
Unit Citation and Campaign Participation Credit Register
(1960-1978) Dated: May 1980

UNIT CITATION DATES OF SERVICE DAGO & DATE

1st Bn, 6th Inf

VUA (Less Co D) 7-11 Feb 68 DAGO 73, 1968
RVNGC 24 Aug 69 - 31 Dec 69 DAGO 42, 1972
RVNGC 31 Mar 70 - 30 Jun 70 DAGO 6, 1974
RVNGC 1 Mar 71 - 9 Oct 71 DAGO 6, 1974
HHC, 1st Bn, 6th Inf
RVNGC 1 Apr 71 - 30 Jun 71 DAGO 6, 1974

ABBREVIATIONS:

DAGO: Department of the Army General Order
PUC: U.S. Army Presidential Unit Citation
VUA: U.S. Army Valorous Unit Award
MUC: U.S. Army Meritorious Unit Citation
RVNGC: Republic Of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm Unit Citation
RVNCAHM Republic of Vietnam Civil Actions Honor Medal - First Class

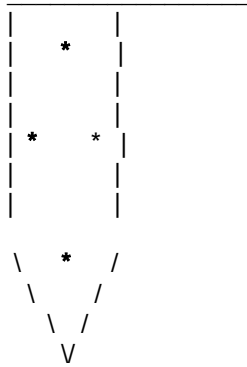
Unit abbreviations:

HHC Headquarters & Headquarters Company
HHB Headquarters & Headquarters Battery
DETACH Detachment

According to the Coffelt Database, there were 206 soldiers who lost their lives related to their service with the 1/6th in Vietnam.

Donated by William R. Mc Minn, Copperas Cove, TX
Contributed Document: Americal Division
Information Office Document entitled:
Americal Division History

AMERICAL DIVISION



(hand drawn
AMERICAL
PATCH)

HISTORY

INFORMATION OFFICE
HQ AMERICAL DIVISION
APO San Francisco 96374
Tel: Americal 541

AMERICAL DIVISION HISTORY

PART I

The reactivated Americal Division owes its early history to the formation of a task force which deployed to the South Pacific in World War II. In 1942, a task force was formed to defend the island of New Caledonia. The organization, designated Task Force 6814, was commanded by Brigadier General Alexander M. Patch. It left New York on Jan. 23, 1942 for New Caledonia, going by way of Panama and Australia. The original Task Force 6814 was composed of the 132d, 164th and 182d Infantry Regiments; the 245th, 246th and 247th Field Artillery Battalions (Light); and the 221st Field Artillery Battalion (Medium). Forty-five percent of the strength came from Massachusetts troops of the 26th Infantry Division's 51st Infantry Regiment; the remainder came mostly from Illinois and North Dakota. The troops trained on board ship while enroute to New Caledonia and after arrival at Noumea, New Caledonia on March 12, 1942, continued training for combat in jungle terrain.

On May 27, 1942, the task force was reconstituted and organized as the AMERICAL DIVISION. The name was derived from combining "America" and "Caledonia". The newly-designated division adopted a shoulder patch of four white stars on a blue field. The stars are in the form of the Southern Cross, indicating organization of the division south of the Equator.

The division continued training until the 164th Infantry Regiment went into action on Guadalcanal on Oct. 13, 1942 -- the first U.S. Army unit to conduct an offensive operation against the enemy in any theater during World War II. Elements of the division defended Henderson Field against heavy enemy attacks during Oct. 23 through Oct. 25, 1942 and took part in the offensive across the Matanikau River in November. Organized resistance ended in January and the division left the front lines Feb. 9, 1943.

The Americal Division moved to the Fiji Islands beginning March 5, 1943 to assume the defense of the main island of Viti Navu and to engage in extensive training. During the period Dec. 25, 1943 to Jan. 12, 1944 the Americal landed on Bougainville. The division went on the offensive during March and April 1944, driving the Japanese east of the Maravia River and seized strategic hill masses and commanding terrain. Training and long-range patrol activity then continued until Nov. 30, 1944, when the division was relieved. On Jan. 8, 1945, the division moved to Leyte and Samar to take part in cleaning out the remaining Japanese forces on those islands. Leaving on March 13, 1945 from Leyte, the division landed on Cebu on March 26 and seized the city airfield in two days. Divisional combat teams made landings on Bohol Negros and Mindanao, where they cleared out pockets of resisting Japanese. On June 17 the division returned to Cebu, arriving on June 25. Training continued on Cebu for the proposed invasion of Japan.

On Sept. 10, 1945, the Americal Division landed in Japan and took part in the occupation of the Yokohama-Kawasaki-Yokosuka area. Elements began to leave on Nov. 29, 1945 for the United States where the division was inactivated on Dec. 12, 1945, at Fort Lawton, Washington.

WWII: Battle Credits and Awards:

Campaign Participation Credit:

World War II: Guadalcanal: Northern Solomons: Southern Philippines (w/arrowhead): Leyte

Decorations:

Presidential Unit Citation (Navy) - Streamer Embroidered:

GUADALCANAL

Philippine Presidential Unit Citation - Streamer Embroidered:

October 17, 1944 to July 4, 1945

Distinguished Unit Citation to Company E, 182d Infantry

Regiment, March 10 - March 11, 1944

PART II

AMERICAL DIVISION HISTORY in Vietnam through 1967:

In Feb. 1967, COMUSMACV, General William C. Westmoreland, formed a planning group to organize an Army task force to send to the troubled I Corps area of South Vietnam. This planning group, led by Major General William B. Rosson (later Lieutenant General) formed a multi-brigade force comprised of the 196th Light Infantry Brigade; the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division; and the 3d Brigade, 25th Infantry Division (later designated 3d Brigade, 4th Infantry Division).

The task force became operational April 20, 1967, under control of III Marine Amphibious Force (III MAF), with the 196th beginning operations near Chu Lai, in Quang Tin and Quang Ngai Provinces, and the 3d Brigade, 4th Infantry conducting search and destroy operations in Southern Quang Ngai Province. In May, 1967, the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne arrived at Duc Pho and began operations in the jungles west of there.

Early offensive operations conducted by Task Force Oregon included: Malheur I, and Malheur II, Hood River, Benton, and Cook. On Sept. 11, 1967, Operation Wheeler was launched against elements of the 2nd NVA Division in the area northwest of Chu Lai.

On Sept. 22, 1967, Brigadier General Samuel W. Koster assumed command of the task force, succeeding Maj. General Richard T. Knowles. On Sept. 25, 1967, Task Force Oregon was reconstituted and redesignated as the Americal Division with an organization to consist of the 196th, 198th and 11th Infantry Brigades. Operation Wheeler continued and on October 4, 1967, the 3rd Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) was placed under operational control of the Americal Division. The "Garry Owen" brigade immediately launched Operation Wallowa in the northern sector of the Americal's area of operation. On October 22, 1967 the 198th Light Infantry Brigade arrived in Vietnam to become part of the Americal Division. The 198th Deployed initially to Duc Pho for combat training. Upon completion of the training, the brigade moved to the Chu Lai area and relieved the 196th Brigade in place. The 196th then assumed responsibility for the operational area of the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, which departed the Americal Division for II Corps Tactical Zone on November 26, 1967. Operation Wheeler and Wallowa were combined on November 11, and the Wheeler/Wallowa operation conducted by the 196th Infantry Brigade, and the 3rd Brigade, 1st Air Cavalry set the pace for Americal action in Quang Nam Provinces.

An official change of colors ceremony was held on October 26, and the Americal Division became the seventh Army Division fighting in Vietnam. General S.W. Koster, Commanding General, Americal Division, was promoted to Major General on the same day. Battalions of the 3d Brigade, 4th Infantry Division were employed in the Duc Pho area of operations throughout 1967 and in 1968 controlled Operation Muscatine. Maneuver battalions of the brigade were also deployed in the northern provinces, and took part in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa. The 3d Brigade conducted combat operations in the mountains west of Duc Pho, and assisted in the combat orientation of the 198th Light Infantry Brigade during October and November 1967, and of the 11th Light Infantry Brigade, which arrived in Vietnam on December 20. Operation Muscatine, a multi-battalion operation in the northern districts of Quang Ngai Province, was launched in early December by the 198th Brigade and units of the 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry. The 3d Brigade, 4th Infantry assumed control of the operation January 2, 1968.

The "Jungle Warriors" of the 11th Infantry Brigade deployed initially to Duc Pho, and underwent combat training in that area. Combat operations were later begun in the Duc Pho area of operations. The end of 1967 saw the organization of the Americal Division as follows:

196th Brigade; the 198th Brigade; 11th Brigade; 3d Brigade, 4th Infantry;
and the 3d Brigade, 1st Cavalry.

-END-

(Handwritten note: "File With Unit History File")

HISTORY OF THE 198TH INFANTRY BRIGADE, AMERICAL DIVISION

Prepared by the 2d Military History Detachment

On 10 May 1967 the Department of Defense announced: "A new infantry brigade, numbering 5,600 men, will be sent to Vietnam." The new unit, the 198th Light Infantry Brigade, was formed from personnel of the 1st and 2d Armored Divisions at Fort Hood, Texas. Although it was referred to as a "new" brigade, the 198th Infantry had a rich history dating back to the early 1920's.

Headquarters and headquarters company, 198th Infantry Brigade was formed in the Organized Reserves in Erie county, Pennsylvania, on 24 June 1921. The unit became an organic element of the 99th Infantry Division.

The unit was reorganized and redesignated as the 3d Platoon of the 99th Cavalry Recon Troop, and on 15 November 1942 was ordered to active military service at Camp Van Dorn, Mississippi. During World War II, the troop fought with the 99th Infantry Division and received campaign credit for operations in the Rhineland, Ardennes-Alsace and Central Europe. The troop was also cited by the Belgian Army for action at Elsenborn and in the Ardennes, and was awarded the Belgian Fourragere. The 99th Cavalry Recon Troop was inactivated on 29 September 1945 at Camp Myles Standish, Massachusetts, and assigned as a reserve component of the 99th Infantry Division.

On 1 August 1962 the 99th Cavalry Recon Troop was relieved from its assignment to the 99th Infantry Division and withdrawn from the Army Reserve. At the same time, the 3d Platoon of the Troop was converted and re-designated as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 198th Infantry Brigade, and allotted to the Regular Army. This, then, was the unit which began training at Fort Hood under the command of Colonel James R. Waldie in May, 1967. During this training, jungle fighting techniques and air mobility were emphasized. Plans called for the reconstructed 198th to be somewhat stronger than the light infantry brigades already serving in Vietnam, the 196th and the 199th. The 198th was to have 1800 additional men, more armored cavalry and artillery, and increased logistical support.

In October 1967, the Military Sea Transport Ships USS Gordon and USS Upshur brought the brigade from Oakland, California, to Da Nang. After arriving in Da Nang, the "Brave and Bold" soldiers boarded LST boats for transportation to Chu Lai, where they arrived on 22 October, 1967. Four days later they became a part of the reactivated Americal Division. At the time of its initial deployment, the 198th Light Infantry Brigade consisted of the following units: 1st Bn, 46th Inf; 1st Bn, 6th Inf; 1st Bn, 52d Inf; 1st Bn, 14th Arty; H Trp, 17th Cav; and the 555th Engr Bn (now Company B, 26th Engr Bn).

At first, the green troops were given classes and combat training to prepare them for assignment. About half of the troops were trained by the 196th Brigade in Chu Lai, while the remainder went to Duc Pho for training by the 3d Brigade of the 4th Infantry Division. Those troops at Duc Pho remained there until the arrival of the 11th Light Infantry Brigade in December, 1967 at which time they withdrew to Chu Lai. The 196th Light Infantry Brigade redeployed from the Chu Lai area to relieve the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division; the 198th relieved the 196th Brigade in place.

Operation Muscatine, a multi-battalion operation in the northern districts of Quang Ngai Province, was launched in early December 1967 by the 198th Brigade, 2d ARVN Division and units of the 3d Brigade, 4th Infantry Division. During this operation, which ended on 10 June 1968, the 198th Brigade relieved the 2d ROK Marine Brigade and assumed responsibility for their TAOR.

On 31 March 1968, the 5th Bn, 46th Inf joined the 198th and the Brigade continued its operations with four infantry battalions until 1 July, 1969 when the 1st Bn, 46th Inf officially became a part of the 196th Brigade.

Operation Burlington Trial was begun by elements of the 198th Brigade on 8 April 1968. With the assistance of the 1st Sqdn, 1st Cav, the road was opened from Tam Ky to Tien Phouc, a Special Forces outpost, and district headquarters in Quang Tin Province. The road was constructed by the 39th and 26th Engineer Battalions. When the operation ended on 11 November 1968, 545 weapons had been captured and 1,947 enemy had been killed.

On 2 December 1968, a major pacification effort was begun by the 1st Bn, 46th Inf of the 198th Brigade, the 1st Sqdn, 1st Cav and the 26th Engr Bn. Operation Hardin Falls had the mission of providing assistance to GVN forces, enabling them to pacify six hamlets in Thang Binh District. The operation successfully ended on 28 February 1969. Elements of the 1st Bn, 46th Inf also operated in conjunction with the 196th Brigade during Operation Fayette Canyon. This operation was started during December 1968 in the mountains northwest of Tam Ky, and it ended on 28 February 1969 after 327 enemy had been killed.

Operation Russell Beach was initiated on 13 January 1969 on the Batangan Peninsula, eight miles northeast of Quang Ngai City. This operation was a massive pacification effort designed to remove and isolate all civilians from the peninsula and eliminate VC units, base areas and materials and members of the VC infrastructure. The 5th Bn, 46th Inf of the 198th Brigade was combined with the 4th Bn, 3d Inf of the 11th Brigade to form Task Force Cooksey (named after Assistant Division Commander, BG Howard W. Cooksey, who commanded the Task Force). The peninsula was isolated from the mainland by a cordon set up by Task Force Cooksey and 12,000 innocent civilians were relocated. The combat phase of the operation ended on 9 February accounting for 210 VC killed, and 15.5 tons of salt, two tons of corn, 13 tons of rice, 59 individual weapons and six crew served weapons captured. Pacification, resettlement and civic action projects continued on the Batangan Peninsula.

During February 1969 the Americal division was reorganized under the ROAD concept, and the designation of Light Infantry Brigade was dropped. However, the 198th Infantry Brigade retained many of the additional assets it had acquired as a Light Infantry Brigade.

On 18 March, 1969, the "Brave and the Bold" of the 198th Brigade and the 6th ARVN Regiment embarked upon Operation Geneva Park. The mission was to eliminate the enemy forces within the TAOR while stressing pacification and combined US/ARVN operations. This operation is still in progress.

As of 1 March 1970, the 198th Infantry Brigade was composed of the following units: HHC, 198th Inf Bde; 1st Bn, 6th Inf; 5th Bn, 46th Inf; 1st Bn, 52d Inf; H Trp, 17th Cav; 57th Inf Plat (Scout Dog); and the 87th Chem Det.

The patch of the 198th Infantry Brigade consists of a blue shield, arched at the top and bottom, two inches in width and enclosed by a 1/8 inch white border. A stylized yellow and scarlet tongue of flame covers the patch in a reverse "S" fashion. A portion of a rifle barrel with fixed bayonet, all in white, is superimposed on the flame diagonally from lower right to upper left.

The blue color of the patch denotes infantry. The tongue of the flame alludes to the brigade's firepower. The bayonet, a basic infantry weapon, is symbolic of carrying the fight to the enemy. Together, the flame and bayonet refer to the unit's spirit and readiness to engage the enemy in a firefight, or if necessary, in hand-to-hand combat.

16th CAG Metal Angels Of Hope & Mercy

By SP4 CRAIG COUTURE

16th Cbt. Avn Grp.

Nineteen Hueys cast dark silhouettes against the lava-red South China Sea. The early morning sky was blazed scarlet and clouds formed delicate designs that a carefree mind could mold into anything it fancied. But to a number of men of Americal's 16th Combat Aviation Group (CAG) the significance of their mission left little time for such pleasant diversions.

On this particular morning, 500 infantrymen had to be lifted into an area where the Viet Cong were suspected of hiding. The operation was a fairly large one; there would be two assaults. The first involved carrying over 200 men of the **1st Bn., 6th Inf., 198th Inf. Bde.** into a valley 15 miles west of Chu Lai. The second was an assault involving more than 300 men from the 1st Bn., 6th Regt., 2nd ARVN Div. into the same general area.

Gunships approached the LZ first, firing their rockets and miniguns at any suspicious areas. The command and control ship dropped down and marked the LZ with smoke grenades. The smoke ship, affectionately called "Smokey" followed and circled the area with a protective ring of heavy smoke to conceal the approaching troop-carrying "slicks."

Despite small arms fire that kept bursting from the bushes of the surrounding hillsides, both assaults flown by the 176th Avn. Co. were successful in bringing Americal and ARVN soldiers to the enemy's doorstep...Rest of the story goes on about the 16th Combat Aviation Group.....

DECEMBER

The first two weeks of December saw extremely light action with a large amount of rice uncovered.

.....
On December 6th, the "Regulars" of Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, were on patrol southeast of Chu Lai checking deserted hamlets near the new pacification village of Giem Dien. The first two hamlets produced no results, but then the patrol spotted several structures standing alone on a small island that had been created by the monsoon rains.

Private First Class Milton W. Dacalio of Naaleku, Hawaii and Specialist Four Robert "McGowan of San Bernadino, Calif., moved to a structure at the far end of the island.

It was raining hard and we had to wade out to the small island to investigate the structures," McGowan related. "I was glad to get to dry land, but I really didn't know what was in store for us."

When the two men reached the structure, Dacalio cautiously moved inside while McGowan provided security outside. Inside, Dacalio gave a quick look around and saw four Viet Cong looking back at him.

He sent a burst of M-16 fire into the enemy group and retreated to a safer position outside.

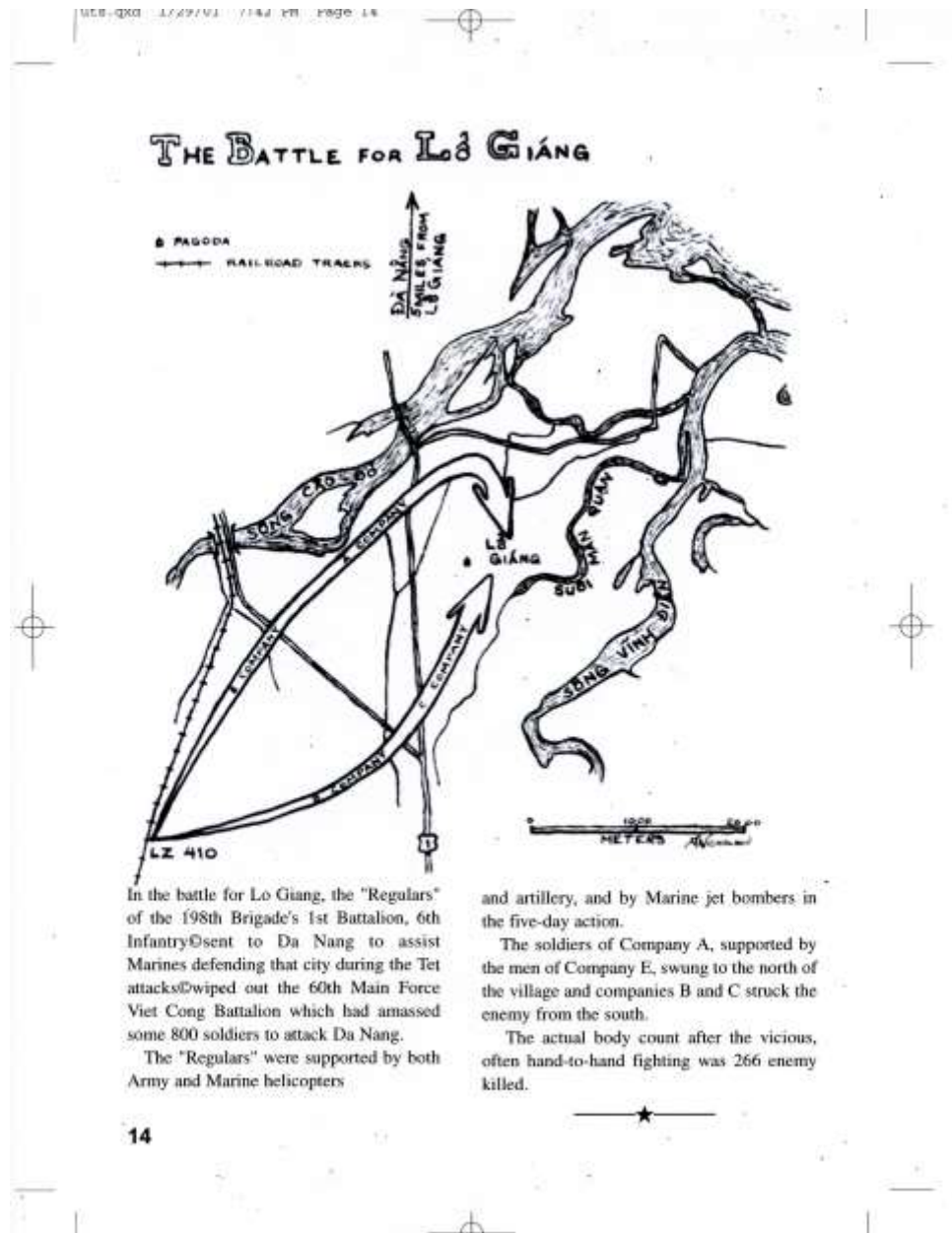
Again Dacalio entered the structure, but this time he stayed long enough to find the bodies of the four Viet Cong along with two AK-47 rifles, six hand grenades, and six packs. "The whole thing came as a surprise to us, but I'll bet the VC were the most surprised of all," commented McGowan.

Americal Division Magazine - May, 1968

This is the inaugural issue of the Americal Division Magazine. There were only two issues in 1968. This first issue has a different format from the subsequent issues. This issue appears to use 8"x10" paper folded over like a pamphlet. Nearly all the photos are B&W, unlike subsequent issues that had a full 8"x10" size and used a lot of color photos and graphics.

THE BATTLE FOR LO GIANG

B&W map drawing by J NICHOLSON. Battle takes place approximately 2 clicks northeast of LZ 410 at Lo Giang.



In the battle for Lo Giang, the "Regulars" of the 198th Brigade's 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry sent to Da Nang to assist Marines defending that city during the Tet attacks wiped out the 60th Main Force Viet Cong Battalion which had amassed some 800 soldiers to attack Da Nang.

The "Regulars" were supported by both Army and Marine helicopters

and artillery, and by Marine jet bombers in the five-day action.

The soldiers of Company A, supported by the men of Company E, swung to the north of the village and companies B and C struck the enemy from the south.

The actual body count after the vicious, often hand-to-hand fighting was 266 enemy killed.

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SERVICE
With A Pretty Smile

"I wanted to become a nurse since I was a small girl. My people do not have a doctor. I want to be able to help when the Americans are not here."

The speaker is Tuong Nguyen Thi, a petite and pretty girl who displays maturity beyond her years and a education to the cause of caring for the health needs of her people. Tuong

Nguyen Thi's dream of becoming a nurse became a reality recently with the help and training of the 198th Infantry Brigade. She was one of several girls to be selected by the chiefs of the seven villages of Ly Tin District to complete the new short course in nursing recently started by "Brave and Bold" medical personnel. Instituted and headed by CPT Robert Brown (River-

B&W photos - "Soon-to-be nurse Tuong Nguyen Thi (left) shows Dr Robert Brown, program supervisor, the antiseptic she has chosen to treat an elderly patient. Later, working by herself, she explains to a local villager in language he will understand, the use of the medicine she has prescribed for his treatment.

Photo credits - (Nurse photos: Kinder

dale, Ill.), battalion surgeon of the 1st Bn., 6th Inf., the program is designed to give the young girls a basic knowledge of first aid and simple medicines so they may serve as nurses for their villages when other medical care is not available.

Most of the girls are high school graduates, and all are eager, intelligent, and proud to serve in this job they have been chosen to perform.

Each day of the intensive two-week course begins when the girls are brought to the battalion aid station of the 1st of the 6th. There they observe sick call and watch as the aidmen log in patients, check symptoms, and, when possible, administer treatment.

Next, they are given two-hour lectures on medicine and medical assistance. The girls are trained to use 15 basic medicines, eight ointments, and several injections. They learn what ointment goes on what rash.

"Each girl knows the effect of the medicine she administers," said Dr. Brown. "She is taught the effects of the injections, what they will do, and what they will cure."

In the afternoon, classes are held at one of the daily MEDCAPs the "Regulars" conduct in the Chu Lai area.

At first the girls simply observe the treatments for the various assortment of afflictions, but later they assume a more active role.

As they gain more experience and are given more responsibility, they are soon able to hold their own MEDCAPs with little or no supervision from Dr. Brown.

If a person is seriously ill, they know he must be taken to a Tam Ky or Chu Lai hospital.

The nurses who have graduated from the course (10 as of Nov. 30) are working in the Ly Tin Villages. They have taken over the responsibility for administering medicap assistance to the people on a steady basis.

The Vietnamese nurses have several basic advantages going for them. The first is language. They need no interpreter to understand the patient as he explains his symptoms, and it also gives them an intrinsic rapport. Treatments and "how to use this white stuff in the jar" are a lot easier when both parties speak the same language.

Another advantage is that the girls are working in their own villages and are acutely aware of the special health problems that may exist.

"We hope the nurses will soon be running the dispensaries and maternity wards throughout the district, and we can eventually turn the whole MEDCAP program over to the Vietnamese," stated Dr. Brown.

The training of the Vietnamese nurses is an important step toward that goal, and the medical personnel of the 198th are continually improving and refining the nursing course with every new class.

The services performed by the girls of Ly Tin are helping their people in a vitally important way. Both they and their patients are grateful.

As Nurse Hong Vo Thi Thu put it, "It is our country. I only want to help any way I can. It is our job."

B&W Photos caption - The first group of girls who have graduated from the nurse training program assemble for their commencement photo with Dr. Brown and CPT Thu, former Ly Tin District Chief. A few days later, one of the newly-capped nurses, Hong Vo Thi Thu, is assisted by SP6 Verlin Bryant, 1/6, in treating a child during a daily MEDCAP in her village.



The first group of girls who have graduated from the nurse training program assemble for their commencement photo with Dr. Brown and CPT Thu, former Ly Tin District Chief. A few days later, one of the newly-capped nurses, Hong Vo Thi Thu, is assisted by SP6 Verlin Bryant, 1/6, in treating a child during a daily MEDCAP in her village.



LRPS MAKE HIDE AND SEEK AN ART
By SP4 ALFRED ANTHONY Jr.
198th Inf. Bde.

Top quarter of these two pages appear to be a water color graphic by Anthony.

In the midst off an endless sea of bright green, a small group of men sit hiding. Like animals of the forest, they look no different than their surroundings. Their clothes, their boots, even their skin is colored green. Bush hats are pulled low on their heads.

Each carries 60 rounds of gear and has rations for five days; each holds a Russian weapon or M-79 grenade launcher and AR-15. One man looks down at the radio by his side, checking the frequency. His friend takes a compass reading with his map to get an azimuth. Another, his eyes peer-ing through the foliage, watches for the enemy.

They are LRPs-Long Range Patrol members who know their job and wear their black berets with distinction. These teams of elite guerrilla fighters penetrate terrain where in the past only the enemy has stalked. Their assignment: Find, report, and, if necessary, fight "Charlie." Two - of these teams, working for the 198th Inf. Bde., wait on Chop Vum Mountain, well to the northwest of the "Brave and Bold" AO. They are on a "hunter-killer" mission.

One team is called Ohio; the other, 500 meters to the west, is Kentucky, and the enemy is familiar with them both. Ohio has been here before, and knows the terrain as well as the enemy. Kentucky is new to this area, but has outwitted "Charlie" before in other places. Ohio's men, led by SGT John Dane (London), an ex-British Army commando, sit looking down the slope of the mountain. In the center of the broad valley they see an ordinary Vietnamese reel and bamboo hootch. An aerial reconnaissance team the day before noticed an unusual concentration of military-age males in the area.

"Traffic seems a little too organized," observed Dane. "Let's have a look."

Quickly, expertly, silently, they are down and in, just eight meters from the hootch's walls, close enough to read "Charlie's" tired face. Kentucky, led by SGT Tom Robertson (Jackson, Mich.), closes in from another angle.

Ohio's men tread softly; their lives depend on their stealth. The small hootch is not as innocent as it appears. It contains an enemy hospital. It is empty, but the LRPs are extra

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cautious-no reason to get careless now.

Assistant Team Leader SGT Clarence Avery (Anniston, Ala.), probing the ground outside of the hootch, discovers a hollow spot. Inside are medical instruments, detailed surgical instructions, and documents. With few words the well-trained men complete their search and turn to leave.

As if with a stage director in the wings, the teams act as one man and move across a rice paddy. They have radioed for extraction. Five of the men spread out into a perimeter, deep in the heavy muck.

In minutes the throbbing sound of the "bird" filters through the heavy canopy surrounding the men. It appears over the trees and begins to settle on the LZ. Suddenly, from deep within the thick leaves, two enemy machineguns open up on the men and the helicopter. The pilot drives the chopper hard into the sky, although he takes seven hits. With a broken oil line, the helicopter aborts the extraction and limps back to LZ Bowman and safety.

The LRPs are pinned to the mud, getting heavier fire each minute. CPL George F. Moreno (Tucson,

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Ariz. lifts his head long enough to fire an M-79 smoke round into the enemy position. The 198th's command and control chopper flies in to the rescue, blanketing the marked VC with its M-60s.

"The ship's all that saved us," Moreno later said. "The chopper kept them down just long enough for us to get back out of the paddy."

Five men are wounded, and, with the coming darkness, they must spend the night in this forsaken place. Their heavy return fire now gets them from the edge of the paddy to the safety of the mountain's shadow, and its foliage closes behind them. Moving up the narrow trail, climbing

higher, they contact the enemy again. Firing LAWs (light anti-tank weapons), one VC is killed and one wounded.

Team Ohio sets up a protective observation post; Kentucky climbs Chop Vum. Nosing through the triple canopy, they find the bush gives way to a clearing, and there, right at the mountain's peak, they discover a fortress of giant wooden planks. A strange structure compared with the delicate hamlets dotting the valley's floor-there are no windows or doors.

SGT Tom Steele (Chelsea, Mich.), assistant team leader, and Moreno climb in through a thin slit between the walls and roof. What they have come across is a building formed like a safe. "Recoilless rifle rounds!" shouts Steele's excited voice, muffled by the enclosure surrounding him.

"Armor-piercing rounds, HEAT rounds, mortar fuse caps."

Ohio moves up to join Kentucky, and they set up a hasty night laager.

During darkness, the Viet Cong are relentless with their M-79 fire. Steele bravely stays atop the captured ammo bunker, under fire, guarding the prize.

The morning of the next day turns the spiteful blackness of the sky to a hazy gray. The 198th Inf. Bde.'s Co E, **1st Bn., 6th Inf.**, led by 1LT Warren G. Randolph (Charleston, S.C.), is coming to help. SGTs David Swires (Bayard, Colo.), Dane, and Steele, along with CPL Moreno, volunteer to remain behind when the other LRPs are finally extracted. The four battle-toughened soldiers lead the infantrymen to the ammo cache and the hospital.

Once again atop Chop Vum, Dane and Moreno plant two pounds of C4 explosive, amid the thump of M-79 rounds and the staccato of machine-guns. In the wake of the giant blast, the four LRPs again try for extraction.

Gunships rip across the sky now, as the quartet dodges across 600 meters of rice paddies to the chopper's LZ. They crouch in the center of the wet field, again taking everything the determined enemy can throw their way. E Co. tries to protect them from the surrounding woodline.

Nobody knew whose helicopter it was that dropped down into the middle of this hell, but as Moreno later remarked, "Man, am I thankful for that 'bird' that got us out."

The mission speaks for itself.

The LRPs leave Chop Vum Mountain and the valley below, having destroyed the enemy's supply of heavy ammunition, a number of documents, and killed 14 Viet Cong.

On the trip back to LZ Bayonet, a tired, but satisfied SGT Swires speaks with a slight smile on his face: "Those VC were shooting at us, not at the company out there... We must have got them mad."

Americal Division Magazine - Fall 1971

Operation Nantucket Beach, conducted by elements of the **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry** and the 6th ARVN Regiment, within the 198th Infantry Brigade tactical area of responsibility on the Batangan Peninsula, was terminated on March 1. The mission of the operation had been to further enhance the pacification program of the government of Vietnam. The operation, characterized by light and scattered action, had lasted eight months. The enemy suffered 630 killed, 207 weapons captured and five crew-served weapons captured.

Army Reporter

04Nov67-198th Light Infantry Brigade Joins Americal Division In I Corps Area

LONG BINH, (USARV-IO) - Americal Division received its newest unit recently - the 198th Light Infantry Brigade, commanded by Col. James R. Waldie.

About 3600 infantrymen came ashore in the southern I Corps area at Chu Lai, completing an 11,000-mile trip which began at Ft. Hood, Texas, in early October.

Known by their motto "Brave and Bold," the 198th was originally organized in 1921 as an element of the 99th Infantry Division. During World War II the unit was in combat in central Europe.

The brigade was re-activated at Ft. Hood on May 10, 1967. Waldie brought an advance party of about 300 men into the division's area early last month to finalize plans for the arrival of the main body.

With an authorized strength of approximately 4100 officers and men, the brigade will begin combat-orientation in Americal's combat area, officials said.

The brigade is organized on a three infantry battalion system - the **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry**; 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry; and 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry.

The 1st Battalion, 14th Artillery, using 105mm howitzers, supports the infantry units. The 9th Support Battalion provides logistical supply and administrative support.

Army Reporter

30Mar68-Vietnam Communique

Americal Division

Units of the Americal Division reported killing 29 enemy soldiers and capturing 12 individual weapons during small unit contacts in the I Corps Tactical Zone.

Action in the 196th Light Infantry Brigade's Operation Wheeler/Wallowa area netted the infantrymen 11 enemy killed in a number of brief skirmishes northwest of Tam Ky.

A company of the **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry**, commanded by Capt Robert D. Leinen Sr., located a bunker and tunnel complex. As the soldiers searched the area they found 718 rounds of .30 cal. ammunition and an assortment of field equipment, medical supplies and documents.

The Jungle Warriors of the 11th Light Infantry Brigade killed 10 Viet Cong soldiers during contacts in the Operation Muscatine area and around Duc Pho.

Cavalrymen from the 1st Squadron 1st Cavalry killed seven communist soldiers during a reconnaissance operation seven miles northwest of Tam Ky. The troopers were supported throughout the mission by helicopter gunship crews of Troop C, 7th Squadron 17th Cavalry (Later renamed to F/8 Cav).

Civic action soldiers of the brigade treated 367 Vietnamese patients in two MEDCAP's held yesterday.

Army Reporter

11Nov68-Nurses training program started by 198th Inf Bde

Story and Photos by SPec. 4 John A. Sullivan

Photo 1 - **A SMALL BOY** holds his brother steady while a Vietnamese trainee nurse cleans the injured area and trims his hair in the vicinity of a head injury prior to treating it with antiseptics and bandaging it.

Photo 2 - **APPLYING TECHNIQUES** learned in the classroom a Vietnamese trainee nurse treats the infected ear of a young Vietnamese with hydrogen peroxide during a MEDCAP at the village of Ky Chanh near Chu Lai.

Photo 3- **ANXIOUS CHILDREN** wait for their turn to be treated at a MEDCAP put on by the **1st Bn., 6th Inf., 198th Inf Brigade** and Vietnamese nurses.



ANXIOUS CHILDREN wait for their turn to be treated at a MEDCAP put on by the 1st Bn., 6th Inf., 198th Inf Brigade and Vietnamese nurses.

CHU LAI, (USARV) - A new nurses aid training program of the Americal Division's 198th Light Infantry Brigade is developing a permanent source of medical attention for the Vietnamese when U.S. forces leave Vietnam.

The battalion surgeon of the **1st Bn., 6th Inf.** is joining forces with the District of Ly Tin and the battalion's civil affairs section to train Vietnamese girls as nurses.

The girls are selected by the village chiefs and trained by the battalion surgeon. All are members of local self-defense groups and have indicated an interest in nursing.

Hard working

"The girls are hard working industrious and versatile. Teaching them is not difficult, they take the initiative and pick up things on their own," said Capt. Robert Brown battalion surgeon.

Each morning the girls observe the medics treating the patients on sick call and then attend a two-hour lecture. In the afternoon they accompany the medics and participate in a MEDCAP. Later they hold a critique and a question answer period on the MEDCAP.

"The ultimate goal is that at the end of this program we will be able to send the nurses on MEDCAPS with only a security element. We will also be able to use the students wishing to continue their work for the public to maintain: the maternity houses, dispensaries and hospitals in the district," noted Lt. **William L. Calley** civil affairs officer. (William L. Calley previously had served as a platoon officer with C 1/20th Inf. Bn.)

Complete course

The course includes personal and communal hygiene, first aid, preventive medicine, basic administering of drugs including immunizations, basic symptoms and causes of disease.

"The nurses aid training program will establish a link of understanding with the Vietnamese people by incorporating, self help. Vietnamese young people into our present MEDCAP program. The program will teach young people who are interested in medicine, hygiene, first aid and the basic techniques of modern medicine. It will also give the student a better understanding of illnesses so they can recognize and understand when to consult a doctor for treatment," Calley continued.

The girls are trained to use 15 basic medicines, eight ointments and several injections. Under close supervision of the medics they use their new skills learned in the classroom to treat Vietnamese on MEDCAPS.

With the Vietnamese nurses on the MEDCAPS a much larger percentage of adults come to be treated. "The people can identify better with the Vietnamese nurses than they could with the American medics," said Brown.

Reestablish link

"The project not only strengthens our ties, but also establishes a lasting tie that will insure a link that has been missing in our past program. This link is broken as soon as the MEDCAP is completed and not reestablished until the next MEDCAP," Calley added. The new program will provide for a source of continuous medical treatment.

At the end of the training period the girls are presented with a pin containing the medical symbol of caduceus superimposed on a red cross and nurses hats by the district chief and the battalion commander.

Army Reporter

24Feb69-Rush road project finished in 3 days

CHU LAI - When U.S. Army combat engineers, artillerymen, infantrymen and cavalry join forces on an operation their mission is almost sure to be accomplished, regardless of the obstacles they face.

Soldiers of the Americal Division proved this recently when they were called on to beef up the fire power of the Tra Bong CIDG camp.

In order to do this, it was necessary to construct a road across 17 miles of terrain that included rice paddies, mine fields, enemy snipers and possible ambushes, streams and jungle. Vehicles weighing up to 58 tons were to be moved along the road, which previously had been only a footpath.

The task was accomplished in just three days.

On the day when the operation began, two construction and mine sweep teams left Binh Son and Tra Bong and began to work towards each other. Security for the two teams was provided by one platoon of the 198th Infantry Brigade's **1st Bn., 6th Inf.** and one platoon of the brigade's 1st Bn., 52nd Inf.

On the previous day two 23,000 pound bulldozers, four 3/4-ton dump trucks, one 1/4-ton truck and a front end loader had been airlifted into the CIDG camp along with personnel from B Co., 26th Engineer Bn. to begin construction from that end.

Problems were numerous during the operation. Eight mines were discovered along the trail and destroyed on the first day. A bulldozer broke down. Enemy snipers directed harassing fire at the teams. It rained. Rickety foot bridges had to be replaced by dry span bridges which could accommodate heavy tracked vehicles. But the Americal soldiers pressed on.

Two minefields were known to exist along the route, both dating back to the French occupation. The mine sweep teams covered every foot of the route with their mine detectors before the heavy construction vehicles came along.

The giant 58 ton combat engineer vehicles rumbled along, widening the road, knocking over obstacles, filling trenches, and at times firing their 165mm cannons on suspected enemy positions.

Big artillery pieces, both self-propelled and towed, from Battery A, 3rd Bn., 18th Art., and armored personnel carriers from Troop H, 17th Cav crept along behind the team from Binh Son. At night they set up a defensive position together. The engineers pulled guard right along with the more conventional combat soldiers.

It was a strange group of bedfellows that rolled into the camp when the road was completed. Artillerymen, infantrymen, cavalrymen and engineers all had their heads held high. They all had done their parts to accomplish a big mission.

Army Reporter

28 July 1969 - **Vietnam communiqué - July 7-13**

Americal Div - Americal Division soldiers, in the second day of joint sweeping operations with elements of the ARVN 2nd Division July 9, uncovered an abandoned battalion-size enemy base camp, 15 miles west of Chu Lai.

The base camp, nestled in heavy underbrush atop a 125-foot cliff, was found by soldiers from Co. B, **1st Bn., 6th Inf.**

Two bamboo bridges provided the only access to the camp, which housed an estimated 200 enemy soldiers. Inside the complex were several large hootches, one of which was a 15 by 75-foot three-level structure with an underground bunker.

Another large hootch was determined to be a barracks-type building, divided into cubicles, with three beds each. Dotting the area were a chicken coop and stock pens.

The enemy soldiers appeared to have abandoned the camp three to six days before its discovery by the Americal Division infantrymen.

In light, widespread action, the Americal Division's area of operation July 9, soldiers killed three NVA and 14 VC soldiers and captured eight individual weapons.

Army Reporter

28 July 1969- **Scout dog scores, tallies 23 rounds**

LZ BAYONET - An Americal Division scout dog apparently put a group of VC in their superiors' doghouse recently and helped to find a booty of 23 mortar rounds in the process.

It began when a 90-pound German Shepherd named Dix sensed something strange while he and his handler, Pfc. Roger M. Collins of the 57th Inf. Plt. were on a night ambush patrol with the **1st Bn., 6th Inf.** near here.

"We were heading toward our first check point when the dog started to lead us off to the side," recalled Spec. 4 Rudy Lopez, the patrol leader.

The dog led the squad to the edge of a sand berm where they saw 19 82mm mortar rounds scattered on the ground around two freshly dug holes. An additional four mortar rounds and an assortment of fuses were later found in the holes.

"I guess we interrupted someone digging up these rounds," said Collins.

But the VC unit which was interrupted continued to lurk nearby and it was Dix again who sensed something awry.

"This time he's telling us there are people around," the canine's handler advised the patrol and the men took what cover there was at the base of the berm.

"We were in a bad position to move forward since Charlie was on the high ground and we hardly had any cover," Lopez recalled.

But the men, many of whom normally work as cooks, carpenters, and clerks at the battalion basecamp, held their position and the VC moved from the area.

"The dog sure was a big help," Lopez said. "We probably wouldn't have found the mortars without him."

The company commander, Capt. Tom Cameron, agreed. "We've been using the dogs for about a week and it's working out very well. I've seen the dogs work before and I'm a firm believer in them."

Army Reporter

02Nov70- Americal gives Charlie a bad case of indigestion Page 1

LZ BAYONET/HAWK HILL - If the Americal Division doesn't stop interrupting Charlie's mealtimes, Charlie's going to be afraid to eat.

Eight VC and NVA soldiers died recently as a result of dallying too long over their meals in three separate incidents.

Cooking supper in a deserted village at dusk proved to be hazardous to the health of two Viet Cong when Co. A, **1st Bn., 6th Inf.**, 198th Inf. Bde., decided to break up the impromptu dinner party.

During a break, the Co. A Regulars spotted several enemy soldiers in an empty village. Smoke rising from cooking fires marked the VC position.

After an artillery barrage, the Regulars approached the village. One enemy soldier opened up with automatic weapon fire from a hill behind the village, but he was soon routed.

As the Regulars continued into the village, a Viet Cong appeared in a doorway 20 feet from the point man. Rounds from the point's M16 brought the enemy down.

When he saw a fire burning inside another hootch, Spec. 4 Phillip Shilling entered and saw another enemy soldier running out the back door. Shilling wounded the man, who was found the following morning on a search of the village. The company evacuated him to a Chu Lai hospital.

An element of another 198th unit, Co. C, 1st Bn., 52nd Inf., surprised 15 NVA eating their evening meal. The point man, Spec. 4 Herschell Blackwell, immediately opened fire.

"When we heard Blackwell open fire, we moved our machine gun up to his position to give him some support, and the rest of us moved on line and began firing into the clearing," said Spec. 4 Philip E. Jones. "It really turned out to be a surprise attack. The NVA just didn't have time to react."

The NVA did not even return fire in the incident. They just began fleeing for the nearby woodline to escape the torrent of gunfire.

A check of the area turned up three dead NVA and much equipment, including three rifles and 1,200 pounds of rice.

By following blood trails the next morning, Co. C found another NVA body.

A platoon of the 196th Inf. Bde.'s 2nd Bn., 1st Inf., was sweeping alongside a river 13 miles northwest of Tam Ky when four NVA were spotted preparing to leave a village.

Three of the enemy soldiers were immediately cut down by the hail of fire. The other was found later hiding along the river bank, seriously wounded.

All four NVA were carrying large packs completely full of cooked and polished rice. "There was no doubt about it," recalled Pfc. Ronny E. Rawlings. "They were in the village to eat and to get food for the others in their unit."

Most of the rice that was found in the packs had been cooked and wrapped in banana leaves to keep it fresh.

"I'll bet they wish they had taken about five minutes less for lunch," smiled Spec. 4 Gary Guerra.

LZ BAYONET - Every Tuesday and Thursday, the eyes of more than 100 Vietnamese students strain to see the doorway of their classroom at the Binh Son Public School for their newly acquired English teacher. The teacher whose reception is so eagerly awaited is an NCO from the Americal Division's 198th Inf. Bde.

Sgt. Douglas Nichols, civil affairs NCO of **1st Bn., 6th Inf.**, spends two mornings every week to help Vietnamese students with their pronunciation of English.

"It's the most rewarding thing I've done since I've been in Vietnam," Nichols said.

Father Thiep, principal of the school and teacher of English and civics, conceived the idea, and said that it had made his students more aware of their pronunciation, and has given them a much keener appreciation of the subject.

When the idea came to Fr. Thiep, he went through battalion channels to procure a man for the job. Nichols had already done considerable work in the Medcap program at the orphanage at Binh Son, and was well known to the staff of the school. He seemed to be a natural for the job in the eyes of the teachers and, most important of all, he was more than willing to tackle the job.

"It was something that I really wanted to do, and I'm glad everyone concerned is happy with the arrangement we made with the school," Nichols said.

The language barrier has been no problem to Nichols. "It's the main concern of the school for me to help the students with true pronunciation, and they feel that if the students can hear an American speak to the class and let them repeat the phrases, then they will learn to speak clearly," he said.

The normal class starts with the traditional greeting between the American teacher and the Vietnamese students. He says "good morning" to the class and they bow and repeat his greeting in English. Nichols then reads passages from the students' English textbook, and the students repeat each phrase after him. When the reading is completed, Nichols pronounces some of the words that the children have been having difficulty with the last week.

"The students have trouble pronouncing the 'th' sounds in our language," he observed. "But they are very eager to show me that they can do well. They are all smiles when you compliment them."

"I actually think I got more out of the classes than the kids do," Nichols said. "they try so hard to please you, and you can see improvement every week."

The story of the fatigue clad English teacher grows in Binh Son, but it seems that the American NCO is the one who is really looking forward to Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

LZ BAYONET - Two separate elements of Viet Cong violated the age-old principle of noise discipline over a period of several days and infantrymen of the 23rd Infantry Division's 198th Inf. Bde. capitalized on the mistakes by killing five and detaining four in an area south of Chu Lai.

Co. B, **1st Bn., 6th Inf.**, was only a short distance from its previous night's defensive position when members of the Regulars heard loud voices coming from the far bank of a nearby river.

After the platoon leader had halted his men, Sgt. Dennis Linn and two others went to the riverbank to investigate. Using the heavy undergrowth as concealment, the infantrymen were able to reach the river's edge without being detected. After observing several Viet Cong with weapons, Linn sent one man back for the rest of the element.

"When the rest of the men reached us," Linn recalled, "we spread out on line and opened up on the enemy. For some unknown reason, the enemy began to throw their weapons into the river."

A short time later, Bravo sent an element across the river and found two Viet Cong killed and one wounded. The wounded enemy was evacuated to a Chu Lai hospital. Found in the river were four rifles, and on the bank nearby, one AK47 and 10 Chicom grenades.

The Regulars then followed a blood trail and found two more Viet Cong, both wounded from the contact, hiding underwater using bamboo shoots to breathe with. The two were also evacuated to a Chu Lai hospital.

Several days later the enemy's carelessness in noise discipline again took its toll. Co. B was setting up an evening perimeter when members of an element spotted a woman heading toward their position. About 600 yards from the perimeter, the woman passed some food and other items to a Viet Cong who appeared from the brush along the trail. Then the woman continued toward Bravo's location.

"When she came right up on us, all we had to do was reach out and grab her," said Linn.

Later in the evening, the Regulars again heard voices, this time coming toward them from the south.

"There was a large sand dune between us and the enemy and we couldn't see them. We just heard them coming," said Linn.

But the enemy soldiers kept advancing and stopped just short of Bravo's position, chatting and lighting up cigarets.

The Regulars then opened up on the enemy, killing two. At first light the company swept the area and found a blood trail and a knife.

Army Reporter

16Nov70-3,000 displaced persons go back to homes, farms Page 1

LZ BAYONET - Nearly 3,000 Vietnamese refugees are returning home without fear of repression by local Viet Cong units thanks to a new pacification village begun by the Government of Vietnam (GVN) and a unit of the 23rd Infantry Division's 198th Inf. Bde.

The whole three square mile area, about five miles northeast of Quang Ngai City, is becoming a model example of the success of pacification. Already the area has two pacification villages at Van Thien and An Thinh, both of which have shown remarkable growth since their inception in early March. The third village, Giem Dien, is under construction and will be the home of about 3,000 refugees who used to live in the formerly Viet Cong-infested area.

With more than 900 refugees coming from Hoa Ban hamlet and 2,000 more expected to make the move from Son Quang hamlet, Giem Dien will be the largest of the three pacification villages.

Van Thien has a population of nearly 1,900 people while An Thinh has about 1,000.

Giem Dien is centrally located so the refugees can return to farm their own land under the protection of GVN. The **1st Bn., 6th Inf.**, will play a big part in the growth and welfare of the new pacification effort as it did in the successes of Van Thien and An Thinh.

A Popular Force unit has been organized as well as a Revolutionary Development cadre team. The Regulars of the 6th Inf. will help provide security for the new move.

The primary mission of the 6th Inf. battalion in the pacification effort of the area is one of security. The purpose of this security is to allow the refugees who once inhabited these areas to return to their home villages and begin a new life in a secure atmosphere.

"The technique used in carrying out this mission may be termed as working oneself out of [a] job," said Sgt. Douglas Nichols, civil affairs NCO for the 6th. "We want to train these people to take care of themselves, and when this is done they will not longer need us."

Along with providing security, the 6th Inf. is involved in a program of training the local forces, both Popular and Regional Forces, to eventually assume full responsibility for providing their own security. The training program centers around operations in which U.S. and GVN forces conduct combined patrols and ambushes. This, in turn, is complemented by informal instruction in basic military subjects.

Supplementing these activities, the 6th Inf. also implements a civic action program which involves conducting Medcaps and assisting the people with their construction problems as much as possible.

CHU LAI - In Vietnam where three continuous decades of war have been directed against civilians as well as troops, the number of parentless children is unusually large.

One woman, born and educated in North Vietnam and tested by 15 years of orphanage work, is becoming known for remembering this victims. She says that soldiers from the 23rd Infantry Division's 198th Inf. Bde. have helped with her success at the Binh Son Orphanage.

"American soldiers help us in many ways," said Sister Giselle of the Order of St. Paul de Chartres, the administrator of the Binh Son Orphanage in Quang Ngai Province. "They bring my children clothing and make an honest effort to help us any other way they can."

To sister Giselle, they are all "her" children.

Her ability to get things done by herself is well known, and her children - who number between 100 and 150 are the ones who benefit from her exuberance. She has managed to have bands play for the children and she organizes picnics along the coast, to which she invites relatives of her young charges.

"Children enjoy activities of this type and they need these experiences in their childhood," Sister Giselle said. "We try to make the best possible home for them here."

Educated at the University of Hanoi, Sister Giselle came south to Hue in 1955 as the French were leaving North Vietnam. Since then, she has worked in orphanages in Hue, Pleiku and Binh Son. As a teacher of French and English, she also studies German, attempting to remain proficient in all three languages.

"Many of our soldiers who go back to the States remember the orphanage and Sister Giselle," said Chaplain (Maj.) Norbert Bykowski, 198th Brigade chaplain. "They send toys and clothing to the orphanage and generally keep in touch with Sister Giselle."

The battalion chaplains in the 198th have also adopted the orphanage, so to speak. Sunday collections have been taken and the soldiers of the brigade have been more than receptive to the idea.

The chaplains also collect surplus C-rations and clothes for the children at Binh Son, and they visit the orphanage regularly to see the children and talk with Sister Giselle.

The 5th Bn., 46th Inf., used to work in the area surrounding Binh Son, and the Professionals did a lot of work at the orphanage. Now that the **1st Bn., 6th Inf.**, works there, it has taken over the task with enthusiasm. Medcaps are held frequently, and clothing and food are collected often and brought to the children.

One of the most avid supporters of the orphanage is Sgt. Douglas Nichols, civil affairs NCO of the 6th Inf. Nichols visits the orphanage at least once a week with the Medcap team and teaches English classes at the Binh Son School, adjacent to the orphanage.

"I really enjoy visiting the children and talking to Sister Giselle," said Nichols. ""She gets me to help her with her English, but I don't really think she needs improving. She's a real perfectionist, but that's good for the kids."

Sister Giselle is great for remembering names, and she claims she knows someone from each of the 50 states. If you ever visit the orphanage, don't be surprised if Sister Giselle remembers your name. But be prepared to perform some small service for the children - it sort of grows on you.

01Mar71- **23rd kills 5 & captures 2**

LZ DOTTY [DOTTIE] - Five Viet Cong were killed and two captured as an element of the 23rd Infantry Division 198th Inf. Bde. made an early morning search of an abandoned hamlet south of Chu Lai.

An element of Co. A, **1st Bn., 6th Inf.**, had left its night defensive position at first light to search deserted hamlets suspected of harboring Viet Cong guerrillas by night.

The infantrymen of the Regulars found what they were looking for at the first hamlet they searched. The company's Luc Luong Scout spotted seven enemy soldiers hiding near a hedgerow.

After a brief exchange of hand grenades, the enemy bolted and moved into a nearby structure containing a bunker and, the infantrymen found later, a brick wall in the rear, which blocked any escape.

"One of our men (Sgt. Michael J. Knox) made his way to the side of the structure and tossed in a grenade," said Pfc. Don L. Hayes, a rifleman with Co. A. "Then the enemy started throwing grenades back at us."

"Our scout then told them to stop firing because he wanted to talk to the enemy," Hayes said. "They exchanged a few words and two of the enemy came out with their hands up. They had been wounded by our grenades."

After another exchange of grenades by both sides and another barrage of small arms fire from the Regulars, the scout again attempted to induce the remaining enemy to surrender. This time, however, he was unsuccessful and the infantrymen kept firing into the structure.

"Finally we heard no more noises from the building so we moved up to check it out," said Spec. 4 Larry Carrico, a radio operator. "Inside we found we had killed all five VC."

After the contact ended, the two wounded Viet Cong were evacuated to a Chu Lai Hospital. (See a different version of this article published Feb 15, 1971 page 1).

LZ DOTIE - Three villages in the 23rd Infantry Division's 198th Inf. Bde. area have come the full cycle in the pacification program. No longer do the three villages require American assistance for security and aid and now all three are described as self-sufficient.

The entire three-square-mile area, about five miles northeast of Quang Ngai City, is a model example of success in the allied pacification effort. The once Viet Cong-infested area now resembles a flourishing farm area, and the smiles of a happy people have returned after a long absence.

Infantrymen of the **1st Bn., 6th Inf.**, played a major role in the pacification of Van Thien, An Thien and Giem Diem. The Regulars provided security for the people, most of them refugees forced away from their land, and helped the villagers get back on their feet.

It has been less than a year since the creation of Van Thien, the first hamlet of the three, and the results of that beginning can serve as an example for efforts of the future. The atmosphere for pacification was good and the village of An Thien sprang into existence almost immediately. The refugees involved were ready and now the villages needed the proper indigenous personnel to insure success.

A Revolutionary Development Cadre (RDC) team and a People's Self-Defense Force (PSDF) were formed as the inhabitants went about the chore of building their new homes and putting the area under cultivation.

The main task, however, was to insure that inhabitants were provided with security. The Regulars were on hand to see that the proper protection was provided, but the ultimate goal of the program would have villagers self-supported, economically as well as militarily.

This goal has been reached with even greater efficiency than had been hoped. In fact, things went so smoothly that still another village, Giem Dien, was created in the same area, and now the three support nearly 5,000 people.

"There are so many factors involved in the success of this program that it is hard to say which helped the most," said Lt. Ron J. Johnson, brigade civil affairs officer. "But you have to say that the people themselves worked hard and were eager to make this effort a success." In conjunction with providing security, the soldiers were involved in a program of training the local forces, both Popular and Regional, to assume full responsibility for their own security. The basis of this training program centered around combined U.S. and ARVN patrols and ambushes. This, in turn was complemented by informal instruction in basic military subjects.

Supplementing these activities, the Regulars also implemented a civic action program which involved conducting regular Medcaps, and assisting the people with their?..publishing error?....

"We feel that our greatest responsibility in the pacification effort is the personal example set by the men of the **1st Bn., 6th Inf.** in preparing the local forces to provide security for themselves," said Lt. Daniel J. Boccolucci, civil affairs officer of the battalion. "Their devotion to the program allowed us to complete the job in record time."

Combined military operations in the area were not the only factors in insuring a pacification success. The 59th Land Clearing Co. and Bravo Co., 26th Engineers, also helped to make the area safe. The two units have been involved in a massive land clearing project that has destroyed endless enemy sanctuaries on the Batangan Peninsula. The villagers also formed a common bond among themselves, and could not be intimidated by the Viet Cong.

"The people were ready to take care of their own lives," said Boccolucci.

"They are self-sufficient now, and they deserve it after all the work."

CHU LAI - Elements of D Troop, 1st Squadron, 1st Cav., trapped and destroyed a 15-man element five miles south of here during a daylight operation. (This might be action of January 21st 1971. ORLL indicates 13 KIA and 2 captured by D/1/1st Cav on this day).

An aerial observer working with the **1st Bn., 6th Inf.**, spotted three sampans loaded with Communist troops moving north along the Tra Bong River and called for support. The enemy immediately took evasive action, beaching their boats on an island and attempting to hide in the thick underbrush growing in the two feet of water that covered the island.

Diverted from another mission, the 123rd Aviation Bn.'s Sabre flight (combined air-ground force) moved into the area. LOH pilots Capt. Sidney Austin and WO Doyle U. Miner spotted 15 enemy soldiers occupying the island, confirming the aerial observer's report.

Receiving instructions from flight leader Lt. Ralph V. Cain, members of the troop's aero-rifle platoon (Blues) were inserted on the opposite shore, 50 yards away.

The enemy failed to respond to repeated attempts by the LOHs to force their surrender and when then subjected to a CS (tear gas) attack in hopes that they would give up. Failing to receive any response, the Sabres requested permission to open fire and were cleared immediately by the district chief.

The LOHs, supported by Cobra gunships, blasted the island.

A team of volunteers, led by Lt. Arthur L. Galloway and including Staff Sgt. Wheeler Brooks, Sgt. Kevin O'Brien and Pfc Michael Tyson, was inserted by UH1H(Huey) pilot John M. Allen on the submerged island.

Sweeping the area, the team detained two suspects.

Thirteen enemy dead were accounted for and credited to the LOHs. Continuing the sweep, the Blues recovered eight AK47s and one 9mm plus 20 Chinese Communist grenades.

Ammunition and 25 packs containing uniforms were also discovered by the 23rd Infantry Division troops.

Army Reporter

22Mar71 (**Happiness is a booby trap that fizzles-1 of 3 stories**) Page 12

LZ DOTTIE - An infantryman in the 23rd Infantry Division's 198th Inf. Bde. faced an enemy mine -- eye to eye -- but the unexpected meeting between the two natural enemies really fizzled.

Sgt. James Glenn, a squad leader in Charlie Company, **1st Bn., 6th Inf.**, got the surprise of his life while on a patrol southeast of Chu Lai. A Bouncing Betty mine popped menacingly from the ground and stared angrily at him.

The mine failed to go off and really didn't do any damage, unless you talk to Glenn, who has a different opinion. He didn't like the meeting at all.

Spec. 4 John Daring, point man, apparently triggered the mine when he stepped on a delay pressure release device. Just as Glenn got one step from the buried mine, it popped up to eye level, clicked instead of exploded, and fizzled into the bushes to the left.

"I heard a loud popping sound, and saw smoke trailing from the bottom of the mine. It looked like a rocket," explained Glenn. "It almost stopped in midair about face level, but then flew off into the bushes."

Glenn yelled, "Booby trap!" The infantrymen fell to the ground without thinking twice, and instinctively covered their ears with their hands. The Regulars waited nervously for the explosion, but it never came.

Under normal conditions, the Regulars blow in place all of the booby traps they find, but this time, the infantrymen just marked the location and left the trap to be blown at a later time.

"I usually perform the demolition tasks for the squad," Glenn said, "but I wasn't about to get any closer to that mine than I had already been."

The Regulars continued their patrol, but communication seemed to be a problem. They all had large lumps in their throats.

Army Reporter

19Jul71- **They deal a loaded deck** Page 1

CHU LAI- An element of Alpha Company, **1st Bn., 6th Inf.**, 198th Light Infantry Brigade, while on a patrol in the mountains west of Chu Lai, encountered a large ambush of 10 to 12 NVA soldiers using a B40 rocket and AK47 rifles. The Dealers of Death were able to deal the enemy a loaded deck when they drove off the enemy without sustaining any injuries.

Spec. 4 Kenneth Holley was leading the 12-man patrol up a ridge line when he and the cover man Pfc. Gerald B. Goodman entered a small clearing and spotted some well concealed hootches. They signaled back for the M60 machinegun to be brought up to recon the area by fire.

As the signal was being silently passed back, Holley spotted a NVA soldier who was preparing to fire a B40 rocket at the patrol. As he dove to the ground Holley pressed off a quick burst of automatic fire knocking the NVA off balance and causing the rocket to go off course. The rocket passed two feet over the pointman's head and exploded harmlessly in the trees.

With the explosion of the rocket the patrol found themselves engulfed in fire from numerous enemy positions to their front, left and right. Every man hit the ground and began to return a heavy volume of fire.

Within three minutes of the initial contact, the FO (forward observer), Lt. Ron Noce had artillery zeroed in on the area. The artillery, fired by Charlie Battery, 1st Bn., 14th Arty., was worked in toward the patrol's position, the enemy fire ceased and the artillery stopped.

Capt. Ward Odom, Alpha Company commander, sent parts of his element to the left and to the right to sweep the area. One group stayed put to "keep the back door open, in case the NVA decided to try and close it," remarked Odom.

The element to the right was led by Noce who, as he stated: "When we first got hit, I hit the ground so hard I must have lost my mind, for I went charging up that stupid hill. I took fire 15 feet from the first hootch and I hit the ground. The M60 gunner was covering me all the way up, putting out beaucoup rounds and I guess that's what saved me. Someone threw a hand grenade and the firing stopped."

The men swept the hootch area, throwing "frags" into each hootch they entered. the enemy had pulled out and left nothing.

"They took everything; they were just sitting there waiting for us," remarked Holley.

The patrol had uncovered a NVA basecamp capable of servicing 40 or 50 men. Each hootch had bunkers built into the floor. The concealed camp was impossible to see from the air and almost as hard to find from the ground. Its only give-away was a complex series of well-used trails leading in and out of the base which Alpha Company had been searching for the past few days.

"what can you say about an ambush? We walked into one. They were set up waiting on us.

CHU LAI- On a recent mission west of Chu Lai, an element from the 23rd Infantry Division, 198th Infantry Brigade, used some quick reactions and fine shooting to kill four NVA soldiers.

An element from Alpha Company, **1st Bn., 6th Inf.**, was on patrol and came to a stream, so the men decided to fill their canteens and take a break.

"We put out security on both sides of the stream and observation points (OPs) on the flanks of the security," said Sgt. David Sanchez, a team leader.

"It hadn't been but about five minutes when our OPs spotted four NVA coming up a trail along the stream bed," said Pfc. Lonnie Allard, the element's pointman. "they were headed right for us and of course we all got a little nervous."

Sanchez, Allard, and three other men manoeuvred up along a steep bank into some heavy vegetation and waited.

They came out of a hedgerow about 75 meters away and we could tell they were NVA soldier by their khaki apparel and Chicom hand grenades attached to their pistol belts," said Sanchez.

"We waited until they got within about 50 meters, then we all opened up at once," said Allard. "We got all four before they knew what had happened."

The Regular captured three packs, four Chicom hand grenades, and two pistol belts in the action. All items were extracted to a nearby LZ.

Army Reporter

26Jul71- **Camp Swampy uncovered.** Page 12

LZ DOTTIE- A luxury NVA training camp, complete with running water and an anti-pollution chimney in the mess hall, was discovered by infantrymen from the 198th Brigade west of Chu Lai.

A platoon from Delta Company, **1st Bn., 6th Inf.**, was moving through mountainous terrain to support another element of the company when they came upon the camp at the top of a small ravine. Upon searching the area the Regulars found six structures, including a large mess hall.

"Another element had spotted a large group of enemy and we were moving into a blocking position," said Sgt. Gary Piper, the platoon leader. "Our point man saw one of the structures when we were about 100 meters away. Half of our element maneuvered to surround the area and the rest moved in to search the camp."

A thorough search turned up simulated barbed wire defenses and 75 practice Chicom hand grenades. The infantrymen also found two chicken coops, latrines, and an enclosed lookout position in a tree.

"The place must have been a sapper training camp," said Piper. "It was built to last a long time. All the structures had basement type bunkers with trap doors over them and everything was camouflaged from the air as well as the ground."

Luxuries abounded in the camp. "The mess hall was really something," said Spec. 4 Bob Skibo, the radio operator. "It was big enough to seat 40 people and even had a built-in stove. The chimney was an engineering marvel. It had a bellows which blew the smoke through a tunnel that had small holes opening to the surface. The smoke then filtered up through the trees and would be invisible from the air."

The Regulars burned the structures to prevent their further use by the enemy and requested an air strike on the area.

Army Reporter

11Oct71- Vietnam communiqué Sept. 19 - 25 Page 2

23rd choppers & air strikes kill

In Quang Tin Province of Military Region 1 on the morning of Sept. 23, helicopter gunships of the 23rd Infantry Division observed and engaged an estimated enemy platoon 38 miles west-southwest of Chu Lai. Fifteen of the enemy were killed and 25 122mm rockets were destroyed. Early in the afternoon the same gunship element observed and engaged an unknown-size enemy force in a bunker complex two and one-half miles northwest of the earlier contact. This later engagement was supported by seven tactical air strikes. Twenty of the enemy were killed, 30 bunkers and one truck destroyed. There were no friendly casualties in either contact. (Americal ORLL report: 23 Sept 1971 elements of B/123rd Avn Bn supported by 20 Tactical Air Strikes engaged unidentified enemy size force vic AS905896 & AS872916 resulting in 35 NVA KIA, 36 hootches, 36 bunkers, one .51 cal position, one 3/4 ton truck, and possibly on pallet of 122mm rockets destroyed).

The previous evening in Quang Nam Province of the same region, an element of the 196th Bde. 15 miles southwest of Hoi An received five rounds of 60mm mortar fire, resulting in light casualties, no fatalities and no materiel damage.

In Quang Nam Province shortly after noon Sept. 24, an element of the 198th Bde. discovered an enemy weapons cache while searching a cave complex 24 miles northwest of Quang Ngai City. The cache contained 15 AK47 rifles, four B40 rocket launchers, one 60mm mortar, 21 B40 rocket rounds, one 60mm mortar, 21 B40 rocket rounds, 350 blasting caps, and more than 600 rounds of small arms ammunition. There was no enemy contact. (Americal ORLL report: A-1/6th Inf Bn. vic BS345976 found a cache with 16 Individual weapons and 10 crew served weapons).

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Army Reporter

27Jan68-Medical Supplies Found

CHU LAI, (AMERICAL-IO) - A large cache of Viet Cong medical supplies, enough to sustain a brigade for three to four weeks, was uncovered recently south of here by a 198th Light Infantry Brigade unit.

Company #, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, commanded by Capt. James G. Price, discovered the cache on a search and clear operation near a suspected Viet Cong camp in the southern part of the Americal Division area.

The medical supplies were stored in numerous ammo boxes and consisted of Chinese, French and Russian drugs of all types, minor surgical equipment, medical books and doctors's certificates..

"The cache contained numerous drugs for surgery," Capt. Robert D. Kabo, 198th Brigade surgeon said, "I think who ever was in charge of these supplies was working for a Viet Cong surgical installation of some type," Kabo said.

Army Reporter

08Jun68-Vietnam Communique

Americal Division

Americal Division's soldiers met heavy action north of Chu Lai resulting in 16 Viet Cong and 112 North Vietnamese Army soldiers killed.

Elements of the 196th Light Infantry Brigade accounted for the majority of the action, killing all but four of the enemy.

Eight miles south of Hoi An, soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry engaged an enemy force and called in artillery and airstrikes for support. A sweep of the area after the five and one-half hour firefight revealed 86 enemy killed.

Infantrymen of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry encountered an entrenched enemy force 15 miles west of Tam Ky,. Artillery and airstrikes were called in to support the infantrymen during the one-hour firefight. A sweep of the area after contact was lost revealed 17 NVA bodies.

In the same area, units of the **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry** killed nine NVA soldiers in several skirmishes and captured seven individual weapons.

Twenty miles northwest of Tam Ky, infantrymen of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry encountered an enemy force employing small arms fire and grenades. The unit killed 12 VC.

Army Reporter

27 October 1969 - **Vietnam communiqué - October 6-12**

Americal Div - Men of the Americal Division killed 13 enemy soldiers Oct 10 in light ground fighting in their zone of responsibility. In the largest action of the day gunships of F Troop, 8th Cav., spotted and engaged five NVA soldiers and one VC in the mountains 11 miles northwest of Tam Ky, killing all six.

The next day cannoneers from Btry. A, 3rd Bn., 82nd Arty., blasted an area three miles northwest of Tam Ky, killing two soldiers hiding in scrub brush as Americal infantrymen killed four more in as many fire fights.

On Oct. 7, soldiers of Co. C, 1st Bn., 52nd Inf., walked unopposed into an enemy base camp 20 miles southwest of Chu Lai containing one large hootch and numerous smaller structures presumed to have been used for sleeping.

Seven carbines, three MAS36 bolt action French-made rifles, one Swedish made K submachine gun, assorted clothing and medical supplies were found in the complex.

The same day, a gunship from the 123th Aviation Bn. killed a lone enemy soldier walking a jungle trail seven miles west of Quang Ngai City.

On Oct. 12, one VC was killed and another detained as members of the **1st Bn., 6th Inf.** ambushed five to six VC soldiers in the mountains 12 miles southwest of Quang Ngai City.

CHU LAI - After 15 years of conflict, the Batangan Peninsula is being used for productive purposes as a result of efforts of the 39th Eng. Bn.

The 11th and 198th Infantry Brigades of the 23d Inf. had spent many years helping pacify the area. Several months ago the **1st Bn., 6th Inf.**, 198th Bde. was the last to leave the peninsula, turning over military operations to the South Vietnamese government.

Now, two main roads have been built through the area by Bravo and Charlie companies of the engineer battalion, making the newly-secured land of benefit to the people.

The two new roads constructed by the 39th Eng. Bn. have reestablished access from the Batangan peninsula to the country's main road. One of those roads, Route 521, starts on QL-1 just north of Quang Ngai City and ends near a fishing village, Chou Thuan, on the South China Sea. The 39th Engineers' Charlie Co. has rebuilt 14 kilometers of the road including four bridges two of which were re-fortified this summer after being battered by last year's unusually heavy floods.

The road has been widened to as much as 14 feet in some places and asphalted on a foundation of three inches of rock which Charlie Co. had trucked in earlier in the year. Also to prevent a recurrence of last year's flood damage to the bridges, concrete overflow spillways have been laid on both sides of each bridge to rechannel fast-moving flood waters away from the bridge.

The Regional and Popular Force units secured the area for the engineers while civilian labor was hired to build culverts along the road. Though the engineers hired many civilians, the response was so great that some had to be turned away.

Despite Regional and Popular Force security in the area, there have still been some attempts at terrorism along Route 523. For example, the engineers discovered several booby-trapped artillery rounds in one of their night laager positions and U.S. convoys have been ambushed on several occasions while attempting to haul gravel for the road.

The two recently improved roads have already begun attracting people back into the Batangan Peninsula area. Through the cooperation of local government, the United States Military Assistance Command and the 39th Engineers, the village of Son-Quang has been built.

Now, less than two months later, the five hamlets of Son-Quang have swelled to a population of 4000 with many homes still under construction. Medical aid is available to the villagers and a school is planned for the near future.

Hopes are high that the two new roads, secured by RF and PF patrols, will bring prosperity to the people returning to the once troubled Batangan peninsula.

By MSG Bill Pickett

CHU LAI - The actual standdown of the 23d Inf. Div. (Americal) was accomplished Nov. 27, when the division command group escorted the colors to Fort Lewis, Washington for the official deactivation of the unit and retirement of the colors.

The action brought to a close an enormous redeployment task which began in earnest with the announcement of the standdown of the 3d Bn. 18th Arty. and the 71st Assault Helicopter Company on Sept. 8.

Planning for the entire operation began much earlier under the supervision of the Keystone Operations Center whose personnel were responsible for the coordination and scheduling of all standdown activities.

A personnel out-processing center was established adjacent to the Chu Lai Airfield, and this operation, although deterred one day when Typhoon Hester leveled the center, averaged 200 persons per day through its doors, destined for reassignment in-country or return to CONUS for further assignment or ETS.

Also in September, units of the 23d Med. Bn. and maintenance and engineer companies began standdown, many utilizing the facilities of the Division Combat Center of [or?] the former 27th Surgical Hospital area through which most of the division members would pass during their standdown period. These locations were provided exchange and club facilities to serve Americal soldiers during their standdown.

On Sept. 17 H Troop, 17th Cav. began its standdown, and during October most maneuver elements of the division also began their standdown operations.

It was during this period that Task Force Americal began to take shape under the command of Col. Robert J. Malley, former DIS COM commander. Mission of Task Force Americal (TFA) was to prevent the enemy from establishing bases from which to rocket Chu Lai Combat Base and to keep the enemy from massing troops for attack.

Between Oct. 24 and 30, those units of Division Artillery which had not begun standdown were returned to rear areas to begin processing, and on Oct. 30 Headquarters and Headquarters Battery of Division Artillery closed out its mission as it received standdown instructions.

The **1st Bn., 6th Inf.**--which had been replaced in the mountains west of Chu Lai by the 3d Bn., 21st Inf. -- became the last infantry maneuver element to commence standdown when it was ordered to the rear on the last day of October.

Division support units, including the 23d Supply and Transportation Bn., 26th Engineer Bn, 723d Maintenance Bn. and Division Support Command began standdown during the first week in November.

Division Headquarters and Headquarters Company was the final unit to conduct standdown activities, and as the colors were escorted to COMUS [CONUS?] late in November, only the 196th Inf. Bde., under the command of Brigadier General Joseph C. McDonough remains.

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Army Reporter

02Dec68-Vietnam communique (Nov 12-Nov17)

Americal Div

The Americal Division killed 315 in a week of heavy fighting in the I Corps area of operation.

In the heaviest action, soldiers of the 198th Light Infantry Brigade killed 48 enemy in several actions Nov. 17. See article, page 1.

Twenty-six VC were killed by artillery fire from the 1st Bn., 14th Artillery when the enemy launched an attack against the Binh Son District Headquarters. Another support base seven miles northwest of Chu Lai. The base was defended by soldiers of the **1st Bn., 6th Inf.** Twelve more enemy were killed by brigade elements in scattered contacts during the day.

On Nov. 16 a reconnaissance patrol from the 198th Infantry Brigade accounted for the major part of the action as they killed 24 enemy. The patrol, which had taken a concealed position in an area seven miles north of Quang Ngai City, observed 15 VC moving down trail. Artillery from Btry. D, 1st Bn., 82nd Artillery answered the patrols call by placing eight inch rounds on the VC killing all 15. A short time later 15 VC moved into the area, and the patrol again called for artillery support from Btry. D. Six enemy were killed in the barrage that followed.

Army Reporter

06Jul70 Vietnam communique June 15-21

Fourth blocks enemy, kills 29.....

Americal Div

Americal infantrymen killed 22 enemy soldiers June 16 in scattered actions. Most of the contacts took place in the Americal's 11th Bde.'s area of operations. Seven enemy soldiers were killed when elements of the 11th Bde. engaged a dozen enemy soldiers along the Song Tra Khuc River, 25 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Twenty-three more enemy soldiers were killed by Americal troops the following day.

In I Corps on June 18, members of the Americal Division accounted for five enemy killed. Infantrymen from Co. D., (?2/1st) 1st Inf., killed the five enemy soldiers in an area about nine miles west of Tam Ky.

Twenty-four more enemy soldiers were killed the next day in scattered actions. An element of the 4th Bn., 3rd Inf., killed six of the foe in several contacts in the mountains eight miles south of Duc Pho.

The Americal's Co. A., 1st Bn., 6th Inf., found and evacuated four tons of rice. The rice was discovered in an area eight miles northeast of Quang Ngai city.

Americal infantrymen killed 13 enemy soldiers in scattered contacts June 20. An element of the Americal's 52nd Inf., discovered and evacuated about two tons of unpolished rice. The rice was found 10 miles northeast of Quang Ngai. In an area two miles away from that find, Co. A, **1st Bn., 6th Inf.**, later found and evacuated 3 1/2 tons of rice.

LZ BAYONET - Few men put in a 1,000-day tour in Vietnam. Even fewer spend it all with one unit. But one Americal Division soldier from the 198th Inf. Bde. has done just that. And he's disappointed that he can't go on for 2,000.

Staff Sgt. Howard W. Walker, **1st Bn., 6th Inf.**, celebrated his 1,000 day in-country and his 1,305th day with the 1st of the 6th July 1.

Walker, a Canadian citizen who is presently the battalion's ammunition NCO, joined the battalion in December 1966 when the unit was training at Ft. Hood, Tex., for deployment to Vietnam. He trained with them, then deployed with them in October 1967 and has been with them ever since.

Why did a Canadian decide to join the U.S. Army in the first place? "A friend of mine, who lived on the same street in Montreal, was a doorgunner with the Army in Vietnam," Walker explained. "In early 1966, while on an operation, he was wounded and eventually died. After that I wanted to join the Army and come over here."

When he deployed with "The Regulars," the unit was part of Task Force Oregon. Several months later it was incorporated into the Americal Division which was then being reactivated.

In compiling his 1000 days in-country-he will reach 1010 by the time he DEROSes July 10-Walker has extended three times. He attempted to extend a fourth time but a recent Army policy prevented him from doing so.

During most of his tenure here, Walker has been with Hq. and Hq. Co. But for seven months he was with Co. D. It was then, as an acting platoon leader, that he earned a Bronze Star for Valor for organizing and leading his platoon's assault against a dug-in NVA position.

Walker also has received another Bronze Star, an Army Commendation Medal, and is currently up for his second ARCOM. His battalion also was presented with a Valorous Unit Citation for its actions around Da Nang during Tet 1968.

What changes has he seen in the last 100 days [sic 1,000]? "I remember when Highway 1 was just a gravel road and wasn't safe to drive on even during the day," Walker recalls.

It's taken Walker a long time to get "short." But for him, it hasn't taken long enough.

Army Reporter

25Jan71- Vietnam communiqué Jan. 4-10 Page 2

23rd has action-packed week . Soldiers from the 23rd Infantry Division (Airmobile [since when?]) killed 13 enemy soldiers Jan. 9 in southern Military Region 1. A reconnaissance element of the 1st Bn., 46th Inf., killed five enemy soldiers southwest of Tam Ky. Soldiers of Co. A, 1st Bn., 6th Inf., killed five and detained two enemy soldiers in action southeast of Chu Lai. Elements of the 1st Bn., 52nd Inf., killed three enemy soldiers northwest of Quang Ngai City. In the south of Quang Tin Province the evening of Jan. 9, an element of the 198th Inf., Bde., 23rd Infantry Division, operating 14 miles southwest of Tam Ky with a Republic of Vietnam Regional Force element, engaged an unknown-size enemy force with organic weapons. Enemy losses were 14 killed and seven individual weapons captured. There were no friendly casualties.

23rd Inf Div

In Quang Ngai Province Military Region 1 Jan. 6, an element of the 11th Inf. Bde., while on patrol 17 miles south-southeast of Quang Ngai City, engaged an undetermined-size enemy force. The action was supported by helicopter gunships and artillery. Enemy losses were seven killed and one individual weapon captured. U.S. forces sustained no casualties. Also in Quang Ngai Province shortly after noon, elements of the 198th Inf. Bde. engaged an estimated 10 enemy while on patrol nine miles north of Quang Ngai City. Enemy losses were one killed and one individual weapon captured. U.S. casualties were four wounded. One former enemy soldier acting as a scout was killed.

Troopers of the 23rd killed five enemy soldiers and captured 1,000 pounds of rice in the southern part of Military Region 1 Jan. 6. A reconnaissance platoon of the 2nd Bn., 1st Inf., while on a combat sweep northwest of Tam Ky, discovered an additional 200 pounds of corn in a burned-out enemy structure. In other 23rd action, Co. A, 5th Bn., 46th Inf., discovered an enemy weapons cache while on patrol northwest of Chu Lai. The enemy hoard consisted of two machine guns, three automatic weapons, 25 mortar rounds three rocket-propelled grenades, three cases of AK47 ammunition and 600 machine gun rounds. The captured equipment was evacuated to Chu Lai.

A short time before, northwest of Tam Ky, a unit discovered an additional 500 pounds of rice, which was evacuated to Duc Duc. Soldiers from the 23rd killed seven enemy soldiers in the division's area of operation in Military Region 1 Jan. 7. Three of the enemy were killed by air crews of the division's 116th Assault Helicopter Co. as the choppers were flying to Hawk Hill. Co. C, 1st Bn., 52nd Inf., killed two enemy in an action south of Chu Lai. The other two enemy soldiers were killed in separate actions involving Co. D, 3rd Bn., 1st Inf., southwest of Quang Ngai City and Co. C, 4th Bn., 3rd Inf., west of Duc Pho.

In Military Region 1 shortly after noon Jan. elements of the 4th Bn., 21st Inf., detonated two booby traps. Two U.S. soldiers were killed and 12 wounded in the incidents southwest of Duc Pho in Quang Ngai Province. In other 23rd action near Duc Pho, elements of the 4th Bn., 3rd Inf., killed five enemy soldiers. Co. B engaged two enemy, killing both, while operating west of town. Three enemy were found hiding in a tunnel, also west of Duc Pho, and were killed by men from the battalion's Co. C.

In Military Region 1 Jan. 10, elements of the 23rd killed 10 enemy soldiers and captured more than 1,000 pounds of rice. The division's 11th Inf. Bde. killed seven enemy soldiers. A reconnaissance element of the 1st Bn., 20th Inf., killed five and men from the 4th Bn., 3rd Inf., killed two. Over 1,000 pounds of spoiled rice was discovered by Co. C, 1st Bn., 52nd Inf., of the division's 198th Inf., Bde. in a tunnel and bunker complex south of Chu Lai. The rice and the complex were destroyed. Other brigade elements killed three enemy soldiers in scattered actions.

Military Region 1

In Military Region 1 Jan. 6, an OH58A helicopter assigned to elements of the 17th Air Cavalry received small arms fire nine miles northwest of Dong Ha. The aircraft crashed and burned, wounding three crew members. In other action the same day, one U.S. soldier was killed and six others were wounded in Military Region 1.

LZ DOTTY - A unit of the 23rd Infantry Division's 198th Inf. Bde. took advantage of darkness, a well-placed illumination round, rain and the confusion of an enemy element to kill 10 Viet Cong in contact southeast of Chu Lai.

A platoon from Co. C, **1st Bn., 6th Inf.**, was sent on an after-dark mission to check out what was believed to be a deserted village. The village was not there, but an enemy way station was, and 10 Viet Cong were killed by the Regulars.

"It was so dark that I couldn't see anything in front of me, and when I felt that we were getting close to our objective, I kept lying down on the ground to see if I could silhouette any kind of movement or structure in the little light that there was," said Staff Sgt. Wayne L. Bowers, acting platoon leader.

"I knew I was where I was supposed to be, but I hadn't seen anything," said Bowers. "Then all of a sudden I caught a glimpse of a makeshift shelter, and I heard a sound come from someone sleeping inside."

Bowers began crawling back to his element to inform them of the situation. He began positioning his men on line in front of the small structure. A heavy rain started just as the Regulars began their movement to their positions, and covered up all sounds of movement.

"I left a small group back to secure our packs, and to serve as a blocking force," said Bowers. "Then I radioed back to our main element and asked for an illumination round in exactly one minute. That would give me enough time to get back in position."

The illumination round was right on time and directly over the objective, and a sleepy Viet Cong slipped his head out to see what was going on. A cry of "Dung Lai" was called by the Regulars, but several Viet Cong began trying to escape even though the night had turned into day.

"We saw some of them carrying weapons, so we opened fire on them," Bowers said. "They were so confused and surprised that they never returned fire."

Army Reporter

25 August 1969 - **Ky Hoa islanders make civil affairs work**

KY HOA ISLAND - Triangular sails pull the fishermen and their families of this island out into the China Sea each morning and bring them back at dusk. Ky Hoa is a refuge of peace, rare in Vietnam.

As the 6th Bn., 56th Arty. departs the Americal Division for the United States it turns over civil affairs responsibility for this island paradise to the **1st Bn., 6th Inf., 198th Inf. Bde.**

"There are no Viet Cong on Ky Hoa Island," said Capt. Michael D. Foncellino, department civil affairs officer for the artillery battalion, as he drew an informal picture of the island and its people for Capt. William D. Hyde, civil affairs officer of the 1st Bn., 6th Inf.

The two men met here recently to discuss the turnover with Vietnamese island officials.

Situated just north of Chu Lai across the Truong Giang River, Ky Hoa from the air looks remarkably propeller-shaped. At sea level it is a south sea island paradise - tall, strong coconut palms stretch themselves out from the beach's edge. Vegetables are planted in small gardens dotted throughout the few villages at the corners of the island.

For the 6,300 inhabitants, fishing is their chief means of income. Fishing nets hang on drying poles and veil the island's shoreline.

For years the artillery's Hawk missiles sat poised atop the only hill in Ky Hoa. But now these Americans are leaving and the children cling to the pants of the departing artillerymen who were their friends for a year.

"One of our first projects is to find new jobs for the 200 villagers who worked on the missile compound," Hyde explained. "We are planning to pave the one road which links the seven separated hamlets and we should be able to use many people on this project. We will give them tools and supplies but they will do the actual construction work."

Foncellino pointed out a long, clean cement building: "They wanted a mess hall for their new maternity hospital, so one day we dropped off a truckload of cement and the next time we came back they had it built - these people can do anything."

"I think Ky Hoa will be a preview of things to come when the villages begin to become more and more self-sufficient," Hyde said. "I want to act here as only an advisor. We will pull Medcaps but I want our medics mostly for training Vietnamese medics who live here."

"We're giving nine scholarships which will provide a little extra money for nine kids to get through another year of primary or high school. This means a great deal to the people here because the islanders hold education in very high esteem."

This is a plan for the future and the children's ringing laughter is proof that the work already has begun.

brings in eight new ralliers

CHU LAI - The psychological operations program (Psyops) of the 23rd Infantry Division's 198th Inf. Bde., a proven savings program in terms of casualties for both sides, paid an extra dividend recently when eight Viet Cong soldiers turned themselves in to the government in a single day.

At least one of the returnees turned himself in as a result of a unique "live" helicopter broadcast made the day before by another former Viet Cong who had previously rallied. This was believed to be the first time in the division area that a returnee had flown on a Psyops mission and made a live appeal to his former guerilla mates.

The eight ralliers, all former guerrillas in Binh Son District, turned themselves in to a Popular Forces outpost southeast of Chu Lai. All stated that the Psyops program of the 198th had influenced their decision to return to the government, according to Lt. William Cain, the brigade civil affairs officer.

"We have been running an intensive Psyops program in that area for some time," said Cain. "We were particularly interested in appealing to the village guerrillas who set booby traps and attempt to harass the pacification projects. These eight all told us that because of our broadcasts and allied operations in the area, they had decided to rally."

Two days before the eight returned to the government, a lone Viet Cong turned himself in to the brigade's H Troop, 17th Cav., which was working in the area. The troop sent him to a nearby fire base where the former guerilla expressed his willingness to go up in the Psyops helicopter to make an appeal for his friends to rally.

The next day, the normal schedule of broadcasting taped messages in the brigade area was suspended and the helicopter was utilized for the live message by the rallier.

"We normally use only taped messages in our broadcasting," Cain said. "But this time the opportunity presented itself for us to make a direct live appeal. Our interpreter, the rallier and the civil affairs officer of the **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry**, got together and composed a short but effective message for the rallier to broadcast."

The next evening, the eight turned themselves in to the Popular Forces.

"Our Psyops program has been extremely effective this month," Cain said. "By employing this new twist of live messages, we hope we can have a few more days of receiving eight ralliers in a single day."

Army Reporter

22Feb71 - **198th Inf Bde gets rice, 8 VC** **Page 1**

CHU LAI - Eight enemy soldiers fell in scattered action recently to the infantrymen of the 23rd Infantry Division's 198th Inf. Bde. Several caches were also discovered.

Five Viet Cong were killed and two captured as an element of the 198th Inf. Bde. made an early morning search of an abandoned hamlet south of Chu Lai.

Co. A, **1st Bn., 6th Inf.** had left their night defensive position to search the hamlet suspected of harboring guerrillas by night. The Regulars found what they were looking for when their Luc Luong Scout spotted seven enemy soldiers hiding near a hedgerow.

After a brief exchange of handgrenades, the enemy bolted and moved into a nearby structure containing a bunker and a brick wall in the rear which blocked any possible escape.

"One of our men, Sgt. Michael Knox, made his way to the side of the structure and tossed in a grenade," said Pfc Don Hayes. As the infantrymen opened up with a barrage of small arms fire, other elements of the company moved into blocking positions to prevent any escape.

"Our Luc Luong Scout told us to stop firing because he wanted to talk to the enemy," Hayes continued. "They exchanged a few words and then two of them came out with their hands up."

The[y] other five refused to surrender, however, and were found dead in the structure after the second barrage of rifle fire. The two wounded VC were taken to a Chu Lai hospital.

Infantrymen of C Co., 1st Bn., 52nd Inf., 198th Inf. Bde. teamed with helicopter gunships to kill three VC and capture 500 pounds of rice and six booby traps.

Returning from patrol in an area south of Chu Lai, the rear element began to receive sniper fire. The infantrymen quickly laid down a base of fire toward a nearby woodline and then maneuvered toward the suspected enemy location.

"At this time we called for gunships," Capt. Lee Basnar, the company commander, said. "I also instructed another platoon to move from its laager site and set up a blocking force to the north."

After the gunships engaged the suspected location, the Ready Rifles swept the area and found one enemy KIA.

Another platoon of the company maneuvered behind the enemy location and engaged the enemy with small arms fire. Their sweep turned up two more VC killed.

"The following day, we made a further sweep of the entire area and found six booby traps and five tunnels," Basnar said. "Inside the tunnels were about 500 pounds of rice."

The rice, in poor condition, was destroyed as were the booby traps and tunnels.

THE RESCUE OF SABRE 6

By Johnnie B. Hitt (Rattler 3)

March 17, 1970 somewhere from the helicopter skies near Chu Lai, Viet Nam; "Chu Lai GCA this is Skater 67, descending to 1500..." The airways went silent. The helicopter blades no longer whipped the air into submission. That high frequency turbine engine whine that deafens all helicopter pilots was no more. The machine was now quiet but the jungle was not. The birds and animals were fleeing frantically from their normally quiet homes in the jungle canopy. They were desperately trying to escape from the uncontrolled rolling mass of what was once a flying UH-1H IROQUIS helicopter.

"Skater 67, this is Chu Lai GCA, say your intentions, over." Pause...Silence..."Skater 67, this is Chu Lai GCA, please say intentions, over." Silence..."Any aircraft, this is Chu Lai GCA, do you have contact with Skater 67? Over." Pause...The Ground Controlled Radar (GCA) operator at the Chu Lai airfield was a seasoned Air Force veteran who knew he had a problem. With the known deteriorating weather conditions in the entire AO (area of operation), it was not a good time to lose contact with any helicopter but especially not this one. The controller knew from somewhere in the back of his mind that this call sign was familiar. He didn't know who it was but he did know the call sign was special.

"Chu Lai Tower, this is GCA." "Tower..." "This is GCA, lost radio contact with Skater 67 at 1559 (3:59 P.M.) local time. Do you have a strip on him?" A "strip" is Air Traffic Controller (ATC) talk for a small strip of white paper with abbreviated information from the flight plan. Each crew was required to file a complete flight plan with their company operations or the Chu Lai airfield operations. "This is tower, yes we have it! That aircraft is carrying a code 5, that's why we have it." A "code" is ATC language for the passenger being the rank of Major General of equivalent. The ATC coding systems starts with the President of the United States (or any other head-of-state) as a code 1, vice president as code 2, General (four star) as code 3, Lieutenant General (three star) as a 4, etc. The code systems goes to Colonel rank which is a code 7.

"Skater 67, this is Chu Lai tower, over." Long pause..."Skater 67, this is..." The tower controller attempted to make contact with Skater 67 several times but was unsuccessful. Without delay, he picked up the crash rescue line which alerted all of the operations centers throughout Chu Lai. This immediate action taken by the Air Force ATC controller and the tower operator began a sequence of professionally executed and heroic events. These actions would be executed to perfection by a team of Army and Air Force professionals who had the brotherhood of war as their primary motivation.

The 71st Assault Helicopter Company (AHC) Headquarters was located on the South China Sea beach in Chu Lai about two miles south of the Chu Lai East runway. This assault company was better known for their Rattler and Firebird call signs. Rattler call signs were used by the "slick driver" or the UH-1H (Iroquois) helicopter pilots who few missions which included command and control (C&C), re-supply of the 23rd Infantry Division (better known as the Americal Division) soldiers, medivac (medical evacuation) and combat assaults. The pilots of the infamous helicopter gun platoon of the 71st were known throughout the Division AO by the call sign Firebird. This small but lethal platoon of UH-1C (Charlie Model) gun ships were the best and most responsive team to ever support the American soldier. Chu Lai air base complex consisted of two roughly parallel runways oriented generally north (320 degrees) and south (140 degrees). Chu Lai West runway was located furthest west from the beach while Chu Lai East which was basically a heliport (700 feet x 200 feet) was only a few hundred yards inland from the ocean. The Air Force and Army jointly operated the entire facility but the US Air Force fast movers (jets) launched and recovered exclusively from Chu Lai West. This left Chu Lai East solely for helicopters.

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The 71st AHC operations was located adjacent to Chu Lai East. Collocated with operations was aircraft maintenance, the Firebird alert hooch where crews were on 24 hour standby and the flight line

which was respectfully known as the snake pit. Of course, the maintenance crews' call sign was Snake Doctor, what else?

Within the operations building, a communications center was manned by Specialist Fifth Class Roger H. Doyea from Tacoma, Washington. The air-to-air communications suite consisted of one FM and one UHF radio. A lonely black dial telephone sat on the operations desk. Next to it was a TA-312 field telephone connected to the Firebirds.

Specialist Doyea answers the black phone on the first ring, "Rattler operations" "Yes, Captain Hitt is here, just a minute." "Sir, its for you, Battalion" "Hello, this is Captain Hitt." Captain Johnnie B. Hitt (Rattler 3) from Wills Point, Texas is the company operations officer with about 7 months of his 12 month tour complete. "I understand sir and we will comply, out!" Captain Hitt picks up the phone and from memory quickly dials the Company Commander's number. "Major James!" was the immediate response.

Major Tommie P. James (Rattler 6) was 34 and hailed from Bixby, Oklahoma. He had successfully commanded the company for four months but his biggest challenge was yet to come. James had been flying in Vietnam since he arrived in July, 1969. "Sir, this is Captain Hitt." Tommy James knew that Captain Hitt's calls were usually not social. "Sir, we have a helicopter down but it is not one of ours. Battalion was notified by the tower and suspects the downed chopper is carrying a general officer. Battalion commander requests you proceed to the area and coordinate the search and rescue (S & R) operations. I'll have a bird and crew ready to go when you get here. I'll try to get more detail." James responded simply, "Roger out." Captain Hitt immediately phoned maintenance while simultaneously giving Doyea details of which crew members to alert for an immediate mission. "Jim this is Johnnie, what bird do you have ready for an immediate takeoff for the old man? We have a bird down, but it's not ours!" "You can have 69-23248, I'll get it ready." "Thanks."

Captain James (Jim) Duke (call sign-snake doctor) from Dallas, Texas and his maintenance crew always had one more helicopter available when the chips were down. They had the best maintenance record of any company in the Battalion. Even if 80% or 90% of the company's fleet of 22 UH-1H's was committed, Rattler maintenance always had one more to fly and they could produce it immediately when a life was at stake.

Jim Duke and Johnnie Hitt had a special relationship that few people get a chance to experience and most hope they never do. While under intense enemy fire, Jim risked his life to land and rescued Johnnie and his crew after they were shot down and crashed in the rice patties not too far from Chu Lai. When Jim called Johnnie or vice versa there was no questioning of what was being asked. There was an understanding you can have only when you have saved a fellow soldiers life.

This short story is only an example of what went on daily in the 71st AHC. The dependence on the professionalism, bravery, and confidence of every member of the company was never questioned and never failed. Every soldier did their job and took care of each other. When someone was in trouble, he was never alone. Fellow Rattlers would be there.

Captain Hitt's next call was to the Firebirds. "This is operations. Aircraft down. Not ours. Six is going out to C & C the search and rescue. Heads up. Do not crank. Want to conserve fuel. Will reposition you when I get a general location." Firebirds, "Roger, out!"

Black phone again. "Battalion, this is Rattler operations. Do you have a general location yet based on the flight plan?" "Best guess is that he is down somewhere near Tam Ky." "Roger, Rattler 6 will be airborne in 10 minutes. Will keep you informed. Out!" "Johnnie?" "Yes." "We are pretty sure that Saber 6, the Division Commanding General, is on that helicopter!" A long pause ensued. "Thanks, operations out!" Captain Hitt put down the phone and stood motionless. It was like someone had tied weights to his legs. He wanted to move and continue the frantic pace necessary to launch an aircraft quickly but he couldn't. The division commander. That is a two star general in charge of the entire Americal Division.

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Indeed the Division Commander was a major general (two star) and he was the sole individual in charge of the 23rd Infantry Division. Major General Lloyd B. Ramsey assumed command of the division in June of 1969 just two short years after the division was activated in Viet Nam on the 25th of September 1967. It was the largest division in Viet Nam. Most divisions consisted of nine maneuver battalions but the Americal had 10. Those battalions were distributed three each in the 11th and 198th Infantry Brigades and four to the 196th Light Infantry Brigade. General Ramsey had been visiting this brigade. The 71st AHC habitually supported the 196th although they did combat assault missions throughout the AO as part of the 14th Aviation Battalion. The 14th was responsible for providing combat aviation support throughout

the division sector. The 14th battalion commander was the individual who directed Rattler 6 to take charge of the search and rescue. The Commanding General (CG) was not flying one of the battalion's helicopters but there were indications that he was down in their territory. The CG's command and control helicopter was provided by A Company, 123rd Aviation Battalion (Airmobile). This battalion provided all general support aviation to the division.

On the day of the crash MG Ramsey had been on a series of visits to the infantry battalions in the field. He had departed Fire Support Base (FSB) Center enroute to Hawk Hill. He was flying with a substitute Aircraft Commander (AC), Skater 67, because his regular AC had been grounded. Most pilots immediately wonder why he was grounded because just the use of the word generates a negative connotation. The flight surgeon in this case directed the grounding because he had flown seven days in a row without the proper rest. A regulatory amount of crew rest is mandated for all crew members. MG Ramsey was quite comfortable with Skater 67 and toward the end of the day had complete confidence in his flying ability. The CG had a meeting at division headquarters in Chu Lai which he was trying desperately to make on time. He had to stop at FSB Hawk Hill to briefly visit a battalion commander. Aviation fuel was readily available at this FSB but not at others. Hawk Hill was a staging area for the Firebirds. The Firebirds maintained a 24 hour crew at Hawk Hill. This forward positioning cut the reaction time to support the infantry by at least 30 minutes. General Ramsey knew fuel was available but specifically instructed his crew not to refuel the helicopter. Normally the CG mandated that the chopper be topped off (refueled) at every stop where fuel was available. He was in a hurry to get to his meeting so he did not want to wait for the refueling operation. This decision resulted in the helicopter having almost empty fuel tanks by the time it arrived in the vicinity of Tam Ky.

MG Ramsey quickly met with the battalion commander and immediately proceeded to his waiting chopper. As he strapped into his large armored seat, he remembered the day, shortly after taking command of the division, his AC brought an aircraft maintenance technician over to the aircraft. The enthusiastic soldier convinced the CG that he needed an armored seat for protection. The UH-1H helicopter is outfitted with two armored seats as standard equipment, one for the AC and one for the pilot. These armored seats saved many aviators' lives but provided no protection for the passengers. Reluctantly, the CG agreed to have an armored seat installed on the right side of the cargo compartment facing forward. He had reservations about how the seat would be secured to the floor, however, the soldier persuaded him the seat would be secure and would not come loose in a crash. When he finished strapping into his seat, the helicopter immediately departed Hawk Hill for Chu Lai. The helicopter climbed to altitude slower than normal. The CG became concerned about being late for his meeting. He leaned against the seat belt across his midsection and placed the radio earphones over his head and adjusted each ear cup over one ear at a time. He then turned the FM (Frequency Modulated) radio switch to the on position. The crew had already applied power to the AN/ASC-10 command and control console securely fastened to the floor of the helicopter. The AN/ASC-10 was made up entirely of airborne radios which gave the CG a variety of radios for command and control in a relative compact area. It measured 32 1/2 inches long, 17 1/2 inches wide and 33 1/2 inches high and weighed about 280 pounds. The console was heavy, big, solid, and very unattractive but it provided the CG with FM radio contact with his division headquarters using an AN/ARC-54 FM radio. General Ramsey

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started to depress the push-to-talk button to transmit a message to his headquarters when the crew chief leaned over him from his position on the right side of the aircraft and behind the CG's armored seat and flipped up the aircraft UHF (ultra high frequency) radio receiver switch.

Crew Chief Ray Murphy of Connersville, Indiana was a dedicated Specialist Fourth Class and very intuitive about keeping the CG in the loop on what was happening inside and outside the aircraft. He had been doing it for a while and he took pride in making sure everything in his aircraft was in perfect condition for his CG.

Ray Murphy's action allowed the CG to monitor the crew's radio conversation. "Chu Lai weather, this is Skater 67. What is current weather in Chu Lai?" "This is Chu Lai weather, Currently 1500 feet overcast with one mile visibility outside of the clouds. Over." "This is Skater 67, roger, thanks." "Chu Lai approach control, this is Skater 67, over." "Skater 67, this is Chu Lai." "Chu Lai, Skater 67 is a UH-1, climbing to 3000 feet, request GCA." "Skater 67, say position." "This is 67, off Hawk Hill, heading 090 degrees." "Roger 67, turn right for identification." Pause..."Chu Lai GCA, this is Blue 24, west of Hawk Hill at 3100

feet, in the clouds, request GCA, over.” “Blue 24, this is Chu Lai approach control, please contact Chu Lai GCA on UHF frequency 285.8, over.” “This is blue 24, roger, out.” “Skater 67, this is Chu Lai approach, stop turn. Radar contact west of Hawk Hill. Turn to heading 090. If you want to expedite, I can let you down over the water and you should break out at 1500 feet.” “This is Skater 67, roger, we will take that procedure, over.” “This is Chu Lai, maintain 090 heading and I will take you out another 2 miles so you will be 5 miles out over water.” “Skater 67, Roger.” The CG listened intently and he was pleased the AC chose to expedite the procedure. “Skater 67, descend to 1500 feet, call me when you are VFR.” “Skater 67, Roger.” The AC noted the time at 1556 and began his descent. General Ramsey along with all other passengers that ride in a helicopter when they are flying in the clouds noted how much the outside looked like the inside of a milk bottle. It was all white and seemed to be motionless. While observing the milk bottle effect out the front window of the helicopter, he noticed Robert J. Thomas of Reston, Virginia. He made a mental note that this had been a good day for the newly assigned Lieutenant Colonel.

Suddenly, out the front windscreen, the CG first saw light, then green, then trees. All of this happened in moments. At the same time Chief Warrant Officer two Stephen C. Pike (Skater 67) yelled, “Trees!” He decelerated the helicopter by swiftly pulling the cyclic back into his gut...too late! The tail rotor caught the trees and the helicopter mushoomed into the jungle canopy separating the tail rotor and then the complete

tail boom as the forward force carried the disintegrating chopper into the side of the mountain. The impact continued through the canopy and into the mountain. One of the two rotor blades struck the upside of the mountain while the blade was traveling toward the tail of the aircraft. The sudden stop of the rotor blade, traveling at 324 revolutions per minute, ripped the transmission out of it’s support and flung it into the living space of the passenger compartment brining the engine with it. This mass of heavy components killed Specialist Murphy as he sat in his crew chief seat. The flying hunk of metals tore through the back of the passenger seats and bounced off the CG’s armored seat continued around the seat and crashed forward. The mass continued its forward motion from the outside in killing LTC Thomas as it crushed him into the command and control console. The armored seat had saved General Ramsey’s life but it could not prevent the resulting serious injuries. He was knocked unconscious during the crash and would remain so almost throughout his rescue.

Deathly quite followed. The breaking of Plexiglas, tearing of sheet metal, and the continuous whine of the turbine engine were no more. Wreckage, crew members and passengers, were scattered everywhere. Dazed and hurt, the survivors struggled to assess what had happened and, more importantly, the current situation? Enemy territory..did they hear us crash? Will they come for use? Who is alive? Who can fight? What do we have to fight with? Captain John P. Tucker from Lima, Ohio felt for his .45 caliber pistol. The action was more out of habit than intention. Little did he realize that out of the two M-60 machine guns which were mounted as door guns, four M-16 rifles, and various hand guns, his .45 was the only weapon recovered. The

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remaining arsenal was somewhere in the twisted wreckage, in the jungle canopy, in the valley below or on the jungle floor. Wherever the weapons were located, they could not be immediately found by the shocked and wounded crew and passengers. No time to worry about it. How do we get out of here?

The weather continued to deteriorate as Rattler 6 hovered onto Chu Lai East. “Rattler operations, this is Rattler 6, taxing, will be off in two minutes. Any update?” “Six, this is Rattler operations, nothing new. Plan on Tam Ky. Tell me when you want the Firebirds, over.” “Six, roger, out.” James hovered the UH-1 as though it was molded around him like a custom fit suit. As James prepared to take the active for takeoff, he responded with an affirmative as he executed each maneuver. He could see the bad weather and wanted to make sure that everything worked if he needed to fly in the clouds. Even though this took precious time, it was better to be sure than to have another UH-1 and crew crashed on a mountain. After a very short run-up and obtaining clearance from the tower, Rattler 6 and his crew were off on what would become one of the biggest challenges of their lives.

Tam Ky was located about 20 nautical miles (NM) northwest of Chu Lai. James turned to a heading of 130 degrees which would place him about halfway between Hawk Hill and Tam Ky. Hawk Hill was 26 NM from Chu Lai on a heading of 122. East of Tam Ky was flat land and then the coast. The mountainous terrain started just west of Tam Ky. The weather was going down so the intent was to make sure he had Hawk Hill on the left for reference and Tam Ky on the right. Closer to Tam Ky he would turn east toward

the hamlet. This plan would provide for the most coverage of the suspected crash site area. It would also allow for maintaining a good visual reference by using known land marks while trying to stay oriented in the terrible weather conditions. The cloud ceiling continued to come down.

His plan worked. About 3 NM southeast prior to reaching Tam Ky, Rattler 6 began receiving a beeper single on the UHF emergency frequency 243.0. Skater 67 was transmitting the emergency signal using his AN/URC-68 survival radio. The URC-68 is a compact, personal emergency transceiver that provides two-way, ground-to-ground or ground-to-air communications. It is compact and lightweight (32 oz) and slightly larger than a can of pipe tobacco. It is very convenient to carry and easy to operate. The radio, not like the weapons, was tucked neatly into Skater 67's flight suit. His only link to rescuers was the radio. This small but vital radio is invaluable to the aviator when all two-way radio capability is destroyed in a crash.

Skater 67 was operating the radio in the "G" (Guard) position which meant that a beeper signal was automatically transmitted on the emergency frequency. In this selected channel position, Skater 67 could hear but could not transmit by voice. When Rattler 6 heard the beeper, he turned his UHF radio selector switch to the preset guard channel thereby enabling him to transmit voice by using the push-to-talk button on his cyclic control hand grip. He immediately pushed the button and transmitted "Beeper, Beeper, come up voice!" These are the international words used to signal a distressed caller to switch his radio to voice transmission. It is also the sweetest sound you can ever hear. Skater 67 immediately switched the radio control knob to the "PPT" position which stands for push-to-talk. "any aircraft this is Skater 6.." His voice faded out as Rattler 6 made a turn to avoid the ever menacing clouds that were now almost surrounding him. He had to fly the helicopter, give directions to the crew, and try to establish radio contact while staying clear of the clouds. The cockpit got real busy. Six's crew was assisting every second by doing their job and responding to their CO (commanding officer). "Skater 6, this is Rattler 6, over." "This is Skater 62, over." At least that is what Rattler 6 thought he heard. "Skater 62, this is Rattler, do you know your approximate location? Over." "This is Skater 67, believe we are near LZ Pineapple, over" "Roger Skater 67, this is 6, stand-bye."

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By this time, the Joint Rescue Command and control (JRCC) element, responsible for search and rescue operations throughout Southeast Asia, from the 3rd Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group (ARRGP) (USAF) had been alerted. One of the Group's HC-130 aircraft was on station and close enough to monitor the emergency transmissions. At least one and usually two of the HC-130 aircraft were in the air at all times and went by the call sign "King." King 6 was the call sign on this particular day. In addition, one USAF Forward Air Controller (FAC) was on station and went by call sign Jake. Jake was under the command and control of King 6.

Rattler 6 informed King 6 of the message from Skater 67 while heading toward LZ Pineapple. On entering the valley that runs east and west just north of LZ Pineapple, the signal from Skater 67 became stronger as he proceeded up the valley in a westerly direction. The signal began to fade as Rattler 6 passed north of the LZ. by using this build and fade technique, six determined that 67 was located somewhere east of LZ Pineapple. Rattler 6 turned east returned down the valley until they were just to the northeast of Pineapple. The signal from 67 was very clear and strong at this specific location.

Six turned south and proceeded up a small valley that runs north and south, east of the LZ. "Rattler 6, this is 67, I hear you approaching, over." This was good news and bad news. The good news was that Rattler 6 had quickly zeroed in on the approximate location of the crash site. The bad news was the weather. The cloud ceiling had dropped from 1500 feet to about 1050 feet and was solid overcast. Rattler 6 cautiously continued up the valley to a ground elevation of 1000 feet. By the time they reached this elevation, they were not flying, they were hovering. Hovering at tree top level just below the clouds. It was like being a piece of meat between two slices of bread, nowhere to go. The solid cloud layer was directly overhead and the treetops were almost brushing the tail boom.

James carefully hovered back and forth while getting directions from Skater 67. The directions were confusing. At one time while hovering up a small draw, 67 indicated that the sound was coming closer. James could not see good enough to continue at this point. The fog was getting thicker by the minute.

He slowly started back out of the draw. During this maneuver, Skater continued to say that the sound was coming closer. After two more such confusing directions from Skater, James determined it was not his aircraft that was near the location. James informed King 6 of his analysis. King immediately informed James that a small opening in the clouds was now available southwest of the downed aircraft.

The opening was not large enough for the Jolly Green Giant to get through. Jolly Green Giant was the call sign for the Air Force HH-53E search and rescue helicopter. These helicopters were part of the 3rd Group and were under the command and control of King 6. This specific one was on station from the 37th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron (ARRS) stationed at Da Nang which was only about 30 NM away. The HH-53E is large compared to the UH-1 flown by Major James. It is fully equipped with a hoist, stretchers, and trained Air Force medics.

Rattler 6 notified King he was going to climb out through the clouds to VFR (Visual Flight Rules) conditions on top (above the cloud layer). He requested King give him directions to the opening when he broke through the clouds. Rattler 6 started a slow ascent into the fog and clouds. He was fixed on the cockpit instruments because they were now the only method to keep the aircraft level and in forward motion. There was no visual reference. It was "milk bottle effect" all over again. When he broke out on top, King turned him over to the Jolly Green who directed them to the opening.

James descended down through the hole to tree top level and began hovering to the northeast. After approximately 15 minutes, they came to the top of a small ridge and could go no further. They could not make contact with Skater 67. The crew chief told James that he could not see the tail boom through the fog. The weather had gradually moved in behind them. Once again, James climbed IFR (Instrument Flight Rules) through the clouds to visual flight on top. They broke out at 3500 feet.

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James proceeded east toward the coast. He contacted King and informed him that they were unable to contact 67 while on the south side of the mountain. James determined the crash location must be on the north side of the major ridge line. Just short of the coast and approximately six miles from the crash site, James again let down through an opening in the clouds. After getting under the clouds, he proceeded back to the vicinity of LZ Pineapple. A definite decrease was noted in Skater's radio signal after passing northwest of the LZ, further confirming James' suspicion the crash site was on the east side of Pineapple.

James proceeded east down the valley to a point just northeast of the LZ and turned south up the small north, south valley. Skater 67 confirmed that an aircraft was approaching his position. James continued up the valley as far as possible, turned 180 degrees and came out. Skater 67 confirmed an aircraft was departing the area. Again James flew into the valley. Skater 67 confirmed an aircraft approaching. James was now certain from Skater's confirmations and the increase strength from the radio signal they were at the correct location. He hovered just over the trees at the south end of the valley at about 1000 feet elevation.

By hovering back and forth and talking to Skater 67, James was trying to more accurately pinpoint the crash site. Skater 67 was not able to tell James the direction they were from the crash site. He could only tell them when they were closer to his position. After five or so minutes of this routine, James felt he had pinpointed 67's location. He began hovering up the hill with Skater giving him directions by saying if they were getting closer or further away. Again the fog was so thick the crew chief and gunner could not see the tail rotor which was only 25 feet from their position. James had to stop several times for as long as five minutes to allow the fog to clear before continuing the slow hover. The visibility was at best 40 feet and as low as 10 feet at several points. He was only able to maintain visual contact with the tree tops by looking out the right window. So far, so good.

Suddenly the aircraft began to lose engine power. The UH-1H does funny things when the engine power is fluctuating. The nose of the aircraft goes left, then right, then back left. A challenge when you can see the ground but horrifying when near treetop and almost in the clouds. James suspected the decrease in power was caused by the increase in altitude to about 1600 feet. The higher an aircraft climbs, the more power is required of the engine especially when hovering. James would find out later the aircraft had a compressor stall and the engine had to be replaced. For now though, James thought it was the weight and ordered the crew chief and gunner to dump at least half of their M-60 machine gun ammunition to lighten the load. A total of 4000 rounds was carried, 2000 per machine gun. This action

decreased the weight enough for James to continue the mission. The aircraft performed flawlessly after this.

James requested Jolly Green to steer him toward Skater's location using his radio direction finder. The direction finder was standard equipment on the HH-53E but was not installed in the UH-1H aircraft. Jolly Green attempted to fulfill the request but the results were poor. Finally at 1750 feet, James determined he had passed the crash site based on his verbal conversations with Skater 67.

Time, daylight, and most importantly, fuel were running out. James only had enough fuel remaining for 10 minutes of station time and a quick flight to Chu Lai for refueling. James again elected to make an instrument take off and climb to VFR conditions on top. He very carefully explained his intentions to Jolly Green and asked for a recommended heading to get him safely out of the area. He was given a heading of 330. James was not able to turn the aircraft to this heading while hovering because of the inability to clear the tail rotor. He departed on a heading of 270 and turned as soon as it was safe to the 330 heading. James climbed at an airspeed of 30 knots to expedite the ascent. The preferred climb airspeed in instrument conditions is at least 60 knots. The UH-1H is much more difficult to handle at this lower speed.

Shortly after takeoff, Skater 67 informed James that it sounded like an aircraft had just passed over his position. James broke out of the clouds at 3000 feet and turned directly to Chu Lai. On the way to the Snake Pit, Rattler Operations informed James that ground troops from the Infantry Battalion were on the way to the crash site by foot. James was directed not to make another

(Continued)

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THE RESCUE OF SABRE 6

attempt to reach the crash site because of the poor visibility and approaching darkness. He did not particularly like the decision because he felt with a little more daylight, he could locate the crash site. Rational thought prevailed. The orders were logical. He did not want to risk another crew in the dark and bad weather. At this time the crash site could not be pinpointed.

The intense activity did not stop during the night of March 17th. The division operations center buzzed throughout the night executing the plan they had developed while planning for March 18th. The 71st AHC also planned for the next day. In coordination with Battalion, missions were assigned to each crew and the aircraft were assigned. Rattler maintenance assigned the snake doctor UH-1H to Rattler 6 for the next days' mission. The Aviation Battalion Commander would fly with Major James. Everyone in the company wanted the mission to go without a hitch. Check and double check was the theme for the night.

Through the 196th Brigade, the 1st of the 6th Infantry Battalion had been given the mission that day to move to and secure the crash site. Lieutenant Colonel H. Norman Schwarzkopf (who most people know as General Schwarzkopf of Desert Storm fame) commanded the 1/6th Infantry. A Company from the 1/6th had been breaking bush since early evening. They would move all night one inch, one foot at a time through the thick jungle and bad weather with no food or rest.

On the morning of the 18th, division presented the final briefing in Chu Lai. Major James attended with the 14th Battalion Commander. Division directed Major James and the Battalion Commander coordinate the days rescue operations and act as command and control for the air landing of troops if needed in the vicinity of the downed aircraft.

Major James flew directly from the Snake pit to pick up LTC Schwarzkopf and his battalion surgeon, Captain (Doctor) Luis A. Oliver. It was important to have the commander of the 1/6th Battalion on board since they owned the troops moving toward the crash site plus those that were to be airlifted. The weather was no better than it was the day before, about 1000 feet-overcast. This low ceiling made it impossible to air land troops near Skater 67 so it was essential for James to continue the rescue efforts as a single helicopter.

As Major James turned up the small north-south valley east of LZ Pineapple, Skater 67 came on the radio for the first time in about four hours and confirmed an aircraft was approaching his location. James hovered just above the trees at an indicated altitude of 1000 feet. He carefully maneuvered the helicopter to a position about 50 meters to the west of where they had started up the hill the day before. Skater 67 stated the chopper was very close. James started up the hill very slowly. The fog and clouds were still hampering their ability to visually search for the crash site and more importantly was making it very difficult to hover.

James had hovered up the mountain for 15 minutes. Then..., "Rattler 6, this is Skater 67, I see you, turn left!!" "Rattler 6, roger." James cautiously turned the nose of the aircraft to the left using pressure on the left anti-torque pedal. He continued to hover at a crawl rate. The weather was deteriorating. James

suddenly but slowly decelerated the aircraft with a light aft cyclic pull. The crashed helicopter was visible about 50 feet in front of the aircraft nose. It was lying upside down with no blades, no tail rotor, no tail boom, and very few identifiable features. Skater 67 was standing about 15 feet from the crashed aircraft on a large rock. He asked James not to come any closer. The fuselage of the crashed aircraft was very unstable and he was afraid rotor wash from James' aircraft would cause it to roll down hill. James complied.

Now what? It was impossible to land near the crash site due to heavy brush and trees. There were severely wounded soldiers on the ground, medical attention was a priority. James hovered to a spot he thought he could hold. LTC Schwarzkopf and the crew chief secured a rope to the floor of the UH-1H and tied the other end around Captain Oliver (the surgeon). He was gently lowered out of the cargo door, down through the dense canopy to the jungle floor. The crash was only 20 to 30 feet away from his location. The crew chief and gunner had to direct his every step using hand and arm signals because of the heavy undergrowth. Even this short distance took the doctor 10 minutes to navigate. Oliver called for stretchers to be dropped shortly after reaching the wreckage.

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(Continued)
THE RESCUE OF SABRE 6

The only possible landing point to pick up survivors was on the wreckage itself. James briefed King 4, who was the search and rescue for March 18th, it would be necessary to make an instrument takeoff after pickup and get a radar vector to Chu Lai hospital. King 4 acknowledged and coordinated the plan with all concerned. The crew chief advised James that the weather was breaking up in the valley below just as he started forward to land. James informed King 4 and requested a Jolly Green to make the pickup. King 4 dispatched a Jolly Green but they could not find the location. James immediately turned and flew to the valley floor where he rendezvoused with the Jolly Green and led him to the crash site. They anxiously waited. The weather was still not good enough for the large Jolly Green to maneuver to a pickup point. In a short time the weather lifted enough to get the Jolly Green over the crash site. The rescue operation was nearing completion. Air Force Staff Sergeant Jules Smith and Sergeant Stephen Sano were lowered to assist Captain Oliver. With their expertise on the ground, the rescue operation was completed.

One-by-one, the survivors were hoisted to the Jolly Green. General Ramsey woke in a daze for the first time since the crash with wind and rain in his face. He quickly sunk back into unconsciousness and did not wake again until he was in the hospital and the medics were cutting his clothes off. He was evacuated to Japan and later, on to the states with a mangled and broken arm and severe back injuries. He served as the Provost Marshall General of the Army after a recovery period at Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, D.C. He was medically retired about a year after the crash.

James and his illustrious crew returned to the snake pit heroes. To Tommie P. James and his crew it was just another mission in the land of the Rattlers... "Rattler operations, this is Rattler 6, we're home, please close out my flight plan, over." "This is Rattler 3, wilco, welcome home, out!"

Seabolt note: In conversations with Johnny Hitt, Johnnie expressed the opinion that a mistake was probably made in identifying Skater 67 and Blue 24 resulting in this crash. Johnnie is due to receive a 120 page report from Ft. Rucker concerning the crash, but had not received it as this was printed.

Uptight Magazine

United States Army, Vietnam – Spring 1969

For leadership in the field
Infantrymen turn to the

page 3

Platoon Sergeant

By SFC Larry Babbitts
Americal IO

Charlie was out there or at least he had been there. There would be no slip-ups now because this patrol was well planned. Soft moonlight accented tiny lines of strain at the corner of his eyes as they probed the darkness for VC.

The nuts-and-bolts of the patrol actually began earlier that day as the platoon sergeant leaned on a damp sandbag next to the bunker's entrance, a cigarette inserted between the thumb and the first two fingers of his left hand.

This evening, again, he would take his men out on another mission. Many of his men were new to the Company, nicknamed "The Gunfighters," 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Brigade. For many it would be their first time out with a real prospect of coming under hostile fire.

Sergeant First Class James D. Winberry, a 16-year Regular Army veteran, moved his hand deliberately from the sandbag to run over his reddish, neatly-trimmed moustache, and continued to plan for tonight.

"I could use the second squad as point," he reflected, "putting them on the left side of the formation. Perhaps the first squad as rear security."

Decision upon decision would have to be made today. Decisions about tactics would have to be checked with First Lieutenant Fred Riegel, the platoon leader, but most of the other decisions were his to make.

Who will go? Who remains behind? What special equipment will be necessary for this particular operation? These thoughts he mulled over in his mind.

"Gene," he said in his soft, native Missouri accent, "tell the squad leaders I'll meet with them here, before chow."

Specialist 4 Gene Whitely, a machine gunner who just returned from the hospital where he went to recover from a light wound suffered two weeks ago, nodded and went down the trail.

"Oh," the platoon sergeant called, "also get me 'Mike'." "Mike" is a local term used to denote the platoon radio telephone operator (RTO).

While most of the decisions seem small and unimportant, Sergeant Winberry has no margin for error. Errors and miscalculations may cost lives in a rifle company; a fact known only too well to this former Ft. Rucker, Ala., survival course instructor.

Three times decorated for valor, this Americal Division platoon sergeant believes that, "The men must have absolute confidence in me and my decisions. They must know that when I say something must be done and done now, that I'm serious and am basing each decision on my experience and sound advice from higher levels.... and from their own suggestions, too."

"He always seems calm," said Specialist Whitely, "and strange as it may seem, I've never heard him raise his voice in anger. All his moves seem to be right, and he seems to know when it's time to play and time to work. Even though I was hit last time out, I'd have no reservations about going out with him again."

(Continued)

Continued - UPTIGHT Magazine Spring of 1969- **Platoon Sergeant**

Photo caption: Platoon Sergeant Winberry relaxes after completing a successful patrol.

The last time out, Sergeant Winberry's platoon had one man killed and three wounded and evacuated. A profoundly religious man and the father of two children, Winberry deeply felt the loss of one of his men.

"He's hard but not cold," stated Captain John M. Plese, Company A commander. "He is capable of hiding his immediate feelings. This is often necessary to maintain morale among the troops, because the loss of a man is just about as hard as losing a member of your family."

"Whenever you lose anyone, it's hard to take," Winberry said, "and you begin thinking about why you're a 'lifer' (career soldier) anyhow. It'd sure be easier on the outside. You get pretty sore at yourself and at the world in general...but then you cool down and remember why you're in the Army."

Winberry, the farm-boy turned soldier, is one of the Army's professionals who isn't ashamed to admit the real reason he and many other dedicated career men stay in the combat arms.

"They need me here. Army life is my life it's my 'bag'... and in spite of the family separations and other inconveniences, it's a job that must be done, and done right."

Three men came ambling up the hill to the bunker where Winberry waited. Two squad leaders and the platoon RTO arrived knowing that if he sent for them, it was important to be just a little bit early. They were obviously ready.

Some informal greetings and conversation were exchanged.

Then, as the facial expressions indicated it was down-to-business time. Winberry briefly outlined the plans for the evening operation. The conversation continued in short sentences, punctuated with terse grunts of agreement and a few direct-to-the-point questions.

The answers were always given in a voice exhibiting both certainty and consideration for the men.

The red-haired NCO often squinted in the direction of the setting Asian sun, and while sometimes seemingly detached, demonstrated his confidence in the squad leaders by probing for suggestions and listening to them.

Although he doesn't always use their advice, he weighs it and, more often than not, the subordinate leaders' recommendations are integrated into his plans.

"Anybody got any questions?" he asks, raising himself from his improvised helmet-chair. "If not, have your men ready as soon as it gets dark. Rendezvous will be behind Bunker 11."

Now is the moment of truth for the platoon sergeant. He contemplates the possibility of losing some of his men. He is alone. The decisions have been made, the responsibilities are his. He tweaks his nose, runs his hand over his mustache again, and enters the command post (CP) bunker for a last conference with the platoon leader and company commander.

Winberry lights a short, unfiltered cigarette and puts on the eyeglasses he uses only for reading to check the situation map hanging on the CP wall. He checks for any movement of friendlies and any other changes since he last read the map.... less than one hour ago.

"He's one of the most thorough people I've ever seen," said Plese, "he'll check and re-check, and then check again. That's the reason I believe he's had so much success with so few losses."

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Continued - UPTIGHT Magazine Spring of 1969- Platoon Sergeant

After entering a few brief notes in his pad, Winberry goes to his bunk and begins to get his things together. His canteens are filled, the rifle inspected, the straps on his field pack and ammo pouches are checked. Satisfied that he is personally ready, he prepares a cup of instant coffee over a B-unit can that he has manufactured into a cook stove.

Half-way through his coffee-break, a squad leader, Sergeant Joseph Simone enters, "Hey, Sarge, I don't think we ought to take George with us. He's leaving for R&R tomorrow." It's a question more than a statement.

Winberry looks up from his steaming canteen-cup, and answers, "He's your man. Whatever you think is best."

As darkness approaches he dresses for the patrol, carefully tying the frag grenades in place; another quick check of the weapon and he starts for Bunker 11.

While quizzing the men to be sure they have been briefed by the squad leaders, he scans their equipment. Assured that everyone is ready, he turns and calls the point man to his post.

Another patrol begins.

The patrol moves noiselessly down the slope of a brush-covered hill, past the outpost bunkers and onto a rice-paddy dike. Each man knows his job; each man is confident in the other team members; each man is confident in his leader; and the leader is confident in them.

The point man and the second squad leader know their route, and lead the patrol into the ambush area. It is an area surrounding a road junction and it is covered with small scrub trees jutting out of high grass. It is a known VC infiltration route.

No words are spoken, or need to be. A slight touch on the shoulder or a hand motion by the leader indicates what action must take place.

The men settle down with as little noise and movement as possible and ready themselves in their makeshift fighting positions. Ammunition and grenades are placed within easy reach. Claymore mines are positioned, concealment prepared and the long wait begins.

Nearly nine hours of waiting, poised for battle, watching every shadow and waiting for any movement, leaves plenty of time for introspection and reflection.

After a final, quick check of the men's positions, Winberry crawls behind a hedge, his back leaning against a tree. He scans the area to assure himself that he too has a good field of fire, and is easily available to command should a fire-fight begin.

Any rustle of the leaves would immediately bring a reflex action from him and his men. By the dim light of the half moon, you can see the rifles poised, ready.

Just before dawn breaks, Winberry passes the word to withdraw from their positions and prepare to return to camp. Silently, stealthily, each man protecting his buddy's movement, the withdrawal begins.

By the early light, you can see the look of relief cross the sergeant's face, as the patrol negotiates its own perimeter wire and he shouts, "Okay, light up."

The men grin and strike matches for each others cigarettes.

"Another patrol over," reflects Winberry stroking his mustache.

Photo captions: Sergeant Winberry checks map with his subordinates (top left). He talks to a higher element on the radio (top right), He uses a compass to determine direction (above), and points out fields of fire (left).

From Don Bowers LOH pilot for the 198th Bde Aviation.

ON OR ABOUT 15 AUGUST 1970 I WAS FLYING FOR THE 198TH INF BDE. IN THE VICINITY OF CHU LAI RVN. DURING THAT TIME MY OH-6A (LOH) WAS LOW ON FUEL I RADIOED MINUTEMAN POL AND WAS INFORMED THAT ALL OF THE ARMY POL POINTS WERE DOWN BECAUSE OF CONTAMINATED FUEL. AS A RESULT I FLEW SOUTH TO QUANG NGAI FOR FUEL. UPON GETTING INTO RADIO RECEPTION I CALLED AND FOUND OUT THAT THEY ALSO HAD CONTAMINATED FUEL. I THEN HEADED NORTH BACK TOWARD CHU LAI. I DECIDED TO LAND AT LZ DOTTIE BECAUSE OF LOW FUEL STATUS.

WHILE ON THE GROUND I CONTACTED THE AVIATION OFFICER OF THE 198TH INF. BDE. AND HAVE HIM SEND OUT ANOTHER AIRCRAFT WITH SEVERAL CANS AVIATION FUEL. DURING THIS PERIOD OF TIME I FOUND OUT ABOUT A BATTLE THAT WAS OCCURRING WITH ONE OF THE INFANTRY PLATOON ASSIGNED TO **1ST BATTALION 6TH INFANTRY**. IT HAD BEEN GOING ON FOR SEVERAL HOURS. THE INFANTRY PLATOON WAS DOWN TO ONLY 14 MEN OF WHICH 2 MEN HAD BEEN WOUNDED. IT WAS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT THE BRIGADE COMMANDER COL. RICHARDSON HAD BEEN OUT TO IT AND HAD BEEN WOUNDED EARLIER IN THE DAY. DURING THE DAY SEVERAL MEDEVAC HELICOPTER HAD MADE EVACUATIONS OF INJURED PERSONAL AT THAT LOCATION. I ALSO LEARNED FROM MONITORING RADIO TRANSMISSIONS AT THE 1ST /6TH INF. TOC THAT THE TROOPS ON THE GROUND WERE OUT OF 40MM GRENADE AMMO FOR THEIR M-79 GRENADE LAUNCHER AND OUT OF 7.62 AMMO FOR THEIR M60 MACHINE GUNS. THE TROOPS WERE ALSO CRITICAL ON 5.56 AMMO FOR THEIR M-16s.

I THEN TOLD THE COMMANDER THAT I WOULD FLY THE AMMO OUT TO THE SURROUNDED TROOPS AND TO BRING ALL THE AMMO TO THE HELICOPTER LANDING PAD.

WHEN THE LOH FROM THE BRIGADE AVIATION SECTION ARRIVED WITH THE FUEL I HAD THE PILOT AND CREW CHIEF GET OUT OF THEIR AIRCRAFT AND TAKE MY AIRCRAFT BACK TO CHU LAI MAIN AIRBASE (U.S. MARINES) SINCE THE FUEL FOR THE MARINES WAS NOT CONTAMINATED. I TOOK THEIR AIRCRAFT WHICH HAD MORE FUEL I USED IT TO FLY THE MISSION. THE PERSONNEL AT LZ DOTTIE LOADED THE AMMO ONTO THE OH6A AND I FLEW TO THE ENGAGEMENT SITE.

UPON ARRIVAL AT THE POINT OF CONTACT I OBSERVED THAT THE UNIT WAS HELD UP ON A SMALL HILL AND WAS SURROUNDED ON ALL FOUR SIDES. I IMMEDIATELY STARTED TO TAKE HEAVY WEAPONS FIRE BOTH SMALL ARMS AND AUTOMATIC WEAPONS FIRE. I CONTINUED TO CIRCLE THE ENGAGEMENT WHILE I CONTACTED THE BRIGADE AVIATION OFFICER AND REQUESTED THAT A HELICOPTER GUN TEAM BE DISPATCHED TO THE SCENE TO PROVIDE GUN COVER AND TO HELP DEFEND THE POSITION OF THE GROUND TROOPS. UNABLE TO GET IMMEDIATE GUN COVER I DECIDED TO LAND AND CONTINUED TO RECEIVE HEAVY GROUND FIRE. UPON LANDING THE AMMO WAS UNLOADED FROM THE AIRCRAFT AND TWO SLIGHTLY WOUNDED TROOPERS CAME TO THE AIRCRAFT AND TRIED TO BOARD. I TOLD THEM TO STAY ON THE GROUND AND HELP THEIR FELLOW TROOPERS AND I TOOK OFF AND STARTED TO CIRCLE OVER HEAD FOR A PERIOD OF TIME IN APPROXIMATELY 10 MINUTES TWO UH-1C GUNSHIPS ARRIVED AT THE HILL TOP AND I TOLD THEM OF THE SITUATION AND GAVE THEM DIRECTIONS WHERE THE ENEMY TROOPS WERE LOCATED.

APPROXIMATELY TWO WEEK LATER I WAS AT THE POST OFFICE IN CHU LAI MAILING PACKAGES HOME WHEN A SOLDIER SAW ME AND SAID "YOU ARE SLOWMOTION 9 AREN'T YOU" I REPLIED THAT I WAS. HE THEN TOLD ME THAT HE HAD BEEN ON THE GROUND THAT DAY AND THAT AS SOON AS I FLEW OVER THEIR POSITION THAT ALL OF THE NVA STOPPED SHOOTING AT THEM AND HAD CONCENTRATED THEIR FIRES ON MY AIRCRAFT.

THE MISSING DFC ACTION I BELOVED OCCURRED WHILE WORKING FOR 1ST 52nd INF. DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, MARCH, OR APRIL 1970. DURING THIS OCCASION I WAS FLYING A RECON MISSION WITH THE BATTALION S-3 HE RECEIVED A SILVER STAR AND A PURPLE HEART ON THAT MISSION.

Donald Bowers

Center of Military History Unit Award Information:

ABBREVIATIONS:

DAGO:	Department of the Army General Order
PUC:	U.S. Army Presidential Unit Citation
VUA:	U.S. Army Valorous Unit Award
MUC:	U.S. Army Meritorious Unit Citation
RVNGC:	Republic Of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm Unit Citation
RVNCAHM	Republic of Vietnam Civil Actions Honor Medal - First Class

1st Bn, 6th Inf

VUA(Less Co D) 7-11 Feb 68 DAGO 73, 1968
RVNGC24 Aug 69 - 31 Dec 69 DAGO 42, 1972
RVNGC31 Mar 70 - 30 Jun 70 DAGO 6, 1974
RVNGC1 Mar 71 - 9 Oct 71 DAGO 6, 1974
HHC, 1st Bn, 6th Inf
RVNGC1 Apr 71 - 30 Jun 71 DAGO 6, 1974

***BOWMAN, JOSEPH B.**

Second Lieutenant (Infantry), U.S. Army

Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade (Light),

Date of Action: February 8, 1968

Citation:

The Distinguished Service Cross is presented to Joseph B. Bowman, Second Lieutenant (Infantry), U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam, while serving with Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, 198th Infantry Brigade (Light). Second Lieutenant Bowman distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 8 February 1968 as an infantry platoon leader during a combat mission near Da Nang. A Marine platoon had become engaged by enemy forces operating from a nearby village, and Lieutenant Bowman led his troops to reinforce the beleaguered unit. As his element approached the village across a large open rice paddy, a North Vietnamese Army battalion sprang a savage ambush on it from entrenched and concealed positions in a tree line and, at the same time, pounded it with a withering barrage of mortar, rocket and automatic weapons fire from the village. The devastating fusillade wounded Lieutenant Bowman and many of his men. Disregarding his wounds and safety, he fearlessly moved among his troops and directed them to defensive positions behind a paddy dike. He then began to evacuate the casualties, and the insurgents unleashed a series of fanatic human wave assaults on his perimeter. Bullets struck all around him as he moved from position to position and inspired his men to repel the determined attacks. The enemy finally overran his lines despite the heroic defense, and Lieutenant Bowman led his men in fierce hand-to-hand battle that inflicted heavy casualties on the attackers. He was mortally wounded while gallantly leading his troops in close combat against a numerically superior hostile force. Second Lieutenant Bowman's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty, at the cost of his life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

HQ US Army, Vietnam, General Orders No. 2342 (May 17, 1968)

Home Town: Roanoke, Virginia

ROMERO, ARTENIO, JR.

Sergeant First Class, U.S. Army

Company C, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division

Date of Action: May 9, 1968

Citation:

The Distinguished Service Cross is presented to Artenio Romero, Jr., Sergeant First Class, U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam, while serving with Company C, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. Sergeant First Class Romero distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 9 May 1968 during a combat mission against a battalion-sized enemy force located on a ridge near the village of Phu Vinh Dong. The enemy held extremely well fortified positions. Sergeant Romero's company came under a devastating mortar attack as it neared the North Vietnamese fortifications. Sergeant Romero organized and deployed his men to provide suppressive fire on the attackers, and then began a personal assault on the enemy bunkers. After successfully destroying three emplacements, he learned that his platoon leader and another man were wounded and pinned down in front of the bunker line. With complete disregard for his personal safety, he moved across open terrain through a withering hail of bullets to aid the men. Reaching them, he dressed their wounds and assisted them to safety. He next learned that another man had been shot and pinned down within ten meters of an enemy trench. As he started up the steep slope toward the man he encountered and killed two North Vietnamese soldiers about to overrun a friendly machine gun crew. Continuing toward the injured man, he was fired at by an enemy soldier hiding in a hole only a few feet from him. The bullet pierced his helmet and threw him to the ground. Despite his dazed condition, he got up and killed his attacker. Along with several volunteers who had moved up to assist him, he again advanced up the hill. He and two other men were wounded by the heavy enemy fire. Sergeant Romero gave first aid to himself and the other two casualties and then helped carry them back to safety. Undaunted by the strong opposition he returned to the battle and destroyed the enemy bunker which had halted his rescue attempt. He then advanced to extract his fallen comrade, but this time the wounded man's position had been overrun. The North Vietnamese were assaulting toward Sergeant Romero and their increased volume of fire forced him to withdraw to the main body of the company. Platoon Sergeant Romero's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

HQ US Army, Vietnam, General Orders No. 4036 (August 20, 1968)

ALLEN, ALAN W.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Alan W. Allen (US-54508379), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 14 May 1968 in the Republic of Vietnam. Sergeant Allen distinguished himself by intrepid actions while serving as team leader with Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. On that date, Company A was given the mission of assaulting a company of North Vietnamese Regulars who were occupying well-fortified bunkers on a ridge line 17 miles west of Tam Ky. As the company began assaulting the hill, the insurgents opened fire with small arms, automatic weapons, heavy machineguns, rockets, and 60-mm. mortars. While moving up the slope, Sergeant Allen continuously exposed himself to the enemy fire. As he and another member of his fire team closed on the bunkers, the enemy began throwing hand grenades. Despite the exploding grenades, Sergeant Allen was one of the first men to breach the enemy perimeter. Once inside the enemy bunker line Sergeant Allen moved quickly and took several of the bunkers under fire. During the ensuing engagement, Sergeant Allen was personally credited with destroying five key enemy bunkers with hand grenades, killing 11 insurgents, and capturing 13 enemy weapons. Sergeant Allen's outstanding display of personal heroism and devotion to duty is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 6385 (August 24, 1968)

***ANELLO, BRUCE FRANCIS (KIA)**

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Bruce Francis Anello (52808707), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Sergeant Anello distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 21 May 1968 while serving with Company D, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 2848 (May 28, 1968)

Home Town: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

ASHLEY, MICHAEL H.

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Michael H. Ashley, Private First Class, U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Private First Class Ashley distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 8 May 1968 while serving with Company B, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 4934 (August 31, 1968)

BARTLEY, CLAUDE O.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Claude O. Bartley (RA-11382054), Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Staff Sergeant Bartley distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 8 February 1968 while serving as a Squad Leader with Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. On that date, the company came under intense enemy automatic weapons and mortar fire from their front and right flank while conducting a search and clear mission south of DaNang. During the initial action, the lead platoon sustained heavy casualties and the rest of the company was pinned down by the devastating enemy fire. Sergeant Bartley immediately ordered his squad to withdraw to a more secure position. Realizing that their position was untenable, he then ordered his men to maneuver to the rear, as he assisted three wounded squad members over 200 meters amidst heavy enemy fire to reach a safe area. As soon as several of the hostile positions were knocked out, Sergeant Bartley expertly reorganized his remaining squad members and returned through the intense enemy small arms fire to rescue other members of his company who were wounded and lying in exposed locations. His courageous actions contributed significantly to the defeat of the enemy force in which 207 enemy soldiers were killed. Staff Sergeant Bartley's unquestionable valor and dauntless determination in close combat against a numerically superior hostile force are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 2448 (May 10, 1968)

BAXLEY, WILLIAM J.

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to William J. Baxley, Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Lieutenant Colonel Baxley distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 6 March 1968 while Commanding the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 1699 (March 31, 1968)

BEAN, ROBERT W.

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Robert W. Bean, Sergeant First Class, U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Sergeant First Class Bean distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 17 February 1968 while serving with Company D, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 8829 (November 15, 1968)

BLACK, DONALD

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Donald Black (US-52688035), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 21 March 1968 in the Republic of Vietnam. Sergeant Black distinguished himself by intrepid actions while serving as a rifleman in the Reconnaissance Platoon, Company E, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division during a combined infantry-armored cavalry sweep in Duy Xuyen District, Quang Nam Province. While searching the hamlet of Ap Bon (1), his platoon suddenly came under intense fire from an enemy force of undetermined size. As the enemy fire increased in intensity, it became necessary for his unit to move back to permit supporting fire to be placed on the enemy's fortified position; however, several of the elements were unable to move from their position. After locating four other elements from the platoon who were also pinned down, Sergeant Black immediately took charge and began leading them to rejoin the main body and to continue their mission of closing with the enemy. As his element moved back, they were quickly joined by other elements until they reached the rest of the platoon. The initiative and indomitable courage displayed by Sergeant Black contributed immeasurably to the rapid regrouping of the platoon and to the ultimate defeat of a determined and numerically superior enemy force. Sergeant Black's unquestionable valor in close combat with a numerically superior enemy force is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 2424 (May 10, 1968)

BLISS, DAVID F.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to David F. Bliss (US-54958419), Sergeant [then Specialist Fourth Class], U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Sergeant Bliss distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 8 February 1968 while serving as a rifleman in Company C, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. On that date, his company was moving to establish a blocking position near Lien Lac (2) when they suddenly came under intense fire from an enemy force of undetermined size. Immediately, his platoon leader and Sergeant Bliss' squad moved in an attempt to outflank the enemy who had another platoon pinned down. As they moved towards the pinned down element, several North Vietnamese Army soldiers were chased from cover and engaged with friendly fire. As they approached a hut in a small clearing, the enemy launched an attack on his squad, seriously wounding the platoon leader and squad leader. As Sergeant Bliss' squad pulled back, two enemy soldiers attacked the wounded squad leader. Disregarding his own safety, Sergeant Bliss ran to aid his comrade and successfully stopped the enemy with his accurate suppressive fire. He then joined a group that was providing cover for the withdrawal back across the open rice paddies. When all of the wounded were safely across, these brave men moved back to safety. Sergeant Bliss' personal bravery and unselfish concern for his fellow soldiers are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 3559 (June 30, 1968)

BRADBURY, THOMAS E.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Thomas E. Bradbury (0-5340138), Second Lieutenant (Infantry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Second Lieutenant Bradbury distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 21 March 1968 while serving as Platoon Leader for the Reconnaissance Platoon of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. On that date, his platoon was on a search and clear mission near the village of Ap Bon (1) when they came under intense automatic weapons fire from an enemy force estimated at company size. Since the company commander was wounded and evacuated during the initial action, Lieutenant Bradbury assumed command of the unit comprised of an infantry-cavalry team. Realizing his position was untenable, he immediately reorganized his forces by pulling the infantry back on line with the attacked tracks. Repeatedly exposing himself to hostile fire, Lieutenant Bradbury disregarded his own safety to effectively direct helicopter gunships, medevac helicopters, and his combined infantry and cavalry forces against the well-constructed enemy positions. Lieutenant Bradbury continually exposed himself to the withering hail of enemy fire as his forces counterattacked the numerically superior hostile force. As a result of his competent leadership and professionalism, Lieutenant Bradbury's men successfully overran the enemy, killing 17 of the insurgents. Second Lieutenant Bradbury's unquestionable valor in close combat against a numerically superior hostile force is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 2451 (May 11, 1968)

BRADLEY, MAX D.

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Max D. Bradley, Captain (Infantry), U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Captain Bradley distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 8 February 1968 while serving with Company C, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 1682 (March 30, 1968)

BRENNAN, FRANCIS X.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Francis X. Brennan (OF-110612), Captain (Infantry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 8 February 1968 in the Republic of Vietnam. Captain Brennan distinguished himself by intrepid actions while directing his company on a search and clear mission south of DaNang. At approximately 1230 hours, elements of his unit came under heavy automatic weapons and mortar fire from an enemy force consisting of close to 300 soldiers. The company was immediately pinned down and sustained numerous casualties. Captain Brennan unhesitatingly crawled through the deadly fire to his radio operator, who had been wounded, and ordered the company to withdraw. Shortly thereafter, he was seriously wounded in the lower back, but he gallantly continued in his efforts to withdraw his element and reorganize them for a new assault on the enemy positions. Using only his elbows, Captain Brennan dragged himself 300 meters in order to set up his men in a defensive perimeter. Although suffering from a great loss of blood, he was determined to continue his mission as he exposed himself to the intense enemy fire to direct gunships and air strikes against the hostile emplacements. Captain Brennan refused to be evacuated until he was assured that his company was in a secure defensive position. Captain Brennan's competent leadership, professionalism, and outstanding dedication to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 2447 (May 10, 1968)

BURKS, HOMER

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Homer Burks (RA-18450851), Platoon Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 8 February 1968 in the Republic of Vietnam. Platoon Sergeant Burks distinguished himself by intrepid actions while serving with Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. On that date, his company was conducting a search and clear operation of a reinforced Viet Cong battalion which threatened the vast military complex at DaNang. While crossing an open rice paddy to reach a small hamlet, the company suddenly came under heavy enemy automatic weapons and mortar fire from their front and right flank. During the initial action, several members of the lead platoon were killed or wounded and the rest of the company was pinned down. Sergeant Burks and his men immediately began crawling to the rear in search of cover and had moved only 50 meters when the company commander was seriously wounded. Sergeant Burks immediately took control of the men and expertly directed their movement. With complete disregard for his own safety, he went to the aid of his wounded commander and exposed himself to the intense fire while moving him to a safe position. After reorganizing his platoon and setting up a defensive perimeter, Sergeant Burks continued to inform the commander of the situation and redistributed the badly needed ammunition. Throughout the battle, he personally directed the fire of his men and marked targets for gunships while the last of the wounded men were being extracted from the killing zone. Platoon Sergeant Burks' unquestionable valor while in close combat with a numerically superior enemy force and unselfish concern for his fellow comrades are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 2834 (May 28, 1968)

CARRIER, ERNIE L.

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Ernie L. Carrier, Second Lieutenant (Infantry), U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Second Lieutenant Carrier distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 19 April 1968 while serving with Company C, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 2336 (July 29, 1968)

***CERIONE, JAMES S. (KIA)**

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to James S. Cerione, Specialist Fourth Class, U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Specialist Fourth Class Cerione distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 8 February 1968 while serving with Company C, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 0971 (February 25, 1968)

CHRISTIANSEN, DAVID A.

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to David A. Christiansen, Private First Class, U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Private First Class Christiansen distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 19 April 1968 while serving with Company C, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 4246 (July 15, 1968)

***DELARA, FRANKLIN V. (KIA)**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Franklin V. Delara (0-5424508), Second Lieutenant (Field Artillery), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 23 May 1968 in the Republic of Vietnam. Second Lieutenant Delara distinguished himself by intrepid actions while serving as a Forward Observer with Company B, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. On that date, his company was on a combat sweep operation west of Tam Ky when they suddenly came under intense fire from an enemy force of undetermined size. Realizing that the enemy positions had to be pinpointed for the supporting artillery fire, Lieutenant Delara left his covered position, and with complete disregard for his personal safety, sought high ground from which he could adjust the artillery fire. After he reached a good position, he courageously continued to expose himself to the intense hostile fire while expertly directing the artillery until he fell mortally wounded. Through his courageous act, the accurate artillery fire destroyed the hostile mortar positions and his company was able to repel the enemy, forcing them to retreat. Second Lieutenant Delara's unquestionable valor while in close combat with a numerically superior enemy force was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflected great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 3704 (July 5, 1968)

***DUCE, ROGER L. (KIA)**

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Roger L. Duce, First Lieutenant (Infantry), U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Duce distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 8 May 1968 while serving with Company B, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 5131 (August 4, 1968)

GALLION, RICHARD L.

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Richard L. Gallion, Specialist Fourth Class, U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Specialist Fourth Class Gallion distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 8 May 1968 while serving with Company B, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 7305 (September 19, 1968)

GIRLING, VICTOR D.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Victor D. Girling (RA-17683333), Corporal, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 8 February 1968 in the Republic of Vietnam. Corporal, then Private First Class, Girling distinguished himself by intrepid actions while serving as a forward observer with Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. On that date, his company was conducting a search and clear mission south of DaNang when they suddenly came under heavy automatic weapons and mortar fire from a reinforced battalion of North Vietnamese regulars. During the initial burst of fire, several members of the lead platoon were killed and the complete company became pinned down. When Corporal Girling, who was with the command group, saw one of the radio operators become seriously wounded and the other one badly shaken, he courageously crawled to the wounded man and began dragging him to the defensive perimeter while urging the other man to keep crawling. After insuring that the wounded man was safe, he quickly re-established radio contact with higher headquarters, allowing the company commander to request gunships and air strikes. This courageous act greatly contributed to the success of the company's mission which resulted in 207 enemy killed. Corporal Girling's unselfish concern for his fellow soldiers and unquestionable valor are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 2648 (May 20, 1968)

***GOMEZ, LUIS G. (KIA)**

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Luis G. Gomez, Sergeant, U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Sergeant Gomez distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 1 September 1968 while serving with Company C, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 7223 (September 17, 1968)

***GONZALEZ, RAMON E. (KIA)**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Ramon E. Gonzalez (RA-12572425), Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 8 February 1968 in the Republic of Vietnam. Staff Sergeant Gonzalez distinguished himself by intrepid actions while serving as a Squad Leader with Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. On that date, his company was going to the aid of a Marine unit when they became pinned down in an open rice paddy by a barrage of mortar, rocket, and automatic weapons fire from an estimated battalion of North Vietnamese regulars. When the company commander gave the command to withdraw to a more secure area, the machinegunner attached to Sergeant Gonzalez' squad was wounded and unable to provide effective fire cover. Realizing the importance of the machinegun fire, Sergeant Gonzalez, with complete disregard for his own safety, rushed to the unmanned weapon and started laying down a suppressive base of fire. After killing several of the insurgents and enabling the wounded personnel to withdraw, he then picked up the wounded machinegunner and started back to rejoin his squad. After moving several meters, Sergeant Gonzalez was mortally wounded by an enemy mortar round. Staff Sergeant Gonzalez' unquestionable valor in close combat against a numerically superior hostile force was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 1862 (April 10, 1968)

GONZALEZ, WILLIAM

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to William Gonzalez, Private First Class, U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Private First Class Gonzalez distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 1 September 1968 while serving with Company D, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 7804 (October 6, 1968)

HAMANN, RENE

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Rene Hamann, Specialist Fourth Class, U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Specialist Fourth Class Hamann distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 25 May 1968 while serving with Company C, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 5252 (August 7, 1968)

***HARRIS, ROBERT E. (KIA)**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Robert E. Harris (US-67183724), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 9 May 1968 in the Republic of Vietnam. Private First Class Harris distinguished himself by intrepid actions while serving as a machinegunner with Company C, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. On that date, his company was conducting a combat mission near the village of Phu Vinh Dong (3) when they suddenly came under intense rocket, mortar, and automatic weapons fire from a numerically superior enemy force located in well-entrenched bunkers. During the initial contact, Private Harris' platoon sergeant was seriously wounded and unable to move to a position of safety. Immediately, Private Harris volunteered to assist four of his fellow soldiers in trying to assist the wounded man. With complete disregard for his own safety, he courageously raced through the bullet-swept area while providing accurate protective fire to cover the advance of the other men. In the final sprint to the wounded soldier's position, Private Harris was seriously wounded by a burst from an enemy machinegun. In spite of his critical condition, he contrived to provide covering fire for his comrades which greatly aided in the successful evacuation of his wounded platoon sergeant. Private First Class Harris' unquestionable valor while in close combat with a numerically superior hostile force was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflected great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 3712 (July 5, 1968)

HILL, BURL E.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Burl E. Hill (US-54438770), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Sergeant Hill distinguished himself by valiant actions on 8 February 1968 while serving as a team leader with Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. On that date, the company was heavily engaged with a reinforced battalion of North Vietnamese Army Regulars and was under heavy, accurate mortar and small arms fire which inflicted numerous casualties. Sergeant Hill was on the far left flank of the company, and when they were given the command to withdraw, he discovered that the enemy had cut off his route of withdrawal. Observing that the 2d Platoon had suffered severe casualties, Sergeant Hill went to their aid, moving from position to position to administer first aid and engage several of the hostile emplacements. Sergeant Hill courageously directed a withering hail of fire upon the insurgents who at times advanced to within 10 meters of his position. During the three-hour battle, he was credited with numerous enemy kills and was responsible for saving many lives. Sergeant Hill's unquestionable valor in close combat against a numerically superior hostile force is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 2739 (May 24, 1968)

Award of the Silver Star citation is attributed to the Coffelt Data Base team.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS AMERICAL DIVISION
APO San Francisco 96374

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 6934

6 September 1968

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced posthumously.

Jackson, Ray Lee (SSAN XXX-XX-XXX), Private First Class
United States Army

Awarded: Silver Star

Date action: 25 August 1968

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pride in presenting the Silver Star (Posthumously) to Private First Class Ray Lee Jackson, United States Army, for gallantry in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Private First Class Jackson distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 25 August 1968 while serving with Company C, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division, as grenadier on a combat mission near the village of Phuoc Bing Tay (2). On that date, at approximately 1530 hours, Private Jackson's platoon came in contact with an enemy force of unknown size. The point squad immediately sustained three casualties, and although his entire element was pinned down. Private Jackson immediately returned effective fire with his M-79 enabling the rest of his platoon to secure better defensive position. Disregarding his own safety, Private Jackson crawled along a ridge line through a hail of enemy fire to reach a position where he could give better support to his element. He courageously continued to move forward, drawing the intense enemy fire upon himself and away from his comrades. Private Jackson successfully engaged and destroyed the enemy machine gun position. While destroying the hostile position Private Jackson completely exposed himself to the fierce enemy fire upon himself and away from his comrades. Private Jackson successfully engaged and destroyed the enemy machine gun position. While destroying the hostile position Private Jackson completely exposed himself to the fierce enemy fire and was mortally wounded. Private First Class Jackson's unquestionable valor in close combat with a hostile force was in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 6934 (September 6, 1968)

JOHNSON, FORREST L.

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Forrest L. Johnson, Sergeant, U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Sergeant Johnson distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 8 May 1968 while serving with Company B, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 7312 (September 19, 1968)

KELLEY, WILLIAM D.

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to William D. Kelley, Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Lieutenant Colonel Kelley distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 30 April 1968 while serving as Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 7812 (October 6, 1968)

LACOMIS, JOHN S.

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to John S. Lacomis, Specialist Fourth Class, U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Specialist Fourth Class Lacomis distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 8 February 1968 while serving with Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 2168 (May 10, 1968)

LEWIS, FREDDIE

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Freddie Lewis (RA-54344112), Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Staff Sergeant Lewis distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 8 February 1968 while serving as a Squad Leader in Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. On that date, company A was on a mission to sweep through the village of Lo Giang and clear it of a reinforced Viet Cong battalion which threatened the vast military complex at DaNang. As the company maneuvered through an exposed rice paddy en route to the village, they came under intense mortar and small arms fire from an enemy force of undetermined size. Sergeant Lewis was close to the command group during this initial burst of fire, and by displaying professional competence he was able to maintain excellent control of his squad. With complete disregard for his own safety, he exposed himself to the enemy fire as he helped assist the seriously wounded men back to the safety of the weapons platoon position. After deploying his men in a defensive perimeter, Sergeant Lewis made repeated trips into the open rice paddy to aid the wounded personnel. On one of these trips, he was severely wounded in the wrist. Refusing medical evacuation, he disregarded his painful wound to continue on with his mission. Sergeant Lewis was instrumental in saving many lives, and his encouragement contributed greatly to the morale of the men on the battlefield. Staff Sergeant Lewis' personal bravery, aggressiveness and determination, and deep dedication to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 2737 (May 24, 1968)

***LOPP, JAMES LEONARD (KIA)**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to James Leonard Lopp (US-54808850), Specialist Fourth Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 8 February 1968 in the Republic of Vietnam. Specialist Fourth Class Lopp distinguished himself by intrepid actions while serving as an assistant machine gunner with Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division, while on a search and destroy mission south of DaNang. At approximately 1230 hours, they came under intense enemy automatic weapons and mortar fire from a hostile force of estimated battalion size. Specialist Lopp immediately marked his position on the right flank of the element with a smoke grenade for their approaching gunships. He then proceeded to assist his gunner by supplying ammunition and by pointing out enemy positions for him. During this action, Specialist Lopp was wounded by small arms fire, but disregarding his injury and refusing evacuation, he fearlessly continued with his mission. When his platoon was ordered to pull back, Specialist Lopp took charge of the machinegun to provide fire cover for his comrades' withdrawal. While gallantly delivering accurate fire upon the enemy, he was mortally wounded. Specialist Four Lopp's personal bravery and avid devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflected great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 1285 (March 12, 1968)

Home Town: Scales Mound, Illinois

MARTINEZ, ALVARO M.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Alvaro M. Martinez (US-54508522), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 21 March 1968 in the Republic of Vietnam. Sergeant Martinez distinguished himself by intrepid actions while serving as a squad leader in Company D, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. On that date, his unit was participating in a combined infantry- armored cavalry operation in Duy Xuyen District. As the force neared the hamlet of Ap Bon (1), they suddenly came under intense small arms, automatic weapons, and rocket fire from an enemy force of undetermined size located in fortified positions around the outskirts of the hamlet. Sergeant Martinez immediately moved to the front of his platoon to direct the movement of his men and to locate the enemy positions. While his men provided cover fire, Sergeant Martinez swiftly advanced on the enemy bunkers and personally destroyed them with his accurate fire and hand grenades. Through his courageous actions, he personally knocked out three enemy positions and killed our enemy soldiers before returning to the rear for more ammunition. Heavily laden with grenades, Sergeant Martinez quickly ran through a withering hail of enemy fire to resume his assault on the enemy positions. Displaying tremendous determination and professional ability, he again moved against the enemy positions. Displaying tremendous determination and professional ability, he again moved against the enemy positions, destroying four additional bunkers. Sergeant Martinez' unquestionable valor while in close combat with a numerically superior enemy force is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

MAXWELL, ROBERT V., JR.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Robert V. Maxwell, Jr. (0-5428206), Second Lieutenant (Field Artillery), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Second Lieutenant Maxwell distinguished himself on 15 May 1968 while serving as a Forward Observer with Company D, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. On that date, while at the base of Hill 352, his company came under an intense hostile mortar barrage and machine gun and other automatic weapons fire. Lieutenant Maxwell immediately left his covered position, and with complete disregard for the enemy fire, moved to higher ground with a radio to call in artillery. Almost immediately he received a fragment wound in the left knee, but he refused medical aid and remained exposed to adjust the artillery fire. With complete disregard for his painful wound, he moved about the perimeter adjusting artillery and air strikes. While moving to another observation point, he was wounded again, receiving a shrapnel wound in the left arm. Although his condition was considerably worse, he still refused medical aid or evacuation, and he kept moving around the perimeter through the heavy fire, adjusting the artillery and air strikes. Second Lieutenant Maxwell's heroic actions are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 5397 (August 9, 1968)

MCCLEERY, FINNIS DAWSON (Since upgraded to CMOH)

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Finnis Dawson McCleery (RA-18145176), Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 8 February 1968 in the Republic of Vietnam. Staff Sergeant McCleery distinguished himself by intrepid actions while serving as a Platoon Sergeant with Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. On that date, the company was assigned the mission of performing a sweep through the village of Lo Giang (1) to clear it of a reinforced Viet Cong Battalion. As the unit crossed an open rice paddy near the village they came under intense mortar and small arms fire. When the enemy charged out of a tree line at the friendly force, Sergeant McCleery accurately fired his M-72 light automatic weapon and killed six insurgents. The company was then ordered to withdraw and regroup. Since the 1st Platoon Leader had taken command of the company, Sergeant McCleery assumed leadership of the 1st Platoon and deployed his men in defensive positions around an abandoned graveyard. From this position, he directed a withering hail of fire to protect the withdrawal of the company. As the company moved back on to the battlefield, Sergeant McCleery carried a machinegun with him to cover the withdrawal of all the wounded personnel. He repeatedly exposed himself to intense enemy fire as he enabled the wounded to reach safety. Turning the machinegun over to a member of his platoon, Sergeant McCleery rushed into the open rice paddy amidst a torrid hail of hostile fire to assist the seriously wounded. Staff Sergeant McCleery's unquestionable valor in close combat with a numerically superior hostile force is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 3029 (June 4, 1968)

Born: December 25, 1927 at Stephenville, Texas

Home Town: San Angelo, Texas

Personal Awards: Medal of Honor (Vietnam)

***MIHILAKIS, ELLA L. (KIA)**

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Ella L. Mihilakis, Sergeant, U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Sergeant Mihilakis distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 9 July 1968 while serving with Company E, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 5139 (August 4, 1968)

NOEL, THOMAS E.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Thomas E. Noel (US-56438202), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 21 March 1968 in the Republic of Vietnam. Private First Class

Noel distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving as a Medical Aidman with the Reconnaissance Platoon of Company E, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. On that date, his platoon was participating in a combined infantry-armor sweep into the hamlet of Ap Bon (1) when they came under intense automatic weapons and rocket fire from a North Vietnamese Army force of Company size. Without regard for his own safety, Private Noel repeatedly exposed himself to the hostile fire as he moved throughout the area administering aid to his wounded comrades and pointing out enemy positions. He aided four men before the unit was directed to withdraw and allow supporting artillery fire to be brought in upon the enemy locations. As they withdrew, Private Noel noticed a wounded soldier about 100 meters back. He unhesitatingly dashed across an open rice paddy amidst a withering hail of hostile fire to reach the man and carry him to safety. He then aided several more men in the same manner. Private First Class Noel's conspicuous gallantry and tenacious devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 2753 (May 25, 1968)

ORTIZ, ANGEL J.

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Angel J. Ortiz, Specialist Fourth Class, U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Specialist Fourth Class Ortiz distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 25 May 1968 while serving with Company C, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 7753 (October 3, 1968)

OVIEDO, CARL M.

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Carl M. Oviedo, Private First Class, U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Private First Class Oviedo distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 23 December 1967 while serving with Company E, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 0492 (February 3, 1968)

PENROD, DONALD R.

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Donald R. Penrod, First Lieutenant (Infantry), U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Penrod distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 18 November 1968 while serving with Company B, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 0092 (January 4, 1969)

PICARELLI, JOSEPH HENRY

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Joseph Henry Picarelli (US-52687949), Specialist Fourth Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 28 April 1968 in the Republic of Vietnam. Specialist Fourth Class Picarelli distinguished himself while serving as a radio-telephone operator for the company commander of Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. On that date, his company had set up a night position when they suddenly came under intense small arms fire from an enemy force of undetermined size. While his company commander was busy on the company frequency, Specialist Picarelli established communications with battalion headquarters and quickly requested gunships for defense of the company perimeter. As the gunships arrived on station, they were unable to determine the company's perimeter due to the total darkness and density of the vegetation. Upon hearing the problem from the gunships, Specialist Picarelli, with disregard for his own safety, took a strobe light and moved about the company's perimeter, marking the friendly positions. Although he was wounded by shrapnel from an enemy hand grenade, he courageously continued to exposed himself to the hostile fire as he marked his perimeter until the enemy force was repelled and forced to retreat. Specialist Fourth Class Picarelli's unquestionable valor while in close combat with a numerically superior enemy force and his avid devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 3254 (June 17, 1968)

PICKETT, HENRY W.

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Henry W. Pickett, Specialist Fourth Class, U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Specialist Fourth Class Pickett distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 31 January 1968 while serving with Company E, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 1384 (March 18, 1968)

PILLER, WILLIAM A.

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to William A. Piller, Sergeant First Class, U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Sergeant First Class Piller distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 8 February 1968 while serving

with Company C, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 1774 (April 5, 1968)

POLAND, JOHN M.

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to John M. Poland, Specialist Fourth Class, U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Specialist Fourth Class Poland distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 8 February 1968 while serving as a Medical Aidman with Company C, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 2835 (May 28, 1968)

***POSO, JOHN R. (KIA)**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to John R. Poso (RA-19478538), Platoon Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 8 February 1968 in the Republic of Vietnam. Platoon Sergeant Poso distinguished himself by intrepid actions while serving as a Platoon Sergeant for the 2d Platoon, Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. On that date, his company was going to the aid of a Marine unit just south of DaNang when they became pinned down by a devastating barrage of rocket, mortar, and automatic weapons fire from an estimated battalion of North Vietnamese Regulars. Sergeant Poso immediately began moving from position to position to account for all the members of his platoon and to give them encouragement. When his platoon leader gave the command to withdraw to a more secure area, Sergeant Poso again exposed himself to the hostile fire to effectively direct he wounded men of his platoon to the designated area. He then, along with 12 other men of the platoon, formed an unyielding defensive line to hold off the enemy and allow for the withdrawal of the wounded soldiers. Sergeant Poso and his comrades brought effective suppressive fire upon the enemy, killing more than 60 North Vietnamese soldiers who were using human wave tactics in their attempt to overrun the friendly positions. Sergeant Poso displayed extraordinary valor during extremely close-quarter fighting before he was mortally wounded. Platoon Sergeant Poso's unquestionable heroism in close combat against a numerically superior hostile force was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 1864 (April 10, 1968)

PRATHER, DAN E.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Dan E. Prather (OF-105801), Captain (Infantry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 8 February 1968 in the Republic of Vietnam. Captain Prather distinguished himself by intrepid actions while serving as Commanding Officer of Company B, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. On that date, he was maneuvering his company to the location of another company which was in heavy contact with a numerically superior enemy force. As they approached the village of Lien Lac (2), his company came under intense small arms, automatic weapons, and mortar fire from a battalion-size force of North Vietnamese Army Regulars. While expertly directing the movement and fire of his men, Captain Prather, with disregard for his own safety, continually maneuvered among his men in an effort to pinpoint the enemy positions. After quickly locating the insurgents' positions, he personally directed air and artillery support. With expert rifle fire and skillful maneuvering, Captain Prather and his command silenced the enemy within the area and continued to move further in search of remaining enemy forces. Captain Prather's personal bravery, professional leadership, and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 3105 (June 8, 1968)

***PRATT, WALTER R. (KIA)**

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Walter R. Pratt, Private First Class, U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Private First Class Pratt distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 8 February 1968 while serving as a Medical Aidman with the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 1347 (March 17, 1968)

PRICE, JAMES T.

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to James T. Price, Captain (Infantry), U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Captain Price distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 12 May 1968 while serving as Commanding Officer, Company D, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 6769 (August 31, 1968)

PURTELL, JAMES F.

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to James F. Purtell, Private First Class, U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Private First Class Purtell distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 9 May 1968 while serving as a Medical Aidman with Company C, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 6121 (August 20, 1968)

RAMIER, HUBERT R.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Hubert R. Ramier, Sergeant First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 21 March 1968 in the Republic of Vietnam. Sergeant First Class Ramier distinguished himself by valiant acts while serving as the Platoon Sergeant of the 3d Platoon of Company D, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. As the platoon approached the village of Ap Bon (1) during a search and clear mission, they suddenly came under a heavy volume of enemy small arms, automatic weapons and rocket fire. Disregarding his own safety, Sergeant Ramier unhesitatingly rushed forward to lead his platoon against the enemy force entrenched in and around the village. After directing a successful assault upon the enemy perimeter defense positions, Sergeant Ramier moved his men into the interior of the enemy camp. During the assault upon the remainder of the bunker complex, Sergeant Ramier continuously moved among his men, directing their fire and giving words of encouragement. He displayed exceptional personal bravery as he moved through heavy enemy fire to close within hand grenade range of several enemy emplacements destroying them with accurate fire. His heroic actions while under enemy fire inspired his men and contributed greatly to the rout of the hostile force. Sergeant First Class Ramier's unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 2477 (May 11, 1968)

***REYES, ANGEL L. (KIA)**

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Angel L. Reyes, Private First Class, U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Private First Class Reyes distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 1 September 1968 while serving with Company D, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 7088 (September 10, 1968)

***RICHARD, DONALD W. (KIA)**

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Donald W. Richard, Specialist Fourth Class, U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Specialist Fourth Class Richard distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 23 December 1967 while serving with Company E, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 0134 (January 22, 1968)

ROMERO, ARTENIO, JR.

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Artenio Romero, Jr., Sergeant First Class, U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Sergeant First Class Romero distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 8 February 1968 while serving with Company C, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 8879 (November 18, 1968)

SHELTON, WILLIAM R.

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to William R. Shelton, Second Lieutenant (Infantry), U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Second Lieutenant Shelton distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 8 February 1968 while serving with Company C, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 2002 (April 16, 1968)

***SHREWSBERRY, ROGER L. (KIA)**

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Roger L. Shrewsberry, Private First Class, U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Private First Class Shrewsberry distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 1 September 1968 while serving with Company C, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 7222 (September 17, 1968)

SHUBERT, EARL D.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Earl D. Shubert (RA-16895505), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Sergeant Shubert distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 8 February 1968 while serving as a Squad Leader for Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. On that date, the company was conducting a search and clear mission south of DaNang when they came in contact with a hostile force consisting of more than 300 soldiers armed with automatic weapons and mortars. The company was immediately pinned down, with the lead platoon suffering heavy casualties. With complete disregard for his own safety, Sergeant Shubert left his position and moved forward 100 meters through intense enemy fire across open rice paddies to rescue a wounded soldier. As he approached his wounded comrade, Sergeant Shubert took several insurgents under fire, killed two of them, and saved the soldier from almost certain death. Sergeant Shubert's unquestionable valor in close combat with a numerically superior enemy force is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 2449 (May 10, 1968)

STRONG, MICHAEL D.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Michael D. Strong (0-5254792), Captain (Medical Corps), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 8 February 1968 in the Republic of Vietnam. Captain Strong distinguished himself by intrepid actions while serving as Battalion Surgeon with the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. On that date, a rifle company of his battalion came under heavy contact with a reinforced enemy battalion near Lo Giang and were sustaining numerous casualties. Immediately, Captain Strong insisted upon accompanying the first medical evacuation helicopter to go to the aid of the company. Arriving at the company command post, he took charge of caring for the wounded and their immediate evacuation. Despite the fact that the position was still under heavy small arms and mortar fire, Captain Strong moved about the exposed area, treating the seriously wounded, comforting men and ensuring that all wounded men were moved to a central location for treatment and evacuation. When the company launched a counterattack to drive the enemy from the field, more casualties were brought into the command post. Although the position was still receiving hostile fire, Captain Strong courageously made numerous trips into the open rice paddies to pick up wounded men from carrying parties. The immediate and skillful care he was able to provide was instrumental in saving the lives of many soldiers. Captain Strong's conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 3182 (June 13, 1968)

SUNLEY, LEONARD D.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Leonard D. Sunley (US-56587154), Specialist Fourth Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 21 March 1968 in the Republic of Vietnam. Specialist Fourth Class Sunley distinguished himself by intrepid actions while serving as a rifleman in Company D, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division, which was conducting a search and clear operation. As his platoon approached a wooded village, they suddenly came under intense small arms and rocket fire from an enemy force of undetermined size. Specialist Sunley immediately rushed forward to the front of his platoon and began to hurl grenades at the enemy positions. With complete disregard for his own safety, he began to eliminate position after position with his grenades and small arms fire. His aggressive actions allowed his platoon to move out of an exposed rice paddy and gain a foothold in the village. When his supply of grenades was exhausted, he quickly returned to the rear to get a re-supply for himself and his comrades, so they could continue to press the attack. Throughout the battle, he ignored the heavy enemy fire and continually engaged the enemy forces at close range. His heroic actions accounted for five bunkers destroyed and seven enemy killed. Specialist Fourth Class Sunley's unquestionable valor in close combat with a numerically superior hostile force is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 2523 (June 13, 1968)

SWANK, LAURENCE C.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Laurence C. Swank (0-5424508), First Lieutenant (Field Artillery), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 8 February 1968 in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Swank distinguished himself by exceptionally valiant actions while serving as a Forward Observer with Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. On that date, the company was crossing an open rice paddy near the village of Log Giang (1) during a sweep mission when they came under intense fire from a reinforced battalion of North Vietnamese Army Regulars. Lieutenant Swank was moving with the command group when the insurgents opened fire and, almost immediately his radio and telephone operator was wounded. Without regard for his own safety, Lieutenant Swank exposed himself to hostile fire to aid the wounded soldier. He then dragged the injured man a distance of 400 meters to the safety of the weapons platoon perimeter. Lieutenant Swank rushed to the nearest radio and commenced adjusting the artillery fire which had been called in by the acting company commander. He continuously exposed himself to hostile fire as he moved out in the open rice paddy to accurately adjust the supporting artillery fire. First Lieutenant Swank's unquestionable valor in close combat with a numerically superior hostile force is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 3032 (June 5, 1968)

WENDOVER, WILLIAM L.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to William L. Wendover (O-5340808), Second Lieutenant (Infantry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Second Lieutenant Wendover distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 8 February 1968 while serving as a Platoon Leader with Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. On that date, his company was engaged with a reinforced battalion of North Vietnamese Army Regulars and sustained numerous casualties during the initial action. As soon as the company commander was wounded, Lieutenant Wendover took command of the company and moved his platoon back, while at the same time directing their fire on the enemy to cover the withdrawal of the rest of the company. After reorganizing the unit, Lieutenant Wendover exposed himself to the hostile fire and moved among his men giving encouragement and placing them in effective firing positions. In response to Lieutenant Wendover's request, artillery, air strikes, and helicopter gunships were brought in to subdue the enemy force, which had begun swarming out of their positions in an attempt to overrun the company. The enemy was finally repulsed after advancing to within 100 meters of the friendly force, and Lieutenant Wendover immediately moved his company forward and went on to rout the remainder of the Viet Cong battalion. Second Lieutenant Wendover's unquestionable valor in close combat against a numerically superior hostile force is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 3031 (June 5, 1968)

***YAMANE, BENJI (KIA)**

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Benji Yamane (US-56823799), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Sergeant Yamane distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 16 March 1968 while serving with Company D, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Note from the Coffelt Data Base records: Sgt Yamane's squad was the lead element in a search and clear operation. Sgt. Yamane moving near the front of his squad spotted a booby trap directly in front of the point man. He shouted a warning to his men, then turned and shoved a squad member to the ground. The mine was tripped despite the warning. The citation said Sgt. Yamane's action was taken with utter disregard for his own life, saved the life of the soldier he had shielded from the blast and allowed the other members of his squad to get down and escape injury.

Home Town: Oakland, California

Award of the Silver Star citation came from the Sept-Oct 1991 ADVA Newsletter
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS AMERICAL DIVISION
APO San Francisco 96374
12 March 1968

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 5319

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

1. TC 439. The following AWARD is announced

BRATTEN, THOMAS E. JR. CAPTAIN FIELD ARTILLERY
HQ and HQ Service Battery, 1st Bn. 14th Arty.
Awarded: Silver Star
Date action: 28 May 1970
Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For gallantry in action against an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Captain Bratten distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 28 May 1970 while serving as an Artillery Liaison Officer attached to the 1/6th Infantry Battalion. On that date, a company of the battalion was conducting combat operations in the vicinity of Lac Son when a well concealed enemy mine was detonated causing several casualties. Upon learning of the accident, Captain Bratten immediately directed his helicopter to the stricken element's position. Fully aware of the possibility of additional enemy activity, he unhesitatingly entered the heavily mined area in order to administer first aid to his fallen comrades. With complete disregard for his personal safety, Captain Bratten maneuvered through the enemy mine field aiding the wounded personnel despite the fact that several more explosive devices had detonated. Ignoring the danger involved, he continued to assist his comrades and offer encouragement until he was severely wounded as a mine exploded near his position. Through his timely and courageous actions, Captain Bratten was instrumental in saving the lives of several fellow soldiers and served as an inspiration to his entire unit. His personnel heroism, profession competence, and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service, and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the President under the provisions of the Act of Congress, approved 9 July 1918.

OFFICIAL

A. B. Hume.
Colonel, GS
Chief of Staff

Signed
James M. Eubanks
LTC, ADC
Adjutant General

Editor's note: In the May-June 1991 issue of the newsletter on page 5, we printed a story about then LTC Norman Schwarzkopf winning a Silver Star while aiding a unit stuck in a mine field. Schwartzkopf's Artillery Liaison Officer also earned a Silver Star that day as this citation shows. Regrettably the newsletter incorrectly identified that officer. We regret our mistake and offer an apology to Captain Bratten, a valued member of our association.

Award of the Bronze Star with "V" citation is attributed to the Coffelt Data Base team.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS AMERICAL DIVISION
APO San Francisco 96374

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 1679

30 March 1968

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced posthumously.

BOUTWELL, AMOS E. US5384608 (SSAN XXX-XX-XXX), Private First Class E3,
United States Army, Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, 198th
infantry Brigade APO 96219

Awarded: Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device

Date action: 8 February 1968

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason; For heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Private First Class Boutwell distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 8 February 1968 while serving in Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry. On that date, his company was on a combat operation in support of a Marine unit south of Da Nang. While his company was moving to the battle area, they suddenly came under intense automatic weapons, mortar, rocket, and small arms fire from an estimated battalion of North Vietnamese regulars. During the ensuing battle, the company became pinned down and sustained several casualties. Private Boutwell and 12 other men of his platoon immediately began laying down a base of fire to enable the wounded members of the company to withdraw to safety. After all the wounded had been withdrawn, he quickly maneuvered back behind a dike where his platoon regrouped and formed an unyielding defensive line. Along with his fellow soldiers, Private Boutwell made a gallant stand, killing numerous enemy soldiers in close-quarter fighting before being mortally wounded. Through his courage and devastating fire, he contributed greatly to the successful defeat of the enemy force and an estimated 60 or more enemy kills. Private First Class Boutwell's personal bravery and avid devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflected great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the President under the provisions of
Executive Order, 1046, 24 August 1962.

FOR THE COMMANDER:
OFFICIAL: NELS A. PARSON
COLONEL, CS
Chief of Staff

Signed
DONALD Y.B. CHUNG
LTC, AGC
Adjutant General

Award of the Bronze Star with "V" citation is attributed to the Coffelt Data Base team.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS AMERICAL DIVISION
APO San Francisco 96374

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 1680

30 March 1968

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced posthumously.

CARRASQUILLO, ALBERTO. US50618055 (SSAN XXX-XX-XXX), SPECIALIST FOUR E4,
United States Army, Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, 198th Infantry Brigade APO 96219

Awarded: Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device

Date action: 8 February 1968

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason; For heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam.. Specialist Four Carrasquillo distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 8 February while serving as a grenadier with Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry. On that date, his company was on a combat operation in support of a Marine unit south of Da Nang. While they were moving to the battle area, they suddenly came under intense automatic weapons, mortar, rocket and small arms fire from an estimated battalion of North Vietnamese regulars. During the ensuing battle, his company became pinned down by the intense hostile fire. When the company commander gave the word to withdraw to the next rice dike in order to secure a better firing position and more protection, Specialist Carrasquillo courageously remained in place and continued delivering accurate and devastating cover fire to allow several wounded members to withdraw to safety. He continued firing upon the enemy position, killing several enemy soldiers, until he was mortally wounded by hostile fire. Specialist Four Carrsquillo's personal bravery, unselfish concern for his fellow soldiers, and avid devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflected great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the President under the provisions of
Executive Order, 11046, 24 August 1962.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL: NELS A. PARSON
COLONEL, CS
Chief of Staff

Signed
DONALD Y.B. CHUNG
LTC, AGC
Adjutant General

Award of the Bronze Star with "V" citation is attributed to the Coffelt Data Base team.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS AMERICAL DIVISION
APO San Francisco 96374

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 1668

30 March 1968

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced posthumously.

CLOVIS, FRANKLIN. RA14939514 (SSAN XXX-XX-XXX), Private First Class E3,
United States Army, Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, 198th
infantry Brigade APO 96219

Awarded: Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device

Date action: 8 February 1968

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason; For heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Private First Class Clovis distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 8 February 1968 while serving in Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry. On that date, his company was on a combat operation in support of a Marine unit south of Da Nang. While his company was moving to the battle area, they suddenly came under intense automatic weapons, mortar, rocket, and small arms fire from an estimated battalion of North Vietnamese regulars. During the ensuing battle, the company became pinned down and sustained several casualties. Private Clovis and 12 other men of his platoon immediately began laying down a base of fire to enable the wounded members of the company to withdraw to safety. After all the wounded had been withdrawn, he quickly maneuvered back behind a dike where his platoon regrouped and formed an unyielding defensive line. Along with his fellow soldiers, Private Clovis made a gallant stand, killing numerous enemy soldiers in close-quarter fighting before being mortally wounded. Through his courage and devastating fire, he contributed greatly to the successful defeat of the enemy force and an estimated 60 or more enemy kills. Private First Class Clovis' personal bravery and avid devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflected great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the President under the provisions of
Executive Order, 11046, 24 August 1962.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL: NELS A. PARSON
COLONEL, CS
Chief of Staff

Signed
DONALD Y.B. CHUNG
LTC, AGC
Adjutant General

Award of the Bronze Star with "V" citation is attributed to the Coffelt Data Base team.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS AMERICAL DIVISION
APO San Francisco 96374
7 March 1968

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 1190

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced posthumously.

DENSLOW, GEORGE R. US51573123 (SSAN XXX-XX-XXX), SPECIALIST FOUR E4,
United States Army, Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, 198th Infantry Brigade APO 96219

Awarded: Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device

Date action: 8 February 1968

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason; For heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force. Specialist Four Denslow distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 8 February 1968 in the Republic of Vietnam. On that date, Specialist Denslow was serving as a grenadier for the lead element of Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry while on a search and destroy mission south of Da Nang. After the company had advanced to within 150 meters of the village of Lo Giang, an estimated battalion of North Vietnamese Army soldiers opened fire on the company with mortar and automatic weapons fire. Specialist Denslow and 12 other men, who were pinned down by the enemy fire, immediately began laying down a suppressive base of fire to allow the wounded members of the element to withdraw to the rear. The small band of courageous men brought devastating fire upon the enemy, who were using human wave tactics in an attempt to overrun the friendly force's position. Together with his fellow soldiers, Specialist Denslow made a valiant stand against overwhelming odds, killing numerous enemy soldiers in extremely close-quarter fighting before he was mortally wounded. Specialist Four Denslow's extraordinary personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflected great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the President under the provisions of
Executive Order, 11046, 24 August 1962.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL: NELS A. PARSON
COLONEL, CS
Chief of Staff

Signed
DONALD Y.B. CHUNG
LTC, AGC
Adjutant General

Award of the Bronze Star with "V" citation is attributed to the Coffelt Data Base team.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS AMERICAL DIVISION
APO San Francisco 96374

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 2022

30 March 1968

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced posthumously.

DURR, BRIAN F. US51573116 (SSAN XXX-XX-XXX), SPECIALIST 4 E4, United States Army, Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, 198th Infantry Brigade APO 96219

Awarded: Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device

Date action: 8 February 1968

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason; For heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force. SPECIALIST FOUR Durr distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 8 February 1968 in the Republic of Vietnam while serving as an automatic rifleman with Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry. On that date, his unit was going to the aid of a Marine unit south of Da Nang when they came under extremely heavy automatic weapons, mortar, rocket, and small arms fire from a North Vietnamese force estimated at battalion size, Specialist Durr was wounded during the initial action and was sent to the rear area along with several other wounded personnel. After moving approximately 100 meters, he noticed five enemy soldiers crawling up on them from the rear. Specialist Durr, electing to remain in place and cover his comrades' withdrawal, fearlessly moved from his covered position and took the insurgents under fire. With complete disregard for his own safety, he continually exposed himself to effectively engaged the enemy. After seeing that his comrades had reached the safety of the weapons platoon's position, Specialist Durr began his own withdrawal and was mortally wounded by enemy fire. Through his courageous actions he saved the lives of several of the other wounded men by providing cover fire for their withdrawal. Specialist Four Durr's personal bravery, concern for the lives of his fellow soldiers, and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflected great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the President under the provisions of Executive Order, 11046, 24 August 1962.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL: NELS A. PARSON
COLONEL, CS
Chief of Staff

Signed
DONALD Y.B. CHUNG
LTC, AGC
Adjutant General

Award of the Bronze Star with "V" citation is attributed to the Coffelt Data Base team.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS AMERICAL DIVISION
APO San Francisco 96374

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 1675

30 March 1968

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced posthumously.

DYKES, ROBERT L. US52700068 (SSAN XXX-XX-XXX), Private First Class E3,
United States Army, Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, 198th
infantry Brigade APO 96219

Awarded: Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device

Date action: 8 February 1968

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason; For heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Private First Class Dykes distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 8 February 1968 while serving in Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry. On that date, his company was on a combat operation in support of a Marine unit south of Da Nang. While his company was moving to the battle area, they suddenly came under intense automatic weapons, mortar, rocket, and small arms fire from an estimated battalion of North Vietnamese regulars. During the ensuing battle, the company became pinned down and sustained several casualties. Private Dykes and 12 other men of his platoon immediately began laying down a base of fire to enable the wounded members of the company to withdraw to safety. After all the wounded had been withdrawn, he quickly maneuvered back behind a dike where his platoon regrouped and formed an unyielding defensive line. Along with his fellow soldiers, Private Dykes made a gallant stand, killing numerous enemy soldiers in close-quarter fighting before being mortally wounded. Through his courage and devastating fire, he contributed greatly to the successful defeat of the enemy force and an estimated 60 or more enemy kills. Private First Class Dykes' personal bravery and avid devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflected great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the President under the provisions of
Executive Order, 11046, 24 August 1962.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL: NELS A. PARSON
COLONEL, CS
Chief of Staff

Signed
DONALD Y.B. CHUNG
LTC, AGC
Adjutant General

Award of the Bronze Star citation is attributed to the Coffelt Data Base team.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS AMERICAL DIVISION
APO San Francisco 96374

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 1191

7 March 1968

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced posthumously.
PUMILLO, MIKE US51623415 (SSAN XXX-XX-XXX), SPECIALIST FOUR E4
United States Army, Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, 198th Light
Infantry Brigade APO 96219

Awarded: Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device

Date action: 8 February 1968

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force. Specialist Four Pumillo distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 8 February 1968 in the Republic of Vietnam while serving with Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry. On that date following a day-long battle with a North Vietnamese Regular Army force estimated at battalion size, the company set up a night defensive position on the north edge of the battlefield. Specialist Pumillo, hearing what he thought were cries for help, left his covered position and moved to the rice paddy where the day's action had occurred. Upon reaching the rice paddy, he found the body of one of his comrades who had been the radio-telephone operator, and also the radio which was still receiving the company's transmissions. While attempting to remove the body and the radio, he was observed by three enemy soldiers who began firing on him. Despite being hit three times by the enemy fire, Specialist Pumillo returned the fire, killing one enemy soldier and dispersing the other two. Because of his serious wounds he was only able to return with the radio. Specialist Four Pumillo's personal bravery, unselfish concern for the life of a fellow soldier, and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflected great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the President under the provisions of
Executive Order 11046, 24 August 1962/

OFFICIAL

NELS A. PARSON JR.

Colonel, GS

Chief of Staff

Signed

DONALD Y. B. CHUNG

LTC, ADC

Adjutant General

(Historian Note: The action described was from Operation Miracle. The 1/6th Inf. Bn. actions saved the city of DaNang from being infiltrated by a large force. The Americal Division was sometimes then known as the Miracle Division. There were high casualties for the 1/6th Inf. Bn., but they had saved DaNang from becoming a terrible battle-ground.)

Award of the Bronze Star with "V" citation is attributed to the Coffelt Data Base team.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS AMERICAL DIVISION
APO San Francisco 96374

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 1667

30 March 1968

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced posthumously.

PARKER, JAMES E. US??663233 (SSAN XXX-XX-XXX), SPECIALIST FOUR E4,
United States Army, Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, 198th Infantry
Brigade APO 96219

Awarded: Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device

Date action: 8 February 1968

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason; For heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Specialist Four Parker distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 8 February 1968 while serving in Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry. On that date, his company was on a combat operation in support of a Marine unit south of Da Nang. While his company was moving to the battle area, they suddenly came under intense automatic weapons, mortar, rocket, and small arms fire from an estimated battalion of North Vietnamese regulars. During the ensuing battle, the company became pinned down and sustained several casualties. Specialist Parker and 12 other men of his platoon immediately began laying down a base of fire to enable the wounded members of the company to withdraw to safety. After all the wounded had been withdrawn, he quickly maneuvered back behind a dike where his platoon regrouped and formed an unyielding defensive line. Along with his fellow soldiers, Specialist Parker made a gallant stand, killing numerous enemy soldiers in extremely close-quarter fighting before being mortally wounded. Through his courage and devastating fire, he contributed to greatly to the successful defeat of the enemy forces and an estimated 60 or more enemy kills. Specialist Four Parker's personal bravery and avid devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflected great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the President under the provisions of Executive Order, 11046, 24 August 1962.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL: NELS A. PARSON
COLONEL, CS
Chief of Staff

Signed
DONALD Y.B. CHUNG
LTC, AGC
Adjutant General

Award of the Bronze Star with "V" citation is attributed to the Coffelt Data Base team.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS AMERICAL DIVISION
APO San Francisco 96374

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 1667

30 March 1968

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced posthumously.

PARKER, JAMES E. US??663233 (SSAN XXX-XX-XXX), SPECIALIST FOUR E4,
United States Army, Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, 198th Infantry
Brigade APO 96219

Awarded: Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device

Date action: 8 February 1968

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason; For heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Specialist Four Parker distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 8 February 1968 while serving in Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry. On that date, his company was on a combat operation in support of a Marine unit south of Da Nang. While his company was moving to the battle area, they suddenly came under intense automatic weapons, mortar, rocket, and small arms fire from an estimated battalion of North Vietnamese regulars. During the ensuing battle, the company became pinned down and sustained several casualties. Specialist Parker and 12 other men of his platoon immediately began laying down a base of fire to enable the wounded members of the company to withdraw to safety. After all the wounded had been withdrawn, he quickly maneuvered back behind a dike where his platoon regrouped and formed an unyielding defensive line. Along with his fellow soldiers, Specialist Parker made a gallant stand, killing numerous enemy soldiers in extremely close-quarter fighting before being mortally wounded. Through his courage and devastating fire, he contributed to greatly to the successful defeat of the enemy forces and an estimated 60 or more enemy kills. Specialist Four Parker's personal bravery and avid devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflected great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the President under the provisions of Executive Order, 11046, 24 August 1962.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL: NELS A. PARSON
COLONEL, CS
Chief of Staff

Signed
DONALD Y.B. CHUNG
LTC, AGC
Adjutant General

Award of the Bronze Star with "V" citation is attributed to the Coffelt Data Base team.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS AMERICAL DIVISION
APO San Francisco 96374

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 1670

30 March 1968

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced posthumously.

HODGE, CHARLES E. US67141343 (SSAN XXX-XX-XXX), PRIVATE FIRST CLASS E3,
United States Army, Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, 198th
Infantry Brigade APO 96219

Awarded: Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device

Date action: 8 February 1968

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason; For heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Private First Class Hodge distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 8 February 1968 while serving in Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry. On that date, his company was on a combat operation in support of a Marine unit south of Da Nang. While his company was moving to the battle area, they suddenly encountered intense automatic weapons, mortar, rocket, and small arms fire from an estimated battalion of North Vietnamese regulars. During the ensuing battle, the company became pinned down and sustained several casualties. Private Hodge and 12 other men of his platoon immediately began laying down a base of fire to enable the wounded members of the company to withdraw to safety. After all the wounded had been withdrawn, he quickly maneuvered back behind a dike where his platoon regrouped and formed an unyielding defensive line. Along with his fellow soldiers, Private Hodge made a gallant stand, killing numerous enemy soldiers in extremely close-quarter fighting before being mortally wounded. Through his courage and devastating fire, he contributed greatly to the successful defeat of the enemy force and an estimated 60 or more enemy kills. Private First Class Hodge's personal bravery and avid devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflected great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the President under the provisions of Executive Order, 11046, 24 August 1962.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL: NELS A. PARSON
COLONEL, CS
Chief of Staff

Signed
DONALD Y.B. CHUNG
LTC, AGC
Adjutant General

Award of the Bronze Star with "V" citation is attributed to the Coffelt Data Base team.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS AMERICAL DIVISION
APO San Francisco 96374

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 1674

30 March 1968

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced posthumously.

HALE, LANNY E. US54438748 (SSAN XXX-XX-XXX), SPECIALIST FOUR E4,
United States Army, Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, 198th
Infantry Brigade APO 96219

Awarded: Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device

Date action: 8 February 1968

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason; For heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Specialist Four Hale distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 8 February 1968 while serving in Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry. On that date, his company was on a combat operation in support of a Marine unit south of Da Nang. While his company was moving to the battle area, they suddenly came under intense automatic weapons, mortar, rocket, and small arms fire from an estimated battalion of North Vietnamese regulars. During the ensuing battle, the company commander became pinned down and sustained several casualties. Specialist Hale and 12 other men of his platoon immediately began laying down a base of fire to enable the wounded members of the company to withdraw to safety. After all the wounded had been withdrawn, he quickly maneuvered back behind a dike where his platoon regrouped and formed an unyielding defensive line. Along with his fellow soldiers, Specialist Hale made a gallant stand, killing numerous enemy soldiers in extremely close-quarter fighting before being mortally wounded. Through his courage and devastating fire, he contributed greatly to the successful defeat of the enemy force and an estimated 60 or more enemy kills. Specialist Four Hale's personal bravery and avid devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflected great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the President under the provisions of Executive Order, 11046, 24 August 1962.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL: NELS A. PARSON
COLONEL, CS
Chief of Staff

Signed
DONALD Y.B. CHUNG
LTC, AGC
Adjutant General

Award of the Bronze Star citation is attributed to the Coffelt Data Base team.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS AMERICAL DIVISION
APO San Francisco 96374
3 April 1968

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 1747

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced posthumously.
TROYER, RODNEY P. US54663691 (SSAN XXX-XX-XXX), SPECIALIST FOUR E4,
United States Army, Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, 198th \
Infantry Brigade APO 96219

Awarded: Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device

Date action: 8 February 1968

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Specialist Four Troyer distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 8 February 1968, while serving with his company on a combat operation in support of a Marine civil actions unit when they suddenly made contact with a North Vietnamese battalion. During the ensuing battle, Specialist Troyer laid down an accurate and devastating base of fire upon the enemy positions. When the word was given to withdraw, Specialist Troyer, with disregard for his own safety, remained at his position and continued to place a large volume of fire upon the enemy to allow some of his wounded comrades to return to the friendly perimeter. He courageously continued to fire upon the enemy positions until he was mortally wounded. Specialist Four Troyer's personal bravery, unselfish concern for his fellow soldiers and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflected great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the President under the provisions of Executive Order 11046, 24 August 1962.

OFFICIAL	NELS A. PARSON JR.
	Colonel, GS
Signed	Chief of Staff
DONALD Y.B. CHUNG LTC, ADC	
Adjutant General	

(Historian Note: The action described was from Operation Miracle. The 1/6th Inf. Bn. actions saved the city of DaNang from being infiltrated by a large force. The Americal Division was sometimes then known as the Miracle Division. There were high casualties for the 1/6th Inf. Bn., but they had saved DaNang from becoming a terrible battle-ground.)

Award of the Bronze Star citation is attributed to the Coffelt Data Base team.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS AMERICAL DIVISION
APO San Francisco 96374

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 1677

30 March 1968

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced posthumously.
WILCOX, JOHN L. JR. RA149385528 (SSAN XXX-XX-XXX), SPECIALIST FOUR E4,
United States Army, Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, 198th
Infantry Brigade APO 96219

Awarded: Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device

Date action: 8 February 1968

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Specialist Four Wilcox distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 8 February 1968, while serving as a grenadier in Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry. On that date, his company was on a combat operation in support of a Marine unit south of Da Nang. While his company was moving to the battle area, they suddenly came under intense automatic weapons, mortar, rocket, and small arms fire from an estimated battalion of North Vietnamese regulars. During the ensuing battle, the company became pinned down by the hostile fire. Specialist Wilcox and 12 other men of his platoon immediately began laying down a base of fire to enable the wounded members of the company to withdraw to safety. After all the wounded had been withdrawn, he quickly maneuvered back behind a dike where his platoon regrouped and formed an unyielding defensive line. Along with his fellow soldiers, Specialist Wilcox made a gallant stand, killing numerous enemy soldiers in extremely close-quarter fighting before being mortally wounded. Through his courage and devastating fire, he contributed greatly to the successful defeat of the enemy force and an estimated 60 or more enemy kills. Specialist Four Wilcox's personal bravery and avid devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflected great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the President under the provisions of
Executive Order 11046, 24 August 1962.

OFFICIAL

NELS A. PARSON JR.

Colonel, GS

Signed

Chief of Staff

DONALD Y.B. CHUNG LTC, ADC

Adjutant General

(Historian Note: The action described was from Operation Miracle. The 1/6th Inf. Bn. actions saved the city of DaNang from being infiltrated by a large force. The Americal Division was sometimes then known as the Miracle Division. There were high casualties for the 1/6th Inf. Bn., but they had saved DaNang from becoming a terrible battle-ground.)

Award of the Bronze Star citation is attributed to the Coffelt Data Base team.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS AMERICAL DIVISION
APO San Francisco 96374

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 5132

4 August 1968

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced posthumously.
POWELL, JOHNNIE S US67096817 (SSAN XXX-XX-XXX), PRIVATE FIRST CLASS E3,
Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, 198th Infantry Brigade APO 96219
Awarded: Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device
Date action: 30 May 1968
Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Private First Class Powell distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 30 May 1968, while serving with Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry. On that date, Company A was engaged in a search and clear mission in the mountains southwest of Landing Zone Center. Private Powell, a rifleman in the Third Platoon, was moving with the lead element of the company when they came under heavy automatic weapons fire from a reinforced squad of North Vietnamese Regulars. In the initial burst of fire, Private Powell's platoon leader was wounded and fell in an exposed area. With disregard for his own personal safety, Private Powell began moving toward the wounded officer, laying down an intense base of fire as he moved. He dragged the man to the safety of a group of boulders over thirty meters away, before he was mortally wounded by the intense enemy fire. Private First Class Powell's gallant display of personal bravery, and unselfish concern for his fellow soldier were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflected great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the President under the provisions of
Executive Order 11046, 24 August 1962.

OFFICIAL

NELS A. PARSON JR.

Colonel, GS
Chief of Staff

Signed
JOHN K. SAMMET
1LT, ADC
Asst AG

Award of the Bronze Star with "V" citation from the ADVA Newsletter from Sept-October 1991

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS AMERICAL DIVISION

APO San Francisco 96374

GENERAL ORDERS

30 March 1968

NUMBER 5261

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

WALKER, HOWARD W. S/SGT Company D 1/6th 198th LIB

Awarded: Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device

Date action: 31 May 1968

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason; For heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. S/SGT Walker distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 31 May 1968 while serving as an acting platoon leader with Company D, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry. That night, the company had just broken contact with an NVA force with which they had been engaged and were enroute to their night defensive position in Tam Ky district. Because of the thick terrain, consisting of elephant grass, it was necessary for the company to move in single file. As they neared the top of the hill, the lead element came under an intense volume of machinegun, small arms, and rocket fire from a platoon size NVA force. S/SGT Walker immediately deployed his men and began to lead the assault on the enemy positions, one of which he single-handedly destroyed. As he led his men further up the hill, they came under machinegun fire from both flanks. With complete disregard for his own personal safety he exposed himself to the fire as he re-grouped his men and moved them to cover in a treeline just below the hill. S/SGT Walker's valorous actions are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the President under the provisions of Executive Order, 11046, 24 August 1962.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL: NELS A. PARSON
COLONEL, CS
Chief of Staff

Signed
JOHN K. SAMMET
1LT, AGC
Adjutant General

Two page letter by Capt. John Bierden describing situation during Tet 1968.
Dear Major Sanders,

13 March 1969 I received your letter and was quite surprised at the speed in which the word of LTC Stinson's death reached you. I imagine you would like to know the circumstances surrounding his death and even though some of them are still vague to me I'll try and fill you in on the details. --- The battalion had been in contact with a combined main force VC/NVA battalion for about a week or two 3 March. Initial contact was made by Bravo about a click north of Young (a fire base named after BGen George Young) and that particular action lasted about three days. Brigade opconed A Co 5/46, D Co 1/6 and O Troop 1/1 Cav to us on the second day and we finally broke contact on the morning of the third day. We had suffered about 30 casualties, mostly in Bravo and they were pulled back into Young. At the same time Delta moved out of the field to Professional and Alpha and Charlie began operations in the Thien Phouc (special forces/CIDG camp) area to relieve pressure there. A couple of outposts had fallen and the CIDG had their hands full trying to retake them. Professional (fire base originally made by the 1st Battalion 46th Inf) was being mortared at least three times a day and as soon as the operation was finished at Thien Phouc, both companies were moved to an area around Professional. Alpha (company) combat assaulted (into an area by helicopter) into the river area (the hook) and began a sweep to the southeast. While moving up the entire company was completely in a trap because there was no place to go. To their front and rear the resistance came from fortified bunkers that they must have overlooked on their way up. South flanks were covered by light machine guns and heavy guns and a couple of squads of infantry armed with everything from soup to nuts. The entire ridge line erupted with mortar (60mm and 82mm) and RPG (rocket propelled grenades), and 12.7mm heavy machine gun fire. Our gunnies didn't have a chance and even after tactical air dropped 750s and 1000 pound bombs, they would receive fire as they (TAC air) pulled out. The whole thing seemed like the siege of LZ (landing zone) Center without the LZ. At least four 12.7mm heavy machine guns were spotted, but the ones that endured were the problem. The company was running out of everything including men. The birds (helos) would stop at Professional to pick up supplies only to have their skids and the mortar rounds hit the ground at the same time. In that seven day period about ten birds were lost ranging from LOHs (OH23 bubble canopy) to COBRA gunships. Charlie company moved to support Alpha and ran into much of the same type of contact. The two companies were less than a thousand meters apart and both were occupied with trying to protect themselves and help each other out. Bravo was tied to Young still licking their wounds (two platoon sergeants and two platoon leaders and many experienced troops were evacuated). My only action at the time was to ask for help. A detainee turned out to be a sergeant from the 31st NVA Regiment and stated that that was the unit we were up against and they were at about 30% strength. If that was 30% they must have been the best the NVA had to offer because they weren't about to move an inch. After about five days the Battalion had suffered well over 100 casualties and the situation was getting desperate. The artillery, air, and troop movements were not making a dent at least it appeared that way when a lull occurred on 3 March (1969). Alpha had a chance to move but it had lost so many men that it was about platoon size. Dustoffs (medivac helos) weren't able to get in and the number of dead and wounded would hold them up. LTC Stinson told Alpha he was coming in to pick up what he could and Dustoffs would be in to pickup the rest. He got in alright and pulled two dead and three wounded aboard the Command and Control helicopter. That was a full load for them and they were pulling pitch when all hell broke loose once again. He was the only man on the chopper to get hit and the round went in his hip and came out the stomach. The pilots didn't realize immediately that he had been hit and were on their way to Baldy (another fire base) when they noticed (not sure of exact details). He was dead on arrival at Baldy. The effect on the men on the ground was shock and the Battalion almost stopped in place. Major Fields flew immediately to Professional and when I talked to him the next day he described the scene of his arrival to me. The bird was shot at and no fire was returned. The TOC (Tactical Operations Center) was like a morgue. People were walking around in a daze with no real purpose and shaking their heads in disbelief. The companies were stagnant in

(Continued)

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thought and action and it appeared as though the whole operation was going to fall apart. Col. Tulley arrived and helped get things rolling again. Major Neary flew into Alpha and started to get things moving on the ground. After a couple of hours the initial shock wore off a bit and through the use of increased air the

companies managed to break contact. For all intent and purposes the 1/52 had ceased to function as a fighting unit. The battalion was moved to Baldy where it is presently being built up. It suffered about 170 casualties, about 40 of which were killed. A number are still missing and believed dead. Alpha took the brunt and arrived at Baldy with 18 people. Charlie wasn't too much higher and the only company with more than 90 men was Delta. It is estimated that it will take about three weeks to build us back up and then we will move south. At present the 1/46 is at Professional and they are in somewhat the same type of contact we were. They lost two birds yesterday and it appears the NVA aren't going to budge. I don't know what the plans are but I imagine that it will be a task force of some sort. It has been a hell of a week. I apologize for the poor typing but the amount of words in my penmanship would have you needing glasses by now. I'm due to leave for the States the day after tomorrow but Division has no orders or port call for me yet so I may still be here for a while. LTC Davis is now the Battalion Commander and a Major Layman (Armor type) will be filling Major Fields slot in a couple of weeks. Congratulations on entering the zone. I wish you the best of luck before the board. Maybe we'll be able to serve together again in the future. If I'm up in the neighborhood of West Point in the next year or so I'll be sure to drop by and say hello. Take care Sir and be sure to instill in the Cadets the same drive and devotion to duty that Doc Stinson portrayed. As you said Sir he was one of the best. Thanks again for your letter."

Letter written
by Capt. John Bierden.

Americal Daily News Sheet- Americal Division News.
(August 2009 transcription)

AMERICAL
news (Americal Patch) sheet
Vol. 1. No. 270 Monday January 15, 1968 page1

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - Heavy air activity characterized the continuous destruction and harassment of the 2nd NVA Division in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa. More than 25 air strikes pounded on suspected enemy locations. One the ground units of the Americal Division reported killing 18 enemy soldiers and capturing over 20,000 pounds of rice in action throughout the southern I Corps Tactical Zone. More than 7,000 pounds of artillery were fired into suspected enemy staging areas and resupply routes.

.....
Americal's 198th Brigade was in constant contact with the enemy all day yesterday and reported killing nine Viet Cong in scattered activity south of here.

Just after midnight yesterday morning, a unit of the 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry received 30 enemy mortar rounds on its basecamp. The action took place about five miles northwest of here. Five brigade soldiers were wounded and evacuated (B Co). Earlier that morning, a patrol from the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry commanded by CPT Gary Goldman (Columbus, Ga.) engaged 13 VC nine miles southeast of here. Three VC were killed during the action. That afternoon, five VC were spotted-north of the area. The unit infantrymen were heli-lifted into the area. They then killed one VC and detained two. Another enemy was killed in a separate action earlier in the day. A unit of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry commanded by CPT Francis Brennan (Boston, Mass) accounted for three additional kills yesterday day in two actions southwest of here. One VC was killed by his own grenadiers as he attempted to throw it at infantry soldiers of the **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry**. A forty-year-old villager had revealed the enemy's location to the 198th Infantrymen.

Americal Daily News Sheets- Americal Action.

AMERICAL

news | *| sheet
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Vol. 1. No. 317 Saturday March 2, 1968

AMERICAL

Units of the Americal's 196th Brigade accounted for 13 enemy killed and one weapon captured in their area of Operation Wheeler/Wallowa.

The 3rd Battalion, 82nd Artillery was called for fire support for the infantry company, and the resulting fire killed two Viet Cong. A company of the **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry** found three VC killed by small arms fire and a 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry unit killed one VC and captured his AK-47 rifle. A reconnaissance patrol observed six NVA and killed two.

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MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Partly cloudy Tuesday with occasional rain throughout the day. Winds from the northeast at 6-10 knots per hour. High Tuesday 78. Low Tuesday night 63.

—————AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS—————

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - A lull in fighting was reported by Americal Division forces yesterday as they recorded 26 kills. Americal units sustained one soldier killed and two wounded and evacuated for treatment.

In Operation Wheeler/Wallowa elements of Americal's 196th Brigade killed eight Viet Cong and four NVA soldiers yesterday.

A company of the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry commanded by 1LT Douglas J. Greenlaw (Michigan City, Ind), found a weapons cache containing four Chicom machine guns, 160 rounds of 60mm mortars, one 122mm rocket, four 57mm recoilless rifle rounds, two 122mm mortar rounds, two boxes of warheads for 60mm mortar and assorted small arms ammunition. In ground fighting a company of the 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry led by 1LT Homer Krout (Hopewell, Va), killed three NVA soldiers and captured one AK-47. The other NVA kill was recorded by a unit of the 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry.

In other "Charger" action a unit of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry killed two VC, CPT Cecil H. Oxford's (Corpus Christi, Texas), company of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry accounted for three VC kills.

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Americal Daily News Sheet- Americal Division News.

AMERICAL
news (Americal Patch) sheet
Vol. 1. No. 270 Monday January 15, 1968 page1

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

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MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

There will be no significant change in the weather for Saturday. Winds will be 5-10 knots from the east. High 90. Low will be around 69.

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE FROM GEN. WESTMORELAND

Results of Operation Wheeler/Wallowa contact two miles west of Tam Ky on February 27 indicate professional action by 1/1 Armored Cavalry and supporting units. Congratulations to all.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - Americal Division forces accounted for 49 enemy killed and 29 soldiers wounded and med-evaced.....

Two Viet Cong were reported killed by Americal's 198th Brigade and three suspects were detained in action near Chu Lai.

The command and control helicopter of the 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry killed two VC four miles west of here. Later, in the day Warrant Officer Don Kenton (Dover, Del), attached to the brigade's aviation section, spotted three men in the field south of here. When Kenton brought his OH-23 helicopter down for a closer look the three men fled. Mr. Kenton chased them into the arms of a company of the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry who were on a search and clear mission in the area.

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

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AMERICAL
news (Americal Patch) sheet
Vol. 1. No. 270 Monday January 15, 1968 page1

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Vol. 1. No. 320 Tuesday March 5, 1968
AMERICAL

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Cloudy to partly cloudy with little chance of showers. Easterly winds at 6 to 10 knots per hour. Wednesday a high temperature of 80. Low Wednesday night 68.

AMERICAL DIVISION IN ACTION

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - Action increased sharply yesterday in the Americal Division as 81 enemy soldiers were killed in fighting centered in the Operation Wheeler/Wallowa area in the northern portion of Quang Tin Province. Americal forces suffered 14 soldiers killed and 50 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Several base camps and fire support bases in southern I Corps came under mixed rocket, mortar, recoilless rifle and small arms fire early Monday morning. Damage from the attacks was termed as light. The Chu Lai complex received ten rounds of 82mm mortars and an undetermined number of rocket rounds plus recoilless rifle and small arms fire.

Cavalrymen of Americal's 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry and supporting gunships accounted for 50 Viet Cong and 18 NVA soldiers killed in action west and northwest of Tam Ky in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa yesterday.

In an early morning contact "A" Troop, 1st Cavalry killed eight VC four miles west of Tam Ky. The heaviest fighting of the day occurred in the afternoon. While searching for possible launch sites where enemy forces fired rockets and mortars at the Tam Ky base Sunday night, "C" Troop, 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry observed a well dug-in enemy force. As gunships engaged the enemy from the air "C" Troop, 1st Cavalry made a ground assault on the enemy positions. "C" Troop, 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry was responsible for 18 NVA kills. When the fighting broke off in the late afternoon "C" Troop's, 1st Cavalry total enemy body count stood at 38 Viet Cong killed. A company of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry operating in the same area killed another four Viet Cong.

Seven enemy were killed yesterday by elements of Americal's 196th Brigade and "Charger" units continued to find large enemy caches of supplies and equipment in the Operation Wheeler/Wallowa area.

An Americal Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol was attacked by an estimated 60 NVA yesterday morning. Fire was returned resulting in two NVA killed.

A unit of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry found 1,500 pounds of rice. Action in the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry's area saw a company led by 1LT Douglas J. Greenlaw (Michigan City, Ind), uncover a cache containing one 60mm mortar tube, one RPG rocket launcher, one Chicom sub-machine gun, one light machine gun and 250 boxes of Chicom 7.62mm ammunition. Another 1st Infantry company led by CPT. John T. Thomason (Severn Park, Me), found a bunker complex consisting of 20 two-man foxholes with 600 pounds of demolition compound, and three boxes of mixed small arms ammunition inside. Later the company found nine NVA gas masks, 26 NVA packs, 34 Chicom hand grenades, 52 sets of NVA fatigues, 25 AK-47 magazines, 75 time fuses, 400 blasting caps, 11 sets of NVA web gear, 100 pounds of medical supplies, 6,000 pounds of rice, three M-79 rounds 400 pounds of demolitions, ten six (Cont'd Page 3 Column 1) ounce bottles of nitroglycerin, one pack full of maps and documents, one set of surgical equipment, 1,950 AK-47 rounds, 200 rounds of 22 caliber ammunition, 20 rounds of M-16 ammunition and one Chicom radio. Another 1st Infantry unit found one NVA soldier killed by artillery.

A company of the 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry led by CPT Robert S. Henderson (Reno, Nev), killed one NVA soldier and captured two Chicom hand grenades, 100 rounds of carbine ammunition and 200 rounds of 50 caliber ammunition. They also found two NVA soldiers that had been killed by artillery. A reconnaissance element from the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry killed one VC and detained one suspect.

Nine tactical air strikes were flown in the 196th area resulting in five fortified structures, one automatic weapons position and eight bunkers destroyed.....

Volume 1 No. 321 Americal Daily New Sheet WED March 6, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Partly cloudy Thursday. No precipitation foreseen. Winds light and variable. High Thursday 81. Low Thursday night 72.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS: 82 ENEMY KILLED YESTERDAY

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - For the second day Americal forces participating in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa saw the heaviest fighting. The units operating in the northern section of Quant Tin and the southern portion of Quang Nam provinces accounted for 80 of the total 82 enemy soldiers killed and 20 infantrymen wounded and evacuated in the fighting southern I Corps.

Elements of Americal's 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry reported killing 41 enemy soldiers in day long fighting which took place seven miles northwest of Tam Ky in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa.

Yesterday's fighting was a continuation of a battle which began Monday afternoon. The fighting resumed yesterday with an artillery

barrage and six air strikes. "C" Troop, 1st Cavalry began a sweep to the south which was directed at the enemy entrenched in bunker positions. The initial contact began when the enemy opened up with RPGs, .50 caliber and recoilless rifle fire. "C" Troop, 1st Cavalry and a company of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry were in contact with the enemy throughout the day. At dusk the enemy broke contact and "C" Troop had recorded 25 enemy soldiers killed. The company from the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry had accounted for 12 enemy kills and "C" Troop, 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry flying in close support had killed four NVA soldiers.

Units of Americal's 196th Brigade killed 33 NVA soldiers and six VC and continued to find large caches of enemy ammunition and supplies in the Operation Wheeler/Wallowa area.

The biggest battle of the day occurred when a company of the 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry received automatic and small arms fire. The company returned the fire and killed 23 NVA soldiers. Two companies of the 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry discovered graves containing the bodies of ten NVA soldiers.

A unit of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry led by CPT James A. Humphries (Pacific Grove, Calif), observed three VC run into a hut. They called in artillery from the 3rd Battalion, 82nd Artillery resulting in two VC killed. The command and control helicopter of the 21st Infantry killed one VC and another unit of the 3rd Battalion, killed two VC.

A 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry company led by CPT James T. Price (Fayetteville, N.C.), found and evacuated 4,100 pounds of rice and 31 pounds of salt. CPT John B. Hurtado's (Sanger, Calif), company killed one VC and captured on machine gun.

CPT Jose R. Feliciano (Baltimore, Md), led his company of the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry to a cache containing 30 82mm mortar rounds, one Chicom 9.56 machine gun with a spare barrel and guns shield, four 4.2 mortar rounds, 3,200 rounds of AK-47 ammunition, 2,700 rounds of 7.62 ammunition, and six cans of fuses and charges for mortars. The weapons and mortar rounds were evacuated and the ammunition was destroyed.

Another unit of the 2nd Battalion found a cave containing 95 82mm mortar rounds, 12 Chicom hand grenades, 200 AK-47 rounds, and five packs. A 1st Infantry company commanded by CPT John T. Thomason (Severna Park, Md), found a bunker complex consisting of 150 to 200 two to three man bunkers.

Six tactical air strikes were flown in the 196th area resulting in nine fortified structures destroyed.....

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Little Change Friday. No precipitation expected. Variable winds at 5-10 Knots per hour. High Friday 87. Low Friday 73.

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE FROM GENERAL CUSHMAN

My appreciation to the officers and men who participated in the destruction of the arms bearing trawler on the night of Feb 29th - Mar 1st. The performance of your gunships and the rapid deployment of blocking forces are a tribute to the training and responsiveness of your troops. As you are well aware, the destruction of this trawler has significantly reduced the capability of the enemy to inflict casualties on the military force and civilians in the area. Sincere congratulations on a job well done.

AMERICAL (MIRACLE) DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - Americal Division forces reported killing 34 NVA soldiers and 21 Viet Cong and capturing ten individual and two crew-served weapons in fighting throughout southern I Corps yesterday. Fourteen air strikes were flown in support of division elements yesterday resulting in 22 fortified structures, six bunkers, two foxholes and a recoilless rifle position destroyed. In addition 100 meters of trench line were opened-up. Americal units suffered four soldiers killed and 17 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Increased contacts with enemy forces was reported in the western portion of Americal's 196th Brigade area of Operation Wheeler/Wallowa yesterday. Brigade elements killed 27 enemy soldiers and captured eight weapons.

An element of the 21st Infantry led by CPT James F. Humphries (Pacific Grove, Calif), killed two VC and captured one K-44 rifle, three M-72 LAWs and 200 rounds of M-16 ammunition. In several scattered incidents a company led by CPT Dennis A. Leach (Fairmont, Minn), killed ten VC. A reconnaissance platoon from the 21st Infantry killed one NVA and captured a carbine with 60 rounds of ammunition.

Two companies from the 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry engaged an unknown size enemy force in a wood-line killing two NVA. Later in the same area, scouts and gunships from "C" Troop, 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry killed three NVA.

The command and control helicopter from the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry killed three NVA. A unit of the 6th Infantry killed one VC and captured two carbines, a 60mm mortar base plate, on SKS, seven Chicom hand grenades and numerous NVA uniforms and web gear.

A 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry company commanded by CPT Jose R. Feliciano (Baltimore, Md), found five fresh graves containing five NVA bodies. Three had been killed by small arms fire and the other two by artillery.

Nine tactical air strikes were flown in the 196th area resulting in four bunkers, 22 structures and two foxholes destroyed. The strikes also opened-up 100 meters of trench line.

"A" Battery of the 3rd Battalion, 82nd Artillery commanded by CPT Kenneth Bernard (Breckenridge, Minn), fired its 100,000th round in Vietnam yesterday. Colonel Louis Gelling (Carlisle, Pa), commander of the 196th fired the round from LZ Ross. During the attack the battery fired several hundred rounds of counter mortar fire at the enemy. The 196th commander also told the battery that he, along with all the infantrymen of the brigade, appreciated the fire support that the artillery had been giving them.

Units of the Americal's 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry and supporting gunships killed 19 NVA in fighting for the third day in an area seven miles northwest of Tam Ky in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa.

"C" Troop, 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry while flying in close support of the ground elements killed nine NVA soldiers. Three of the kills occurred when a gunship attacked an 82mm mortar position. the gunship was credited with the destruction of the mortar.

In ground action which lasted throughout the day "C" Troop, 1st Cavalry accounted for seven NVA soldiers killed and "B" Troop reported killing three NVA. Five air strikes were flown in the area and artillery was called in on the enemy forces that had directed recoilless rifle, automatic weapons and small arms fire on the Americal cavalrymen.

"Jungle Warriors" of Americal's 11th Brigade killed eight enemy, detained 14 suspects and captured three weapons in action in the Duc Pho and Operation Muscatine areas.....

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Partly cloudy Saturday. No precipitation expected. Winds will be southeasterly at 10 knots. High Saturday 86. Low Saturday night 68.

VIETNAM WAR NEWS

SAIGON (UPI) - General William C. Westmoreland issued a statement Wednesday confirming his faith in the U.S. Marines in the face of news reports that he had lost confidence in the Leathernecks.

The news reports stemmed from the fact that Westmoreland had sent his assistant U.S. Commander, General Creighton Abrams, the Marine-run northern I Corps to take over management of the Demilitarized Zone and Khe Sanh area.

"Contrary to these speculative news stories I wish to make it absolutely clear that these arrangements are based on tactical and management considerations and have nothing to do with the performance of the Marines which is, and always has been, excellent," the commander said.

U.S. ARMY Gen. William Rosson, former commander of U.S. forces in central South Vietnam, has subsequently been assigned as Abrams' assistant at "Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, Forward" established at Phu Bai on the northern coast.

"It has distressed me greatly to learn that some news articles have interpreted the changing command arrangements in the I Corps tactical zone as a reflection against the U.S. Marine Corps and the Marine Amphibious Force," Westmoreland said. *[Historian Note: LTG Rosson formerly commanded Task Force Oregon, and the Americal Division operated under command of the Third Marine Amphibious Force who controlled operations in I Corps].*

AMERICAL (MIRACLE) DIVISION IN ACTION

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Elements of the Americal Division accounted for 26 North Vietnamese Army soldiers and 12 Viet Cong killed in fighting throughout southern I Corps yesterday. Americal units reported four soldiers killed and 14 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Elements of Americal's 196th Brigade discovered 16 NVA who had been killed in previous days' action, and killed three more enemy soldiers in action throughout the "Chargers" area of Operation Wheeler/Wallowa.

A company of the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry led by CPT Jose R. Feliciano (Baltimore, Md), discovered 11 fresh graves during a search and destroy operation northwest of Tam Ky. The enemy soldiers had been killed by artillery fire.

A gunship of "C" Troop, 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry commanded by Major James D. Marett (Tennessee, S.C.), observed three NVA soldiers hiding in spider holes approximately 100 meters in front of a position held by a company of the 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry. The enemy moved to the location and killed one of the NVA. During a search of the area, the company, commanded by CPT Andrew J. Monday (Jonesboro, Ga), discovered graves containing two NVA killed by artillery fire, and one M-72 LAW, and one NVA gas mask. Another company of the battalion led by CPT Clifford R. Sherer (Columbus, Ga), found two more graves containing two NVA bodies also apparently killed by the "Flying Red Horsemen" of the 3rd Battalion, 82nd Artillery.

In other action yesterday a company of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry led by CPT Dennis A. Leach (Fairmont, Minn), killed one Viet Cong who was evading the company's position. CPT Daniel R. Mellon's Fairbanks, Alaska), company of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry found one grave containing an NVA killed by small arms fire. **A company of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry killed one enemy and discovered 3,800 pounds of rice which was evacuated to LZ Baldy.**

"C" Troop of Americal's 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry reported killing nine NVA in fighting seven miles northwest of Tam Ky in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa yesterday.

Scattered contacts in the Duc Pho and Operation Muscatine area resulted in six enemy killed and five suspects detained by Americal's 11th Brigade yesterday.....

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Mostly cloudy with light rain during the morning hours. Winds from the northeast at 10 knots. High Sunday morning 80. Low Sunday night 68.

AMERICAL NEWS ----

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - Gunship helicopters and armored vehicles from the Americal Division teamed up yesterday to provide much of the muscle for the Operation Wheeler/Wallowa punch, as that operation dominated the division activity.

Elements of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry combined with the air support of Troop "C", 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry recorded 27 of the 37 enemy kills netted by Wheeler/Wallowa during the day.

Division forces reported killing a total of 45 enemy soldiers throughout the day, with friendly casualties listed as one soldier killed and two wounded and evacuated for medical treatment.

Eighteen of the kills reported by the Cavalry units came as the Americal soldiers unearthed graves of enemy soldiers who had been killed in the fierce fighting during the past four days west of Tam Ky.

The Cavalrymen continued to meet the dwindling enemy force in small unit contacts yesterday, with several separate incidents netting nine kills.

The only two Viet Cong of the 27 were killed by Troop "A", 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry in action near Thang Binh. The other 25 were North Vietnamese Army soldiers.

The other contacts in which seven enemy were killed, were the results of the Americal soldiers engaging snipers near Tam Ky.

More small unit operations, involving soldiers division's 196th Infantry Brigade, resulted in the "Chargers" killing eight Viet Cong and two NVA soldiers in Wheeler/Wallowa during the day.

A unit of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry discovered and evacuated 18,850 pounds of rice and other units of the 196th Brigade captured two AK-47 rifles, one carbine and one Chicom hand grenade during the day's action.

Six tactical air strikes flown in the mountainous area destroyed four bunkers and opened up some 20 meters of trench line.....

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Continued cloudy to partly cloudy Monday. Occasional rain showers in the morning. Variable winds at 8 knots per hour. High Monday 80. Low Monday night 67.

143 ENEMY KILLED BY THE MIRACLE DIVISION IN ACTION

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - Heavy fighting near Tam Ky brought about a sharp increase in the number of enemy killed by Americal Division units yesterday. Operation Wheeler/Wallowa forces from Americal's 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry killed 129 of the total 143 enemy killed yesterday. Americal losses were listed at five soldiers killed and 31 wounded and evacuated for treatment in fighting throughout southern I Corps.

Americal's 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry a company of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry, a supporting Air Force Forward Air Controller (FAC), aircraft, and gunships from "C" Troop, 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry were responsible for 129 NVA killed seven miles northwest of Tam Ky in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa yesterday.

The heavy fighting yesterday was a continuation of an off again, on again fight which began on March 4th. Yesterday's 129 kills brought the total enemy kills for the six day operation to 293. Three individual and nine crew-served weapons have been captured in the action centered in an area approximately ten miles northwest of Tam Ky. Americal units have suffered five soldiers killed and 72 wounded and evacuated during the week long fight.

The initial contact with the enemy yesterday was by "C" Troop, 1st Cavalry while on a reconnaissance mission early in the morning. Contact began with scattered sniper fire but as "C" Troop and the company from the 21st Infantry moved west in hilly, wooded terrain the fighting increased. The close-in fighting continued until 6 p.m., when the enemy broke contact. "C" Troop, which saw the most action killed 80 NVA and the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry company killed 20 NVA. "A" Troop killed two NVA and "B" Troop, killed seven NVA as they acted as blocking forces.

"C" Troop, 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry while flying in close support recorded five NVA kills and the FAC aircraft killed five NVA.

In other Operation Wheeler/Wallowa action inland in the mountainous region, units of Americal's 196th killed five VC and captured 24,500 pounds of rice yesterday.

The most significant contact of the day came when a gunship from the 71st Aviation Company killed three VC after receiving automatic weapons fire. Later the gunship killed another enemy soldier and destroyed three fortified structures.

A company of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry added another enemy to the body count. The company also captured 3,000 pounds of rice which was hidden in three huts.

CPT John B. Hurtado's (Sanger, Calif), company of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry discovered 18,000 pounds of rice and another company of the 6th Infantry led by CPT James T. Price (Fayetteville, N.C.), added another 3,500 pounds, all of which was evacuated to LZ Baldy.

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MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Continued partly cloudy with no significant weather change Tuesday. Easterly winds at 5-10 knots per hour. Tuesday's high 85. Low Tuesday night 70.

—AMERICAL (MIRACLE) DIVISION NEWS SUMMARIZED —

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - A lull in fighting was reported by Americal division forces as they killed 18 enemy soldiers throughout southern I Corps yesterday. Americal units reported one soldier killed and four wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Increased action in Operation Muscatine accounted for ten enemy killed, 16 suspects detained and five weapons captured. Other Americal 11th Brigade units killed one VC and detained nine suspects in action near Duc Pho.

A company of the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry commanded by CPT Sario Carvalho (Ewa Beach, Ha), operating near Quang Ngai killed four VC, detained 12 suspects and captured three K-44s and an SKS rifle. The company also discovered two tunnels, one of which contained three radios, small arms ammunition, medical supplies, food and bedding. Other elements of the 20th Infantry operating in the Duc Pho area detained eight suspects yesterday.

An enemy soldier guarding a rice cache was killed yesterday afternoon by a 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry company commanded by CPT Joe Rhinehart (Canton, N.C.). The company discovered five large rice bins capable of storing four tons of rice. The bins were destroyed seven miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Other "Jungle Warrior" elements in the Duc Pho area detained one suspect and captured three tons of rice.

A squad of engineers from a company of the 26th Engineer Battalion found and destroyed a 105mm booby trapped round. The squad led by Sgt. William Parks (Columbus, Ohio), discovered the booby trap five miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Civil Affairs teams treated 91 Vietnamese in the 11th's operational area yesterday. Last week 904 civilian patients received medical treatment from "Jungle Warrior" MEDCAP teams.

Units of Americal's 196th participating in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa accounted for five VC kills and the capture of one weapon and 2,200 pounds of rice.

A 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry company commanded by CPT Jose R. Feliciano (Baltimore, Md) found nine 82mm mortar rounds and three boxes of TNT while on a search and destroy mission. A few hours later they discovered 20 cases (2,000 rounds) of 12.7 armor piercing ammunition, six cases (1,800) rounds) of 7.62mm ammunition, 30 82mm mortar rounds, 20 Chicom hand grenades and three unidentified rockets.

CPT Robert E. Corrigan Jr. (Arlington, Va) commanding a 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry company killed two VC and captured one K-44 rifle. Another 21st Infantry unit led by CPT James F. Humphries (Pacific Grove, Calif) killed two VC.

A company of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry commanded by CPT Dan E. Prapher (Lubbock, Tex) killed one VC who was carrying two Chicom hand Grenades. CPT

James T. Price's (Fayetteville, N.C.) company of the 6th Infantry found and evacuated 2,200 pounds of rice.

Two tactical air strikes were flown in the "Charger's" area resulting in two fortified structures and two bunkers destroyed.

In other Operation Wheeler/Wallowa action west of Tam Ky, "C" Troop 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry gunships killed two VC and one NVA soldier while flying in support of Americal's 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry.

The kills occurred in two locations. One NVA was killed seven miles northwest of Tam Ky and the two VC were killed four miles east of Thang Binh.

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Decreasing cloudiness and precipitation Wednesday. Winds variable at 3 knots per hour. High Wednesday 84. Low Wednesday night 72.

MIRACLE DIVISION IN ACTION: 114
Enemy Killed in Southern I Corps Tactical Zone

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - Increased contacts with enemy forces resulted in 114 enemy killed by Americal Division units yesterday. Operation Wheeler/Wallowa forces saw the heaviest fighting of the day as they reported 96 enemy kills. Operation Muscatine units killed 13 VC and other 11th Brigade elements around Duc Pho accounted for five other enemy kills. Americal forces reported five soldiers killed and 24 wounded and evacuated for treatment in fighting throughout southern I Corps yesterday.

Units of Americals' 196th Brigade participating in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa recorded 79 NVA and seven VC kills and detained five suspects yesterday.

In the heaviest fighting elements of the 3d Battalion, 21st Infantry and supporting units reported killing 78 NVA soldiers. The day long fighting took place in an area approximately 20 miles northwest of Tam Ky. By 6 p.m. when enemy forces broke contact, ground units had killed 63 of the NVA. Ten air strikes were flown in the area resulting in five NVA kills and artillery fire was responsible for 10 NVA kills.

A company of the 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry commanded by 1LT Homer Krout (Hopewell, Va.) discovered the graves containing two VC who had been killed by artillery fire. Later the company discovered five NVA packs containing NVA documents and 200 rounds of AK-47 ammunition. CPT Robert S. Henderson's (Reno, Nev.) company of the 35th Infantry killed one VC, one NVA soldier and detained one suspect.

CPT James T. Price's (Fayetteville, N.C.) company of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry killed two VC and discovered 2,700 pounds of rice which was evacuated to LZ Baldy. Another company of the 6th Infantry commanded by CPT Dan E. Prapher (Lubbock, Tex.) evacuated another 1,000 pounds of rice.

A company of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry commanded by CPT Larry R. Byers (Des Moines, Wash.) detained four suspects. One was carrying a carbine when he was apprehended. Another 31st Infantry company found one VC who had been killed by artillery fire.

In other "Charger" action an observation aircraft spotted four VC evading. Artillery from the 3d Battalion, 82nd Artillery was called in resulting in one VC kill.

Other Operation Wheeler/Wallowa action saw elements of Americal's 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry encounter enemy forces resulting in 10 NVA soldiers killed.

All the kills occurred in the same general area (approximately 10 miles northwest of Tam Ky) where continued contacts with the enemy since March 4th have now claimed 304 enemy dead.

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Vol. 1. No. 328 Wednesday March 13, 1968
AMERICAL

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Cloudy Thursday morning becoming partly cloudy in the afternoon. No precipitation expected. Winds will be from the northeast at 8-10 knots per hour. High Thursday 85. Low Thursday night 73.

AMERICAL DIVISION RECORDS 74 ENEMY KILLS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - Americal units recorded an enemy body count of 60 NVA soldiers and 14 Viet Cong in fighting throughout southern I Corps yesterday. Four Americal soldiers were killed and eight wounded and evacuated in yesterday's action.

Units of the Americal's 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry participating in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa reported killing 57 NVA yesterday.

"C" Troop, 1st Cavalry on a reconnaissance mission in an area seven miles northwest of Tam Ky discovered 51 NVA bodies. The enemy were believed to have been killed in the heavy fighting of March 10. Six of the bodies were in graves and the remaining 45 were discovered in destroyed bunker positions and spider holes.

Yesterday's ground action saw scattered enemy contacts with two NVA kills reported. In air action "C" Troop, 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry, flying in direct support of Cavalry operations, killed four NVA seven miles northwest of Tam Ky yesterday.

Other Operation Wheeler/Wallowa action saw elements of Americal's 196th Brigade in small unit contacts which resulted in one Viet Cong and three NVA kills. Other activity in the "Chargers" area netted 5,800 pounds of rice which was evacuated yesterday.

A company of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry recorded three NVA kills and **an ambush patrol from a 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry unit killed one VC.**

Members of a company of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry commanded by CPT Robert D. Leinen, Sr. (Auburn, N.Y.) found and evacuated 4,300 pounds of rice. Another 6th Infantry company led by CPT James T. Price Fayetteville, N.C.) discovered a sandbag containing medical supplies, blank I.D. cards, 144 rounds of 30 caliber ammunition and three 9mm clips containing 90 rounds of ammunition.

A 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry company led by CPT Joseph F. Stringham (Appleton, Wis) discovered and evacuated 1,500 pounds of rice. All the rice will be turned over to local refugee centers.

"Jungle Warriors" of Americal's 11th Brigade reported killing 10 VC in Operation Muscatine and two VC in the Duc Pho area yesterday.

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Cloudy Saturday morning with fog. Chance of rain showers Saturday afternoon. Winds variable at 8 knots per hour. High Saturday 85. Low Saturday night 72.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS: 20 ENEMY KILLED IN YESTERDAY'S ACTION

CHU LAI (AMERICAL-IO)—Limited enemy activity was reported throughout southern I Corps yesterday. Americal Division forces reported 20 enemy killed and four weapons captured. Americal units sustained two soldiers killed and eight wounded and evacuated for further medical care.

The bodies of four VC killed by Americal's 198th Brigade military police on the Tra Bong River were found yesterday. Yesterday's confirmed kills brought the enemy loss to 13 in the joint operation which began late Wednesday night when a sampan laden with enemy equipment and materials was destroyed.

Local village chiefs in the area identified the dead as confirmed VC. The sampan fired on local Popular Forces and CAP teams late Wednesday night before 198th "River Rats" in high speed whale boats blasted it from the water with machine gun fire.

As the sampan was dragged from 15 feet of water, near the south of the river seven miles southeast of here, one M-2 carbine, four hand grenades, two steel helmets and 477 rounds of ammunition were captured.

Elsewhere yesterday a "Brave and Bold" unit killed one VC in a night ambush 10 miles south of here.

Brigade civic action soldiers and medics took advantage of bright sunny weather to treat 757 Vietnamese in area medical visits yesterday.

Enemy contacts in Americal's 196th Brigade area of Operation Wheeler/Wallowa resulted in nine enemy killed and one weapon captured.

In operations in the northern portion of Quang Tin Province, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry units reported an enemy body count of four yesterday. A company size force of the "Gimlets" was responsible for two of the kills and a reconnaissance platoon netted one. A company commanded by CPT James J. Humphries (Pacific Grove, Calif.) found one VC who had been killed by artillery.

The 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry recorded two of the enemy kills in ground action yesterday. A company of the 6th Infantry commanded by CPT James T. Price (Fayetteville, N.C.) found and evacuated 1,400 pounds of rice.

In air-to-ground contacts "C" Troop 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry commanded by Major James D. Marett (Tamassee, S.C.) killed three VC who were evading the Cavalry's gunships.

Four air strikes were flown in the "Chargers" area of operations yesterday resulting in 13 fortified structures and two bunkers destroyed.

In other Operation Wheeler/Wallowa action northwest of Tam Ky, an element of Americal's 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry, and supporting gunships, accounted for three enemy soldiers killed and two weapons captured.

A troop of the 1st Cavalry was responsible for one of the kills and for the capture of two SKS rifles.

Supporting gunships from "C" Troop, 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry reported the other two kills.

Action in the Duc Pho and Operation Muscatine areas of Quang Ngai Province netted the "Jungle Warriors" of Americal's 11th Brigade three enemy killed and 12 suspects detained.

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Cloudy to partly cloudy with winds from the southeast at 5 to 10 knots. No precipitation expected. High Sunday 85. Low Sunday night 70.

AMERICAL DIVISION (MIRACLE) IN ACTION: 25 ENEMY KILLED

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - The Americal Division welcomes its new Assistant Division commander, Colonel James V. Galloway (Athens and Glouster, Ohio). The out-going Assistant Division Commander, Brigadier General Charles W. Ryder Jr., (Vineyard Haven, Mass), has been assigned to Headquarters USARPAC.

Turning to the war, numerous small scale contacts with enemy forces resulted in 25 enemy killed and five weapons captured by Americal Division forces yesterday. As a result of fighting throughout southern I Corps yesterday one Americal soldier was killed and three wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Forty-one Hoi Chanhhs have rallied to the GVN's Chieu Hoi (Open Arms) program throughout the Americal Division during the first week of March. Since January 1st, 239 enemy soldiers have chosen to become Hoi Chanhhs. For the week ending 14 March, 2.4 million leaflets have been dropped throughout the Americal area.

In yesterdays' fighting increased contacts by Americal's 196th Brigade resulted in 14 enemy soldiers killed and two weapons captured in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa.

Members of a company of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry led by CPT James F. Stringham (Appleton, Wis) received heavy automatic weapons fire from an unknown size enemy force. The infantrymen returned the fire, checked the area, and found two NVA killed during the fight. A reconnaissance unit of the 31st Infantry killed two VC and captured one M-1 carbine.

A 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry company commanded by CPT Dan E. Prapher (Lubbock, Texas), killed one VC. Another company of the 6th Infantry led by CPT Robert D. Leinen Sr. (Auburn, N.Y.), killed one VC.

In ground action a company a company of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry commanded by CPT Cecil H. Oxford (Corpus Christi, Texas), killed one Viet Cong. An Americal Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol killed two VC and captured one carbine, and M-26 hand grenade, medical supplies and web gear. A 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry company accounted for one VC kill late yesterday.

In air-to-ground action "C" Troop, 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry while flying in general support of the "Chargers" killed two VC and spotted two VC who had been killed by artillery. Five tactical air strikes were flown in support of the 196th resulting in four military structures and one bunker destroyed. Twenty meters of trench was also opened-up.

"C" Troop, 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry flying in close support of Americal's 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry reported six VC kills. The gunships recorded the enemy kills in two locations in the 1st Cavalry's area of Operation Wheeler/Wallowa yesterday.

One VC was killed by a gunship supporting 1st Cavalry elements on a search and destroy mission five miles northwest of Tam Ky. Five of the Viet Cong were killed by gunships four miles southeast of Thang Binh as ground elements were conducting search and destroy missions.

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Vol. 1. No. 332 Sunday March 17, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Scattered cloudiness throughout Monday. Winds variable at 3-5 knots per hour. Scattered rain in the afternoon. High Monday 88. Low Monday night 72.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS (Note: My Lai Massacre action false reporting of 128 KIAs)

CHU LAI (AMERICAL-IO) -- A combat assault into a hot LZ started the day off right for infantrymen in the Task Force Barker area of Operation Muscatine yesterday. By mid-afternoon when the enemy broke contact Americal's 11th Brigade soldiers with support from artillery had killed 128 Viet Cong. The 128 enemy dead was the largest enemy body count recorded by the 11th Brigade for a 24 hour period since they took control of Operation Muscatine. It also is the largest number killed by the "Jungle Warriors" in one day's fighting since they became a part of the Americal Division.

Other enemy contact in the Americal's area of southern I Corps resulted in 20 enemy soldiers killed in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa and one enemy death recorded near Chu Lai. Five Americal soldiers were killed and 17 wounded and evacuated for treatment yesterday.

For the third time in recent weeks 11th Brigade infantrymen in Task Barker raided a Viet Cong stronghold known as "Pinkville" six miles northeast of Quang Ngai.

"Jungle Warriors", along with artillery and helicopter support, hit the village of My Lai early yesterday morning. Contacts throughout the morning and early afternoon resulted in 128 enemy killed, 13 suspects detained and three weapons captured.

A Task Force Barker company of the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry conducted a combat assault west of My Lai and quickly killed one VC while moving away from the LZ. "Shark" gunships from the 174th Aviation Company killed four more enemy during the assault.

"Aero Scout" helicopters from the 123rd Aviation Company were supporting the infantrymen and killed two enemy. The "War Lords" also located 40 60mm mortar rounds.

The infantry company led by CPT Ernest Medina (Schofield Barracks, Ha), of the 1st Battalion, engaged and killed 14 VC and captured three M-1 rifles, a radio and enemy documents while moving toward the village. One of the ten suspects apprehended by the company told an interpreter that 35 VC had moved into the village two hours earlier.

As the "Warriors" moved through the marshes a miles west of My Lai they counted 69 enemy bodies killed by a battery of the 6th Battalion, 11th Artillery. The battery commanded by CPT Steven Gamble (Portsmouth, N.H.), fired on the enemy from a location approximately three miles to the north.

A platoon of "Barker's Bastards" from the 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry was airlifted into a position south of My Lai. The unit was led by 2LT Thomas K. Willingham (Clark, N.J.), engaged an unknown number of enemy along the beach one half mile south of the village. When contact was broken 30 Viet Cong lay dead.

Early in the afternoon a platoon observed enemy soldiers escaping into a tunnel complex. Eight of the enemy were killed and web gear, hand grenades, and small arms ammunition was recovered. Three additional suspects were detained in the Operation Muscatine area 11 miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

Elements of Americal's 196th Brigade killed 20 enemy troops and captured seven weapons, including two Chicom light machine guns as action picked up throughout the "Chargers" area of Operation Wheeler-Wallowa yesterday.

A company of the 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry commanded by CPT Robert S. Henderson (Reno, Nev), found the bodies of ten NVA soldiers that had been killed by artillery fire. Continuing its search and destroy operation the company discovered two huts containing the two Chicom light machine guns, three packs, 53 rounds of 40mm ammunition, two trip flares and two ponchos. **Members of a company of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry commanded by CPT Dan E. Prether (Lubbock, Texas), killed three VC in two separate encounters. Another company of the 6th Battalion, led by CPT James T. Price (Fayetteville, N.C.), received two incoming hand grenades while on a sweeping operation. The infantrymen returned the fire and killed one VC. A reconnaissance element of the 1st Battalion, found one LAW and 100 rounds of 7.62mm ammunition hidden in a cave. In other "Charger" action a company of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry killed two enemy soldiers in two separate incidents.**

Vol. 1. No. 333 Monday March 18, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Partly cloudy Tuesday with little change foreseen. Winds variable at 10 knots per hour. High Tuesday 90. Low Tuesday night 73.

Americal Units Kill 43 In Action Yesterday

CHU LAI (AMERICAL-IO) --- Americal Division forces recorded 43 enemy kills in fighting throughout southern I Corps yesterday. Americal units reported three infantrymen killed and 11 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Elements of Americal's 196th Brigade killed 18 enemy and captured one 60mm mortar tube in contacts throughout the "Chargers" area of Operation Wheeler/Wallowa yesterday.

A company of the 3d Battalion, 21st Infantry commanded by CPT Robert E. Corringan Jr. (Arlington, VA.) killed two VC with 81mm mortar fire. A unit of the 21st Infantry killed one VC on a search and destroy mission. CPT Cecil H. Oxford's (Corpus Christi, Tex.) company of the 3d Battalion, found one NVA that had been killed by an air strike.

Members of a company of the 2d Battalion, 1st Infantry commanded by CPT Jose R. Feliciano (Balt, Md.) killed two VC and found one 60mm mortar tube while on a search and destroy mission.

A 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry company commanded by CPT Robert D. Leinen Sr. (Auburn N.Y.) found and evacuated 1,200 pounds of rice. Another 6th Infantry company led by CPT James T. Price (Fayetteville, N.C.) killed one VC. Other elements of the 6th Infantry killed two NVA.

CPT Larry R. Byer's (Des Moines, Wash.) company of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry adjusted artillery on three NVA. One NVA was killed by the rounds fired by a battery of the 3d Battalion, 82nd Artillery. The company later killed one NVA soldier.

"F" Troop, 17th Cavalry was credited with one enemy kill and a 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry company engaged eight NVA and killed four. "C" Troop 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry recorded two VC kills while flying in general support of the "Chargers" yesterday.

Units of Americal's 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry reported an enemy body count of eight yesterday in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa near Tam Ky.

A troop of the 1st Cavalry on a search and destroy mission north of Tam Ky picked up one of the enemy kills. A tank commanded by SSG Bobby L. Ward (Duganville, Tex.) was responsible for the enemy kill.

Another unit of the Cavalry on a search and destroy mission nine miles northwest of Tam Ky discovered a mass grave containing seven NVA bodies. Platoon SGT Gil I. Martinez (Killeen Tex.) along with SGT James M. Wanner (Grand Rapids, Mich.) discovered the grave site.

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MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Partly Cloudy Wednesday with little change foreseen. Winds variable at 5 knots per hour. High Wednesday 90. Low Wednesday night 72.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL - IO)-- Forces of the Americal Division reported 29 enemy killed and 122 individual weapons captured in a day that saw fighting throughout southern I Corps. Americal units suffered three soldiers killed and 13 wounded and evacuated for further medical care.

Enemy contacts in the 196th area of Operation Wheeler/Wallowa resulted in 11 enemy killed by units of the Americal's "Charger" Brigade.

A company of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry commanded by CPT Larry R. Byers (Des Moines, Wash) found graves containing four NVA bodies while on a search and destroy mission. The graves also contained two Chicom hand grenades, one NVA gas mask and two AK-47 magazines. Another company of the battalion commanded by CPT Daniel R. Mellon (Fairbanks, Alaska) spotted 21 VC moving north of the company's position. Artillery was called in killing three VC.

Members of a company of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry commanded by CPT Ian E. Prather (Lubbock, Tex) killed one VC and captured 2,000 pounds of rice which was evacuated to "Charger Hill". Another 6th Infantry company led by CPT Robert D. Leinen, Sr. (Auburn, N.Y.) found a complex of bunkers and trenches containing 718 rounds of carbine ammunition, 248 rounds of 30 caliber ammunition, 14 NVA uniforms, two VC flags, assorted web gear, medical supplies and documents.

In the only other actions of the day, a company of the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry, commanded by CPT Jose R. Feliciano (Baltimore, Md) killed two evading VC. A company of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry commanded by CPT James F. Humphries (Pacific Grove, Calif) called artillery on two VC, killing one.

In other Wheeler/Wallowa Operation action near Tam Ky elements of Americal's 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry reported killing seven VC.

A troop of the 1st Cavalry was responsible for four of the Viet Cong killed as cavalymen conducted a reconnaissance mission seven miles northwest of Tam Ky. "C" Troop, 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry flying in support of the troop recorded VC kills.

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MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Partly cloudy to fair Friday. Winds from the southeast at 5-15 knots per hour. High Friday 88. Low Friday night 73.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL-IO) - Heavy fighting was reported by Operation Wheeler/Wallowa forces north of Chu Lai yesterday. The Americal units killed 111 Viet Cong and captured four individual and one crew-served weapons. Enemy activity tapered off in other parts of the division as division units reported killing two VC and one NVA and capturing three individual weapons. In fighting throughout Americal's area of southern I Corps three soldiers were killed and six wounded and evacuated for treatment.

An Americal multi-battalion force participating in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa fought enemy forces throughout the day in an area 25 miles northwest of here.

The heaviest fighting occurred late in the afternoon when Americal forces received heavy recoilless rifle, automatic weapons and small arms fire. AT approximately 7 p.m., when the enemy broke contact, elements of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry, the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry and supporting gunships from "C" Troop 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry had killed 131 Viet Cong. As darkness set in Naval gunfire was called in on the VC position along the coast.

Americal's 196th Brigade killed two enemy and captured two weapons throughout their area of Operation Wheeler/Wallowa yesterday.

A 3d Battalion, 21st Infantry company led by CPT Dennis A. Leach (Fairmont, Minn.) killed one NVA and captured one AK-47 along with a small amount of documents. **Other "Charger" action saw a company of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry commanded by CPT Garland L. Reeves (Coolidge, Ariz.) kill one evading VC.** A company of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry led by CPT Larry R. Byers (Des Moines, Wash.) discovered a K-44 rifle in a cave.

Eight tactical air strikes were flown in the 196th area of operations yesterday.

Two "Primo Aviation Limited" helicopters on a morning visual reconnaissance mission killed an evading VC to account for Americal's 11th Brigade's only kill of the day. Pilots 1LT Jeffrey Howard (Augusta, Ga) and CW-3 Gil Honda (Honolulu, Ha.) were flying their observation aircrafts three miles southeast of Duc Pho when they observed the VC taking evasive action.

A group of Vietnamese children earned some pocket money yesterday by turning over a weapon and ammunition to soldiers of "E" Troop, 1st Cavalry 13 miles northwest of Duc Pho. The munition included an M-72 LAW, one M-79 round and an M-60 round.

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MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Partly cloudy Saturday with little change. Winds variable at 5-10 knots per hour. High Saturday 95. Low Saturday 73.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL - IO)-- Operation Wheeler/Wallowa's enemy body count surged over the 7,000 mark yesterday as Americal Forces killed 137 Viet Cong and captured 28 weapons in heavy fighting approximately 25 miles northwest of Chu Lai. Operation Wheeler/Wallowa which began as two separate offensives in the early fall were combined on Nov. 11, 1967. Americal forces are conducting the operation in the northern part of Quang Tin Province and the southern portion of Quang Nam Province. As of yesterday 3,335 NVA soldiers and 3,806 Viet Cong have been killed. There have been 1,089 individual weapons and 238 crew served weapons captured. Americal forces have suffered 521 soldiers killed in the six month old offensive.

Besides the 137 Viet Cong killed by Operation Wheeler/Wallowa forces yesterday another Americal element reported three VC kills. Nineteen infantrymen were wounded and evacuated as a result of yesterday's fighting.

The village of Ap Bon (1) approximately three miles northeast of LZ Baldy was the scene of heavy fighting yesterday in which 112 VC were killed and 26 weapons were captured. The opposing forces consisted of a heavily armed and well dug-in fortified enemy force and elements of the **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry** and supporting APCs from "F" Troop, 17th Cavalry.

The time was mid-afternoon and "Charlie" was ready to spring his surprise ambush. As elements of the **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry** entered the village on a cordon and search operation, the main force VC unit opened up with small arms fire and grenades. The action sharpened as the enemy poured in RPG and heavy machine gun fire. The Americal forces reacted quickly and effectively and fought the enemy until 7:30 p.m. when contact broke. The APCs from "F" Troop, 17th Cavalry using their superior fire power killed 50 of the enemy. A platoon of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry led by 2LT Richard A. Arrington had accounted for 45 of the kills and a reconnaissance element of the "Regulars" led by Thomas Bradbury had recorded 17 kills. The 14 crew-served weapons captured included nine RPGs, one RPD, one Chicom machine gun and three recoilless rifles.

The 12 individual weapons were six AK-47s, four rifles, one SKS and an M-1 carbine.

Elsewhere in the 196th area of Operation Wheeler/Wallowa, "Charger" elements killed 10 enemy soldiers and detained 11 suspects.

A company of the **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry** commanded by CPT Robert D. Leinen, Sr. (Auburn, N.Y.) killed one VC in a tunnel. The tunnel contained two M-26 hand grenades, one Chicom hand grenade, one 60mm mortar base plate and an NVA shirt. The company also detained six suspects. "F" Troop, 17th Cavalry operating in the same area killed two VC, captured one K-44 and detained four suspects.

In other action yesterday a reconnaissance platoon of the 3d Battalion, 21st Infantry found a small enemy communications cache hidden in a hut. One RPG rocket launcher and 500 rounds of linked 7.62 ammunition were also discovered in the hut.....

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Partly cloudy Saturday with little change. Winds variable at 5-10 Knots per hour. High Sunday 95. Low Saturday night 73.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL-IO) - Americal forces reported the tempo of action slackened yesterday as division units killed 18 Viet Cong and captured seven individual and three crew-served weapons. Eight Americal soldiers were wounded and evacuated in the day's fighting throughout southern I Corps.

Americal's Operation Wheeler/Wallowa units of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry continued yesterday to sweep an area approximately seven miles northwest of Thang Binh. Ten VC were reported killed throughout the day's operations.

Supporting gunships from "C" Troop, 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry accounted for seven of the kills. A troop of the 1st Cavalry killed two VC and a company of the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry killed one as they reported scattered sniper fire throughout the day.

Operation Wheeler/Wallowa forces of Americal's 196th Brigade discovered the bodies of three more VC that were killed in Thursday's heavy contact northeast of LZ Baldy and captured six individual and three crew-served weapons. The total for the battle now stands at 115 enemy killed by units of the **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry** and supporting APCs from "F" Troop, 17th Cavalry.

Units of the **"Regulars"** discovered the bodies in to locations. The weapons were found near the body of a dead VC in a tunnel. the weapons included three RPG-7s, one machine gun, one BAR, two AK-47s, one M-79 and an M-1 rifle.

Gunships from the 71st Aviation Company, "Firebirds", on a fire fly mission sank five loaded VC sampans late Thursday night. There were two tactical air strikes flown in support of the 196th yesterday resulting in 12 fortified structures destroyed.

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WEATHER REPORT

Partly cloudy to fair Monday. No significant change foreseen. Winds from the southeast at 10 knots gusting to 20 knots. High Monday 93. Low Monday night 73.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL-IO)—The Americal Division accounted for 17 Viet Cong killed in small scale contacts throughout southern I Corps yesterday. Operation Wheeler/Wallow forces killed 16 VC and Operation Muscatine infantrymen reported the other enemy kill. One Americal soldier was killed and five wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Small unit size contacts were reported by elements of Americal's 196th Brigade yesterday. "Charger" soldiers killed nine VC in scattered action.

A company of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry commanded by CPT Dan E. Prather (Lubbock, Tex) killed five VC in two separate engagements. Another "Regulars" Company led by CPT Robert D. Leinen Sr. (Auburn, N.Y.) operating near LZ Baldy killed one VC.

Other ground action saw a company of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry led by CPT Cecil H. Oxford (Corpus Christi, Tex) call for artillery from the 3rd Battalion, 82nd Artillery on a small group of VC, killing two. A unit of the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry was responsible for the remaining kill.

Two tactical air strikes were flown in support of the 196th ground units yesterday. The missions accounted for 17 fortified structures destroyed.

In the Operation Wheeler/Wallowa area northeast of Thang Binh elements of Americal's 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry reported a body count of seven VC.

Gunships from "C" Troop, 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry accounted for six of the kills and a troop of the 1st Cavalry discovered the body of a VC that had been killed by an air strike.

"Jungle Warriors" of Americal's 11th Brigade killed one VC in Operation Muscatine yesterday. Eleven suspects were detained throughout the 11th's area of operations.

A company of the 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry commanded by CPT John A. Gonzalez (Queens Village, N.Y.) recorded the kill eight miles northwest of Quang Ngai. Other activities in the Operation Muscatine area netted two suspects detained and the destruction of a 300 foot tunnel and two booby traps.

"Warrior" infantrymen in the Duc Pho area detained nine suspects for questioning.

Action was scattered in Americal's 198th Brigade area yesterday and no enemy kills were reported.

The 14th Aviation Battalion flew 1,438 sorties, carried 2,669 combat troops and hauled 282 tons of cargo in support of Americal units yesterday.

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGES FROM GENERAL WESTMORELAND

Hearty congratulations to 1/6 Inf and "F" Troop, 17th Cav for their defeat of enemy forces 7 kilometers south of Hoi An on 21 Mar. Total of 112 enemy casualties with 12 individual weapons and 14 crew-served weapons seized indicate well planned and executed blow to the enemy. Keep it up!

Contacts of the 1/1 Armored Cav and 1/20 Inf between Tam Ky and Hoi An on 20 March were outstanding. Destruction of 13 enemy sampans and 86 enemy casualties deserving of congratulations to all.

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**WESTMORELAND TO BE APPOINTED
TO CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE US ARMY**

SAIGON (UPI) - General Westmoreland says he's honored to be appointed Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army, but sorry to leave Vietnam. Westmoreland's statement was issued nine hours after President Johnson announced the new appointment at a Washington news conference. Westmoreland takes over July second when General Harold Johnson retires.

The Vietnam commander has come under criticism recently in Congress. However, the President gave no indication that the General is being reassigned because of any dissatisfaction with his performance. At the same time, the re-assignment came as no surprise to Pentagon insiders. Top officials had been expecting the move for more than a year.

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MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Partly cloudy Friday with little change expected. Winds variable at 10 knots per hour. High Friday 90. Low Friday night 73.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL-IO) – Americal's Operation Wheeler/Wallowa forces saw most of the action yesterday as they reported 17 enemy killed and three individual weapons captured. In Quang Ngai Province 11th Brigade infantrymen killed six enemy in Operation Muscatine and one VC in the Duc Pho area yesterday. Americal units reported two soldiers killed and one wounded and evacuated for further medical care.

Lieutenant General Robert E. Cushman Jr., Commanding General III MAF, sent his "heartiest congratulations" to the Americal command for their overall accomplishments in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa to date. He went on to state, "The operation has been one of the most significant in accounting for enemy dead in I Corps. Aggressive spirit, bold initiative and able leadership have been the hallmark of the Americal division since its formation in Vietnam." In his message he asked to please convey to all Wheeler/Wallowa units "a well done and keep up the good work."

A company of the 3d Battalion, 21st Infantry led by CPT Robert Corrigan Jr. (Arlington, Va.) found and evacuated four tons of rice. Another "Gimlets" company commanded by CPT Dennis A. Leach (Fairmont, Minn.) killed one VC and captured one K-44, two pistol belts and documents. A reconnaissance platoon from the battalion killed one NVA and captured one M-1 carbine, an M-26 grenade and documents.

A 2d Battalion, 1st Infantry company led by CPT John F. Connolly (Saugus, Mass.) killed one VC while on a searching operation. An observation post from the battalion accounted for one VC kill. In a late report a company of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry was credited with one VC kill and the capture of an AK-47 rifle.

In other "Charger" action a 1st Battalion 6th Infantry company commanded by CPT John D. Murtado (Sanger, Calif.) killed one Viet Cong and captured three M-26 hand grenades. Another "Regulars" company led by CPT Dan E. Prather (Lubbock, Tex.) killed one VC and detained one suspect.

In air action "C" Troop, 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry scout ships killed one VC who was evading their aircraft. Two tactical air strikes were flown in support of the 196th and resulted in four structures and one bunker destroyed.

In other Operation Wheeler/Wallowa action Americal's 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry accounted for nine VC kills in the action around Tam Ky yesterday.

A troop of the 1st Cavalry in their night defensive position was attacked by an estimated VC platoon. The cavalrymen reacted quickly to the attackers and killed five. Scout ships of "C" Troop, 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry killed four VC in scattered contacts north of Tam Ky yesterday.

"Jungle Warriors" of Americal's 11th Brigade recorded seven enemy killed and seven detained in action yesterday.

A company of the 3d Battalion, 1st Infantry commanded by CPT Ronald Tumelson (Red Bluff, Calif.) conducted a combat assault into an area six miles north of Duc Pho. the unit killed one VC and found two fortified tunnels. Three suspects were detained by the "Always First" Battalion yesterday.

In Operation Muscatine a Task Force Barker company swept through an area four miles northeast of Quang Ngai and killed one VC and apprehended three suspects. A company of the 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry engaged and killed five VC southeast of Binh Son late last night. One suspect was detained by the battalion yesterday.

Americal's 198th Brigade reported scattered activity yesterday as no enemy kills were reported.

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MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Continued clear to partly cloudy through Saturday. Winds Southeasterly at 10-15 knots per hour. Saturday's high 94. Low Saturday night 74.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL-IO) – Americal Division forces operating throughout southern I Corps reported killing 32 Viet Cong and one NVA in fighting yesterday. U.S. forces sustained four infantrymen killed and two soldiers wounded and evacuated for medical treatment in yesterday's fighting.

Elements of Americal's 196th Brigade killed 16 enemy and captured two weapons in contacts throughout the "Chargers" area of Operation Wheeler/Wallowa.

A 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry company led by CPT James F. Humphries (Pacific Grove, Calif), killed ten Viet Cong, detained one suspect and captured one AK-47 and one K-44 rifle. A reconnaissance platoon of the battalion killed two VC in action late yesterday afternoon.

A company of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry commanded by CPT James T. Price (Fayetteville, N.C.), detained one suspect and evacuated 3,200 pounds of rice.

Two kills were credited to "C" Troop, 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry who were flying in support of the brigade. The enemy was killed while attempting to evade the gunships.

An Americal Division Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol killed one NVA and apprehended one suspect.

A company of the 4th Bn., 31st Inf. on a search and destroy mission, killed one Viet Cong and captured 11 VC packs, two entrenching tools and one VC helmet.

Elements of Americal's 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry operating in the Operation Wheeler/Wallowa area reported killing 13 enemy yesterday.

"C" Troop, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry operating west of Tam Ky encountered an enemy force of unknown size. After a brief firefight, the APC's accounted for five enemy kills.

Gunships of "C" Troop, 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry reported killing eight enemy in scattered action throughout Quang Tin Province.

Two separate contacts resulted in three Viet Cong killed yesterday in the Americal's 11th Brigade area of operations.

A company from the 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry's "Always First", commanded by CPT Joe Rhinehart (Canton, N.C.), encountered seven Viet Cong. After the enemy had withdrawn following a brief firefight, the infantrymen discovered one enemy body. Later, the "Always First" company detained 10 suspects.

A 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry company found four artillery rounds and 150 rounds of small arms ammunition in the eastern portion of Operation Muscatine. Later, the Task Force Barker company engaged two Viet Cong, killing both.

Ground action was light yesterday as Americal's "Brave and Bold" 198th Brigade reported killing one Viet Cong north of Chu Lai. The enemy kill was credited to artillery fire. A sweep of the area also uncovered an AK-50 rifle.

Four hundred and forty-four Vietnamese were treated by MEDCAP's that were carried on in the 198th area yesterday.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

MG S.W. Koster, Commanding General

MAJ Gerald D. Hill Jr., IO

TELEPHONE: Chu Lai 3212 or 2414

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MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Saturday's forecast calls for fair skies, warmer temperatures with southeasterly winds. The high for tomorrow 82 and the low tomorrow night 75.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - Action tapered off yesterday as the Americal division met little enemy resistance during sweep operations in their southern I Corps area. Division forces killed eight VC and four NVA and captured three individual weapons. Americal units suffered one soldier killed and five wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Units of the Americal's 198th Infantry Brigade accounted for six enemy dead and captured three individual weapons during scattered contacts in Quang Tin Province yesterday.

In Operation Burlington Trail, infantrymen of the 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry killed one Viet Cong and captured some equipment in a contact yesterday. **A unit of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry found a MAS-36 rifle during a sweep mission in the same area.**

In Operation Wheeler/Wallowa an element of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry killed one VC and one NVA in a separate contact yesterday afternoon northwest of Tam Ky. Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry located the bodies of three NVA northwest of Tam Ky. The NVA were reported to have been killed during recent fighting in the area. An element of the 1st Battalion, 52d Infantry found two zip-guns in a hut five miles northwest of Thang Binh. Another unit of the 1st Battalion, 52d Infantry destroyed a booby-trapped 100 pound bomb that was armed with a pressure detonator.

Civic action soldiers of the "Brave and Bold" Brigade treated 820 Vietnamese civilians during seven medical visits yesterday.

Elements of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry killed six VC and detained one suspect during scattered action yesterday. An air cavalry troop of the 1st Cavalry killed four of the VC during separate contacts in an area nine miles southwest of Tam Ky in Operation Burlington Trail. The other two VC were killed by the same troop during separate contacts in the mortar area.

Americal's 11th Brigade reported no enemy contacts yesterday in their area of operation. The "Jungle Warriors" detained eight suspects for questioning and destroyed several tunnel complexes south of Duc Pho.

JOIN THE AMERICAL DIVISION VETERANS ASSOCIATION. CHECK WITH YOUR FIRST SERGEANT OR THE INFORMATION OFFICE.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

MG S.W. Koster, Commanding General

MAJ Gerald D. Hill jr., IO

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MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Thursday will be partly cloudy with rain showers in the mountains during the afternoon. The winds will be from the southeast from 5 - 10 knots. The high for tomorrow 95 and the low tomorrow night 78.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - Action was scattered in the Americal Division's area of southern I Corps yesterday. During sporadic fighting, division forces killed 12 VC and two NVA and captured two individual weapons.

Elements of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry killed four VC and detained nine suspects yesterday during action in Operation Burlington Trail. "F" Troop, 8th Cavalry and 1st Cavalry elements combined to kill the four VC in three contacts six miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Three air strikes were flown in support of the 1st Cavalry yesterday but no assessment of damage was reported.

Units of Americal's 198th Infantry Brigade killed six enemy soldiers in the Operation Wheeler/Wallowa area west of Tam Ky yesterday.

Elements of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry found two more NVA bodies yesterday that were left behind during action Sunday when the enemy was repulsed from Fire Support Base Center. The total kills for that action now stands at 20.

After receiving sniper fire, a company of the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry killed two Viet Cong during action in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa. Elsewhere in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa, a unit of the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry killed two VC when they received sniper fire from a hootch six miles northwest of Thang Binh.

Vietnamese civilians again respond to the Volunteer Informant Program by turning in 10 dud bombs to brigade elements.

Civic action soldiers of the "Brave and Bold" Brigade treated 412 Vietnamese in five medical visits yesterday.

Americal's 11th Brigade soldiers killed four VC, detained 13 suspects and captured two weapons in light action around the Duc Pho area yesterday.

A rifle company of the 3d Battalion, 1st Infantry commanded by CPT Joe Rhinehart (Canton, N.C.) killed two VC during a combat sweep four miles north of Duc Pho. In the same area, two suspects, who were pointed out by a village chief, were apprehended. A reconnaissance platoon of the same battalion led by 1LT James O'Herron (Winona, Minn.) killed one enemy soldier from an ambush site seven miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Elements of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry killed one VC and found two AK-47s and an assortment of equipment, including NVA uniforms, during action six miles south of Duc Pho. The "Gimlets" company led by CPT David O. Treadwell (Macon, Ga.) later uncovered two tunnels, a bunker and a sack of documents.

Americal units suffered nine soldiers killed and 19 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

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MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Friday's forecast calls for fair skies, with southeasterly winds from 5 to 15 knots. High Friday 95 and low Friday night 75.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - Action picked up yesterday as Americal forces reported 29 enemy soldiers killed and four individual and one crew-served weapons captured.

Units of the 198th Infantry Brigade killed 26 enemy yesterday in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa as contacts remained steady over a large portion of the area of operations.

A company of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry led by CPT Garland Reeves (Coolidge, Ariz.) accounted for 16 of the enemy kills. His company encountered an NA force and drove them from their prepared positions on a hill west of Tam Ky. One 12.7 anti-aircraft gun and two AK-47s were captured in the action. Another element of the battalion killed two NVA and captured one AK-47 rifle.

In other Operation Wheeler/ Wallowa action a company from the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry killed two VC. During a combat assault Tuesday night a company of the 1st Battalion, 52d Infantry closed with a VC unit. In the action that followed the "Ready Rifles" accounted for six enemy dead. They found four bodies on 8 May and located two more yesterday. Later yesterday they found one AK 47 and killed one VC.

A company of the 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry in Operation Burlington Trail killed one VC yesterday.

Civic action soldiers of the 198th Brigade treated 266 Vietnamese in six MEDCAPs yesterday.

Light enemy action was reported in Americal's 11th Infantry Brigade area yesterday. "Aero Scouts" of the 123d Aviation battalion killed two VC and apprehended six suspects while supporting Operation Muscatine forces 13 miles northwest of Quang Ngai. WO Gary Clark (Fairfax, Va.) and WO Marvin Stamos (Detroit, Mich.) piloted the helicopters that detained the suspects.

In other ground action a company of the 4th Battalion, 3d Infantry detained nine suspects during a sweep in the eastern portion of the Operation Muscatine area. Infantrymen from the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry evacuated five suspects and destroyed two fortified structures south of Duc Pho.

"F" Troop, 8th Cavalry aircraft accounted for the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry's only kill of the day. The cavalrymen also detained two suspects in the same action about five miles northwest of Thang Binh.

Americal units reported four soldiers killed and 23 wounded and evacuated for further medical treatment.

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ARMED FORCES DAY MESSAGE

LTG Bruce Palmer, Jr.

CG USARV

The people of the United States will observe Armed Forces Day on 18 May 1968. This year, as in the past, America will honor this day as a tribute to her uniformed servicemen and women stationed around the world.

Although we in Vietnam will not participate in traditional ceremonies marking the occasion, it is reassuring to know that our deeds will not go unnoticed by our countrymen at home. All true Americans understand and appreciate the efforts we are making in behalf of the people of South Vietnam and our own national security. Our duties here carry forward the American heritage of freedom fought for and given to us by our predecessors in the uniform of the United States.

I wish to add my salute to all members of the United States Army in Vietnam for your devotion to duty and steadfast courage in these critical times.

Volume 2 No. 23 Americal Daily New Sheet Sunday May 12, 1968
(Volume 2 No. 22 was a typo printed on this issue)

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Mostly fair to partly cloudy skies, with surface winds from the southeast at 5 to 15 knots. The high temperature for Monday 93. Low Monday night 76.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - The Americal Division saw increased action yesterday as division forces netted 13 VC and 10 NVA captured four individual weapons in their area of southern I Corps.

A sharp increase in action was reported in Americal's 11th Brigade area yesterday as "Jungle Warriors" killed 10 enemy soldiers, detained 45 suspects for questioning, and recovered two individual weapons.

The majority of enemy contacts occurred five miles northwest of Duc Pho where infantrymen of the 3d Battalion, 1st Infantry commanded by CPT Joe Rhinehart (Canton, N.C.) killed seven VC, apprehended 12 suspects and found an M-1 rifle and other equipment in scattered contacts. "Aero Scouts" of the 123d combat Aviation Battalion killed one VC while supporting "Always First" soldiers seven miles northwest of Duc Pho.

A unit of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry led by CPT Fred H. Mowrey (San Gabriel, Calif.) killed two enemy after receiving fire yesterday afternoon six miles southeast of Duc Pho. The "Gimlet" company detained 20 suspects throughout the day's action.

In Operation Muscatine, personnel from APCs of the 1st Cavalry detained seven suspects and found an SKS rifle eight miles north of Quang Ngai.

Units of Americal's 198th Brigade killed six NVA in scattered action throughout their section of Operation Wheeler/Wallowa yesterday. One VC was killed in Operation Burlington Trail.

A company of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry found the bodies of five NVA soldiers who had been recently killed by artillery fire. They found the bodies while making a combat sweep through an area northwest of Tam Ky.

A unit of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry killed one NVA soldier and captured his AK-47 rifle in action seven miles north of Tien Phuoc in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa.

A unit of the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry operating in the Burlington Trail area killed one VC.

Civilians responding to the Volunteer Informant Program turned in nine artillery rounds to infantrymen of the "Brave and Bold" Brigade yesterday.

Elements of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry killed two VC and one NVA during scattered fighting in Operation Burlington Trail. "F" Troop, 8th Cavalry and other 1st Cavalry elements accounted for the kills while on a screening mission seven miles northwest of Tam Ky. The 1st Cavalry troopers also detained three suspects. Other Americal forces killed three NVA in operations yesterday.

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AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

MG S.W. Koster, Commanding General

MAJ Gerald D. Hill Jr., IO

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MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Tuesday's forecast calls for continued fair skies with isolated rain showers in the mountains in the afternoon. The winds will be southeasterly from 10 - 15 knots. High for tomorrow 97 and the low Tuesday night 75.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - The Americal Division continued with increased action yesterday as elements of the division killed 20 VC and 21 NVA and captured four individual and three crew-served weapons.

Action picked up for elements of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry as their troopers accounted for 18 enemy killed and four weapons captured in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa action yesterday.

In screening operations eight miles northwest of Tam Ky, troopers of "F" Troop, 8th Cavalry and other 1st Cavalry elements combined to kill 15 NVA and three VC and capture a 75mm recoilless rifle, one RPG-2, on RPG-7 and one SKS rifle.

Americal's 11th Brigade killed 11 enemy soldiers, detained 14 suspects and captured one individual weapon during action yesterday.

Helicopter gunships from the 123d Combat Aviation Battalion and the "Old Guard" command and control ship accounted for seven enemy kills after a rifle company of the 4th Battalion, 3d Infantry was combat assaulted into an area five miles west of Quang Ngai. The unit led by CPT Vernon A. Campbell (Patten, Maine) killed two more VC and captured a .38 caliber pistol, other field equipment, and documents. The unit also found an accessory kit containing three hand grenades, two mines, four 60mm rounds and other equipment.

An element of the 3d Battalion, 1st Infantry killed one VC two miles north of Duc Pho. Also in the Duc Pho area, "Gimlets" of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry killed one VC and apprehended seven suspects and destroyed several enemy bunkers and tunnels.

"Jungle Warriors" civil action personnel treated 922 Vietnamese during 19 MEDCAPs last week.

Americal's 198th Infantry Brigade killed 12 enemy soldiers and captured two weapons in steady action yesterday. Eleven of the kills and one of the weapons captured were reported by units in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa. Task Force Roach soldiers accounted for the other VC killed and the other weapon captured.

In Operation Wheeler/Wallowa a company of the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry killed three NVA while assaulting a hill west of Tam Ky. **During a combat sweep west of Tam Ky, elements of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry found two enemy who had been killed by artillery fire.** "Ready Rifle" soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 52d killed one VC late Saturday and three NVA yesterday during contacts in an area northwest of Tam Ky. The unit also captured one weapon. A unit of the 4th Battalion, 3d Infantry also killed two VC in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa 15 miles northwest of Tien Phuoc.

Task Force Roach soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 52d Infantry killed one Viet Cong and captured one weapon during an incident yesterday fifteen miles northwest of Chu Lai.

Civic action soldiers of Task Force Roach treated 169 Vietnamese during medical visits yesterday.

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MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Wednesday will be partly cloudy with southeasterly winds from 8 - 15 knots. The high for Wednesday will be 95 and the low tomorrow night 75.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - Americal units experienced scattered action yesterday during operations in their southern I Corps area. Division units killed seven VC and five NVA and captured one individual weapon throughout the day's fighting.

Elements of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry killed three VC and one NVA yesterday in Operation Burlington Trail. Troopers from "F" Troop, 8th Cavalry and other 1st Cavalry elements killed the four enemy during a screening operation seven miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Americal's 11th Infantry Brigade reported three enemy soldiers killed, five suspects detained and one weapon captured in widely scattered contacts throughout Quang Ngai Province yesterday.

A company of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry commanded by CPT Fred H. Mowrey Jr. (San Gabriel, Calif.) received sniper fire during a reconnaissance mission four miles south of Duc Pho. The unit returned the fire killing the sniper and recovering his .45 caliber pistol. Other "Gimlet" elements detained four suspects, destroyed three tunnels and found 1,600 rounds of small arms ammunition.

A reconnaissance platoon of the 3d Battalion, 1st Infantry led by 1LT James O'Herron (Winona, Minn.) killed one VC during a sweep two miles northeast of Mo Duc.

An "Aero Scout" helicopter from the 123d Combat Aviation Battalion killed another VC eight miles north of Quang Ngai in Operation Muscatine.

Units of Americal's 198th Infantry Brigade killed one VC and four NVA in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa action yesterday.

A unit of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry killed one VC in an engagement seven miles southeast of Que Son. Elsewhere in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa, artillery firing in support of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry killed three NVA in an area eight miles south of Que Son.

In response to the Volunteer Informant Program, Vietnamese civilians turned in 31 artillery and mortar rounds to soldiers of the 26th Engineers.

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AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

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MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Thursday's forecast calls for partly cloudy skies with rain showers in the mountains in the afternoon and evening. The winds will be southeasterly from 8-15 knots. The high for Thursday 95 and the low 75.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - Action continued to be sporadic yesterday as Americal units met moderate enemy resistance in their southern I Corps area. Division forces killed five VC and 35 NVA and captured 15 individual and eight crew-served weapons.

Elements of the 196th Brigade killed 35 NVA and captured 13 weapons during heavy fighting yesterday.

During two hours of fighting, elements of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry and the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry killed 35 NVA while assaulting a hill held by the enemy on Nui Hoac ridge. The Brigade took the hill and captured 13 weapons which included seven AK-47s, two semi-automatic rifles, one M-79, one RPD light machine gun, one RPG and one 60mm mortar tube.

Troopers of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry killed five VC during scattered contacts yesterday. Elements of "F" troop, 8th Cavalry accounted for three of the VC and other troopers of the 1st Cavalry killed two more. Two enemy were killed in Operation Burlington Trail and three were killed in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa.

Americal's 198th Infantry Brigade reported light enemy contact around the Chu Lai area yesterday. The brigade's infantrymen were led to a small arsenal by a Hoi Chanh.

The Hoi Chanh led soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry to a small hut 15 miles west of Chu Lai that turned out to be a weapons repair shop. In the hut, numerous weapons were found including three BARs, two .30 caliber machine guns, two AK-47s, one RPG-2, one 57mm recoilless rifle and one 83mm [sic] mortar tube. The cache also included numerous weapons parts. A brigade spokesman said the Hoi Chanh led infantrymen to the "exact location where the arms were found."

Americal's 11th Brigade infantrymen reported no significant contacts in their area of Quang Ngai Province yesterday. The "Jungle Warriors" apprehended 33 suspects for questioning and found an assortment of field equipment.

Americal forces suffered two soldiers killed and 30 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

JOIN THE AMERICAL DIVISION VETERANS ASSOCIATION. CHECK WITH YOUR FIRST SERGEANT OR THE INFORMATION OFFICE.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

MG S.W. Koster, Commanding General

MAJ Gerald D. Hill Jr., IO

Telephone: Chu Lai 3212 or 2414

This News Sheet is published daily under the supervision of the IO, Americal Division APO 96374 as an authorized Army publication. This News Sheet is solely for personnel in the Americal Division and may not be duplicated or released to the news media.

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Friday will be fair to partly cloudy with rain showers in the mountains during the afternoon. The winds will be southeasterly from 8 - 18 knots. The high for tomorrow 97 and the low Friday night 75.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - Action remained scattered in the Americal Division's area of southern I Corps yesterday. Americal forces killed 13 VC and 17 NVA and captured nine individual and one crew-served weapons.

Americal's 11th Brigade infantrymen reported 12 enemy killed, 12 suspects apprehended and two weapons captured during action centered in the Duc Pho area yesterday.

An early morning combat assault by a unit of the 3d Battalion, 1st Infantry commanded by 1LT Kenneth Haller (Watchung, N.J.) netted six VC killed and seven suspects detained during several skirmishes five miles north of Duc Pho. The battalion's command and control helicopter killed one VC and picked up two suspects while covering the heliborne operation yesterday.

Three VC were killed south of Duc Pho yesterday by a Division Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol and infantrymen of the 4th Battalion 21st Infantry. Other "Old Guard soldiers found and destroyed three tunnels, 21 pounds of TNT and evacuated 1,300 pounds of rice.

An ambush patrol set by the brigade's security platoon led by SSG Juan Rios-Rivera (Piedra, Puerto Rico) killed a VC yesterday morning one mile northeast of Duc Pho.

A company of the 4th Battalion, 3d Infantry operating seven miles west of Quang Ngai in Operation Muscatine, engaged and killed an enemy soldier and recovered two carbines, three hand grenades and other equipment.

Elements of the 196th Infantry Brigade killed 10 NVA and captured six weapons during action in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa yesterday.

The 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry accounted for 10 NVA killed when they called in an air strike in an area seven miles northwest of Tien Phuoc. Infantrymen of the **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry** found six weapons including one AK-47, one M-79 and four rifles four miles north of Tien Phuoc.

Elements of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry killed one VC and seven NVA and captured two weapons yesterday during contacts in Operation Burlington Trail. "F" Troop, 8th Cavalry and other 1st Cavalry elements killed the eight enemy and captured one RPG-2 and one AK-47 during a screening mission 10 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Americal's 198th Infantry Brigade reported no significant contacts in their area of Quang Tin Province yesterday.

Americal forces suffered three soldiers killed and 12 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

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AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

MG S.W. Koster, Commanding General

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SAIGON - U.S. military spokesmen yesterday announced the release of two Viet Cong prisoners in exchange for two American soldiers freed by the communists in January.

The prisoners were captured in March of 1967 and freed yesterday from a prison camp in Quang Ngai City in the northern quarter of South Vietnam.

Officials said they hoped the return of the two prisoners would encourage the Communists to release more Americans interned in prison camps in both North and South Vietnam.

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Partly cloudy Monday with possible thunderstorms in the afternoon. Winds from the southeast at 8 knots. High on Monday will be 100. Low Monday night 77.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - The tempo of enemy activity picked up yesterday in the Americal division's area of southern I Corps. Americal forces killed 19 VC and 72 NVA and captured eight individual and one crew-served weapons.

Elements of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry, "Gimlets" led by CPT Dennis A. Leach (Fairmont, Minn) engaged and killed a VC who was running from behind a hut three miles east of Que Son. A search of the hut revealed a 105mm round which was destroyed.

Infantrymen of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry killed 55 NVA in heavy fighting when the unit assaulted an enemy position eight miles south of Que Son. Nine more NVA were killed and two AK-47's were captured by soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry during two contacts in an area eight miles southwest of Que Son.

In other Operation Wheeler/Wallowa action, infantrymen of the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry spotted and subsequently called in artillery on a group of NVA two miles west of Que Son resulting in four NVA killed. Artillery called in by a Division Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol accounted for three NVA killed seven miles southwest of Que Son.

Late yesterday, a unit of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry found the body of an NVA eight miles south of Que Son during a sweep operation. Earlier in the same area they found an RPD machinegun.

"Aero Scout" slicks and gunships of the 123rd Aviation Battalion commanded by Chief Warrant Officer Scott Baker *[Historian note: In his unit he was known as "Foots" Baker.]* (Sacramento, Calif), working as a gun team under a barrage of enemy fire, covered for a medevac helicopter which successfully evacuated wounded ground troops of the 196th Infantry Brigade in action west of Tam Ky.

Elements of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry killed 15 VC and detained four suspects during contacts in Operation Burlington Trail yesterday. Troopers of "F" Troop, 8th Cavalry and other 1st Cavalry elements combined to kill the enemy soldiers in 10 contacts 13 miles northwest of Tam Ky. In the action, one M-79, one AK-47 and an SKS were captured.

Two contacts in the northern and southern portions of the 11th Brigade's tactical area resulted in three VC killed, five suspects detained and one individual weapon captured.

A reconnaissance Platoon from the 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry killed two VC and captured an AK-47 rifle and equipment when the unit led by 1LT James O'Herron (Winona, Minn) engaged three enemy soldiers six miles southwest of Duc ho.

A rifle company of the 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry killed one VC yesterday morning after receiving fire 13 miles northwest of Quang Ngai. Two suspects were detained and four anti-personnel mines were destroyed by Operation Muscatine soldiers.

Elements of Americal's 198th Infantry Brigade encountered light activity during combat operations yesterday.

Infantrymen of the 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry captured 19 mortar rounds, 4,000 rounds of SKS ammunition and numerous explosive devices during a sweep in Operation Burlington Trail 15 miles northwest of Chu Lai.

Division units suffered five soldiers killed and 29 suffered five soldiers killed and 29 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

JOIN THE AMERICAL DIVISION VETERANS ASSOCIATION. CHECK WITH YOUR FIRST SERGEANT OR THE INFORMATION OFFICE.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET
MG S.W. Koster, Commanding General
MAJ Gerald D. Hill Jr., IO
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MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Fair to partly cloudy Tuesday with possible thunder storms in the mountains. Winds southeasterly at 8-15 knots. High Tuesday 102. Low Tuesday night 77.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - Action decreased yesterday as scattered skirmishes in the Americal Division's area of southern I Corps resulted in 15 VC and 31 NVA killed and 62 individual and 16 crew-served weapons captured.

Activity in the 196th Infantry Brigade's area of operations slackened yesterday as brigade forces killed 42 enemy soldiers and captured 11 weapons in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa.

A unit of the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry killed four NVA and captured three weapons yesterday in action four miles north of Que Son. the weapons captured included two AK-47s and one K-44 rifle.

A unit of the 1st Battalion, 6th found one NVA yesterday who had been killed by an air strike and an AK-47 in an area eight miles south of Que Son. In the same area infantrymen of the battalion found 17 dead NVA who were recently killed by artillery and air strikes. A Reconnaissance Patrol called in artillery fire on a group of VC 10 miles west of Que Son resulting in three VC killed.

A unit of the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry received automatic weapons fire and subsequently killed nine NVA during a fire fight in an area seven miles southwest of Que Son. In the contact two Ak-37s and a 12.7 anti-aircraft machinegun were captured.

A company of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry, "Gimlets", led by CPT Robert E. Corregan Jr. (Arlington, Va) observed and engaged two NVA in fox holes eight miles southwest of Que Son. The infantrymen killed the two NVA and captured a BAR and an SKS. in the same area, the unit engaged and killed another NVA. Another "Gimlet" company led by CPT Dennis A. Leach (Fairmont, Minn) engaged and killed two VC in separate contacts five miles west of Que Son.

Infantrymen of the 198th Infantry Brigade uncovered a large weapons cache in Operation Burlington Trail yesterday. Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry were led to a large weapons cache by a detainee in an area 16 miles northwest of Cu Lai. The infantrymen found 65 weapons and more than 15,000 round of small arms ammunition. in the cache there were 50 individual and 15 crew-served weapons.

Civic action soldiers of the "Brave and Bold" Brigade treated 89 Vietnamese during two MEDCAPs yesterday.

Americal's 11th Infantry Brigade reported light enemy contact in their portion of the Quang Ngai Province yesterday. The "Jungle Warriors" killed four enemy soldiers, detained three suspects and captured two individual weapons.

Elements of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry killed two of the enemy and recovered a bolt action rifle yesterday in an area three miles south of Duc Pho,. The "Gimlets" also apprehended one suspect and captured some equipment.

A rifle company of the 3d Battalion, 1st Infantry commanded by CPT William Riggs (Houston, Texas) killed a VC in mountainous terrain six miles southwest of Duc Pho. The unit also recovered the soldier's AK-47 rifle and equipment.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123rd Aviation Battalion killed one VC yesterday in action six miles west of Quang Ngai in Operation Muscatine.

Civic action soldiers of the 11th Brigade treated 1342 Vietnamese during MEDCAPs last week.

Elements of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry killed two VC during scattered action in their area of operation yesterday. "F" Troop, 8th Cavalry reported both kills in an engagement four miles northeast of Thang Binh in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa. Other 1st Cavalry elements detained one suspect in yesterday's action.

Division units suffered two soldiers killed and 11 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

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AMERICAL NEWS SHEET; MG S.W. Koster, Commanding General;
MAJ Gerald D. Hill Jr., IO;

Volume 2 No. 32 Americal Daily New Sheet TUESDAY May 21, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Partly cloudy Wednesday with thunderstorms in the mountains. Winds variable at 5-10 knots. High Wednesday 102. Low Wednesday night 77.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - Units of the Americal Division saw little enemy action in their portion of southern I Corps yesterday. Americal forces killed 14 VC and four NVA and captured five individual weapons.

Americal's 11th Brigade infantrymen supported by artillery and helicopter gunships accounted for six enemy killed, eight suspects detained and four individual weapons captured during action in the Duc Pho area yesterday. Brigade soldiers in Operation Muscatine netted two VC killed and one suspect detained for questioning.

Light action continued in the 196th Infantry Brigade's area of Operation Wheeler/Wallowa yesterday as a unit of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry found four NVA who had been recently killed by an air strike 25 miles northwest of Chu Lai. One M-72 LAW was picked up and destroyed by a unit of the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry.

Elements of "F" Troop, 8th Cavalry and other 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry troopers reported four enemy killed in three incidents in the Operation Burlington Trail area yesterday.

Americal's 198th Infantry Brigade also encountered light action as the brigade reported two VC killed in their portion of Quang Ngai Province.

An 11th Brigade rifle company of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry commanded by CPT Fred Mowrey Jr. (San Gabriel, Calif), in two contacts, killed three enemy soldiers, detained one suspect, and captured two carbines and a semi-automatic weapon in fighting six miles southeast of Duc Pho. Another "Gimlets" element uncovered six B-40 rockets, two bangalore torpedoes, two hand grenades, documents and numerous fortified positions during a sweep six miles southwest of Duc Pho. A company of the 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry led by CPT Joe Rhinehart (Canton, N.C.), killed one VC and captured his SKS rifle during action in the same area.

Artillerymen of the 6th Battalion, 11th Artillery in response to a reconnaissance team's request, shelled an enemy position and killed two VC yesterday four miles west of Duc Pho.

In Operation Muscatine, personnel from APCS of the 1st Cavalry led by 1LT John Wadsworth (Mechanicsville, Va) killed one VC, detained a suspect and captured six hand grenades nine miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

In other 11th Brigade action, a gunship of the 123rd Aviation Battalion piloted by WO-1 Joseph Cualtin (Hazeltown, Pa) killed one VC and captured three hand grenades yesterday eight miles northwest of Quang Ngai. Other elements of the battalion evacuated 28 personnel from an area on the coast east of Quang Ngai.

A 198th Brigade company of the 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry engaged and killed two VC IN the Operation Burlington Trail area about 15 miles northwest of Chu Lai.

A closer inspection of yesterday's weapons cache uncovered by 198th Brigade infantrymen revealed that all the weapons were in good working condition. The total count came out to be 15 crew-served and 50 individual weapons.

Civic action soldiers of the "Brave and Bold" Brigade treated 240 Vietnamese during medical visits yesterday.

Division forces suffered eight soldiers killed and 35 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

MG S.W. Koster, Commanding General

MAJ Gerald D. Hill Jr., IO

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MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Little change expected Thursday with partly cloudy skies. Thunderstorms in the mountains late in the afternoon. Winds variable at 5-10 knots. High Thursday 102. Low Thursday night 78.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - Action remained sporadic yesterday as Americal Division forces reported eight VC and nine NVA killed and nine NVA killed and 21 individual weapons captured during action in their southern I Corps area.

Americal's 196th Infantry Brigade accounted for nine NVA killed and two weapons captured when a brigade element called in artillery and air support yesterday in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa. Brigade soldiers also detained one suspect for questioning.

During scattered action yesterday, "F" Troop, 8th Cavalry and 1st Squadron Cavalry troopers killed six VC in Operation Burlington Trail and Operation Wheeler/Wallowa.

Units of Americal's 198th Infantry Brigade also reported light enemy contact as two VC were killed and another weapons cache was uncovered in the brigade's portion of Quang Ngai Province.

Light activity in the 11th Infantry Brigades' area around Duc Pho resulted in eight suspects apprehended and four weapons captured yesterday.

The 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, operating 13 miles west of Tam Ky in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa, spotted and engaged a group of NVA yesterday. After artillery and gunships were called in to support the ground troops, nine dead NVA, an AK-47, a pistol and a radio were found. Elements of the same battalion also detained one suspect.

An air strike called in by a 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry element resulted in three VC killed 13 miles northwest of Tam Ky in Operation Burlington Trail. Nine miles southwest of Tam Ky, 1st Cavalry troopers engaged and killed one VC during a screening mission.

In Operation Wheeler/Wallowa, "F" Troop, 8th Cavalry killed two VC five miles northeast of Thang Binh.

A 198th Infantry Brigade unit from the 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry led by CPT John Sprague Jr. (Chamblee, Ga) killed one VC about 16 miles northwest of Chu Lai in Operation Burlington Trail.

The same company received the help of a grateful Vietnamese who led them to an enemy uniform and grenade factory yesterday. The Vietnamese civilian, showing his tanks to the Americans for evacuating his entire family from a VC controlled village, took the men to the factory which contained 200 uniforms, tools for making hand grenades and 15 individual weapons. The weapons included three Chicom carbines, one sub-machinegun, four Springfield rifles, five MAS-36s, two MAS-39s and 17 weapon barrels. In addition, 3,000 rounds of ammunition and 15 rockets were also found. Yesterday's cache was the third uncovered by the brigade this week due to the help of Vietnamese civilians.

A reconnaissance unit of the 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry found the body of a VC early yesterday when they swept an area seven miles west of Chu Lai. Earlier the unit returned fire on a group in the same area.

Civic action soldiers of the "Brave and Bold" Brigade treated 472 Vietnamese in medical visits yesterday.

Infantrymen of the 11th Brigade's 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry led by 1LT John P. Nolan (Hopkinsville, Ky) found three cross-bows, 12 arrows, 100 pounds of small arms ammunition and equipment during operations southwest of Duc Pho.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123rd Aviation Battalion engaged one VC yesterday who fled leaving his K-44 rifle behind in an area eight miles northeast of Quang Ngai in Operation Muscatine.

Division forces suffered five soldiers killed and 30 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

MG S.W. Koster, Commanding General

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MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Partly cloudy again Sunday with intermittent rain and thundershowers. Winds variable at 5 - 10 knots. High Sunday 103. Low Sunday night 78.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - Americal Division soldiers experienced scattered action yesterday as Division forces killed 17 VC and 12 NVA and captured eight individual and one crew-served weapons in their area of southern I Corps.

In the heaviest action yesterday, elements of the 196th Infantry Brigade killed 20 enemy soldiers and captured seven weapons in the southwestern portion of Operation Wheeler/Wallowa about 15 miles west of Tam Ky.

Enemy contacts in the 11th Infantry Brigade's tactical area were concentrated eight miles northeast of Quang Ngai yesterday as 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry and "Aero Scout" helicopters combined forces to kill four VC and apprehend 10 suspects. Two VC were killed and seven suspects detained in action south of Duc Pho.

Action tapered off for elements of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry yesterday as troopers of "F" Troop, 8th Cavalry killed three VC in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa 15 miles north of Tam Ky.

Americal's 198th Infantry Brigade saw scattered action throughout their portion of Quang Tin Province yesterday as brigade soldiers captured two weapons in Operation Burlington Trail.

A 196th Infantry Brigade company of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry received small arms, grenade and mortar fire from an unknown size enemy force yesterday five miles north of Tien Phuoc. Air Force fighters and Division gunships called in to support the action drew fire as they bombarded their targets. In the action, six secondary explosions were observed. A search of the area after the fight revealed seven NVA kills which were accredited to the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry soldiers.

An ambush patrol of the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry engaged and killed one VC and captured one AK-47 in action 10 miles north of Que Son. Earlier, another unit of the battalion killed three VC in the same area. In other Operation Wheeler/Wallowa action, a company of the **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry** engaged and killed a VC two miles northwest of Tien Phuoc. Later the company came into contact with an unknown size enemy unit and killed five NVA and captured one pistol, two AK-47s, one RPD light machine-gun and destroyed a K-44 rifle.

Infantrymen of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry killed one VC and captured a K-44 in action 10 miles north of Tien Phuoc. Division artillery called in by a Marine Reconnaissance Team killed two VC 18 miles northwest of Tien Phuoc.

"Aero Scout" gunships of the 123rd Aviation Battalion killed two enemy soldiers and took nine suspects during action yesterday morning and killed another VC later as they returned to LZ Dottie. Infantrymen of the 11th Infantry Brigade's 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry led by CPT Kenneth N. Hendrix (Lyman, S.C.) found an enemy body after engaging a sniper seven miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

Soldiers of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry commanded by CPT Barry Gasdek (Latrobe, Pa) killed a VC and captured a radio and documents while patrolling an area three miles south of Duc Pho. Also in the Duc Pho area, personnel from APCs of the 1st Armored Cavalry returned fire on a suspected RPG firing position north of Sa Huynh and killed one VC.

A unit of the 198th Infantry Brigade's 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry was led to an SKS rifle and a grease-gun yesterday by a detainee in Operation Burlington Trail.

Other action included the repulsion of an enemy ambush of a Military Police River Patrol boat by gunships that drove the enemy from the shoreline.

Division forces suffered four soldiers killed and 18 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

MG S.W. Koster, Commanding General

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Volume 2 No. 37 Americal Daily New Sheet SUNDAY May 26, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Fair Monday morning becoming partly cloudy in the afternoon. A few rain and thundershowers in the mountains in the evening. Winds southeast at 10-15 knots. High Monday 102. Low 78.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - Americal Division soldiers met heavy enemy activity north of Chu Lai yesterday while action elsewhere in the Division's southern I Corps area remained sporadic. Division forces killed 15 VC and 110 NVA and captured 11 individual weapons.

Units of the 196th Infantry Brigade killed 110 NVA and 12 VC and captured seven weapons during heavy action in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa yesterday northwest of Tam Ky.

Troopers of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry reported four VC killed during scattered action in Operation Burlington Trail and Operation Wheeler/Wallow yesterday. Elements of "F" Troop, 8th Cavalry killed the four VC during three incidents in an area northwest of Tam Ky. Troopers of the 1st Cavalry detained three suspects in the days' action.

Americal's 11th Infantry Brigade units reported light enemy contact in the Duc Pho area yesterday as Brigade units apprehended eight suspects.

Units of the 198th Infantry Brigade captured two individual weapons during light activity around Chu Lai and in Operation Burlington Trail yesterday.

Elements of the 196th Infantry Brigade's 1st Battalion, 52d Infantry engaged an unknown size enemy force yesterday eight miles southwest of Hoi An. After receiving small arms and automatic weapons fire, artillery and air strikes were called in. A sweep of the area after the five and a half hour fight revealed 86 enemy kills accredited to soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 52d Infantry.

Infantrymen of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry, killed 15 NVA during a 10 hour fight 15 miles northwest of Tam Ky. Air strikes and artillery were called in against the enemy who were dug into well fortified bunkers and trenches.

In the same area, units of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry killed nine NVA in several skirmishes and captured seven individual weapons, a large assortment of equipment and medical supplies. The weapons captured included four AK-47s, one SKS rifle, on K-50 and a semi-automatic rifle.

Infantrymen of the 3d Battalion, 21st Infantry killed 21 VC after the unit returned fire on the enemy who was using automatic weapons and hand grenades in action 20 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Eight air strikes were flown yesterday in support of the 196th Infantry Brigade resulting in 19 fortified structures and four bunkers destroyed and the opening of 30 meters of trench.

Vietnamese civilians turned over an M-1 rifle, two M-79 rounds, two mortar rounds, and two artillery rounds yesterday to 11th Infantry Brigade soldiers in response to the Volunteer Informant Program conducted near LZ Dottie and LZ Thunder.

Civil action personnel of the 11th Infantry Brigade treated 1228 Vietnamese during medical visits last week.

Soldiers of the 198th Infantry Brigade 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry located two hidden K-44 rifles yesterday while on a search wets of Chu Lai.

Division units suffered 13 soldiers killed and 23 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

MG S.W. Koster, Commanding General

MAJ Gerald D. Hill Jr., IO

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The 1968 Joint Annual Fund Campaign for Army emergency relief and the Army Relief Society will be conducted command wide during the period 26 May through 13 September 1968. Donations can be made through your unit.

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Partly cloudy Thursday with showers in the vicinity of the afternoon and evening. Winds northeast at 10 knots. High Thursday 99. Low Thursday night 77.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - Americal Division units saw scattered action in their portion of southern I Corps yesterday as Americal forces killed 10 VC and three NVA and captured 12 individual weapons.

Scattered incidents occurred throughout Americal's 196th Infantry Brigade's Operation Wheeler/Wallowa area yesterday as "Charger" units killed two VC and three NVA and captured seven individual weapons.

Elements of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry and "F" Troop, 8th Cavalry killed five VC yesterday during action in Operation Burlington Trail.

"Jungle Warriors" of the 11th Brigade killed three VC and detained 11 suspects during action in Quang Ngai province.

Units of Americal's 198th Infantry Brigade reported no significant contacts in their portion of Quang Tin Province.

A 196th Infantry Brigade company of the **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry** received small arms fire from a group of NVA 12 miles west of Tam Ky. the infantrymen returned the fire killing three NVA and capturing four AK-47s.

A 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry company killed two VC yesterday and captured two AK-47s three hand grenades and ammunition in a contact 15 miles northwest of Tam Ky. Other action included a 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry unit finding an individual weapon 15 miles west of Tam Ky.

Troopers of the 1st Cavalry led by CPT Bob Kazor (Spokane, Washington) killed two VC yesterday and captured two K-44 rifles and an M-1 rifle during a sweep 10 miles south of Tam Ky. "F" Troop, 8th Cavalry helicopters, supporting troops, killed two more VC in the same area.

Another element of the 1st Cavalry led by 1LT Thomas C. Butler (Tomkinsville, Kentucky) killed one VC, captured an SKS, a Russian carbine and detained 20 suspects in action five miles northeast of Tam Ky.

A unit of the 11th Brigade's 3d Battalion, 1st Infantry led by CPT William Riggs (Houston, Texas) killed one VC and apprehended four suspects 12 miles northwest of Duc Pho. Brigade soldiers of Headquarters Company killed one VC late yesterday in an ambush north of Duc Pho.

"Aero Scout" helicopters of the 123rd Aviation Battalion killed one VC and apprehended three suspects yesterday during action on the Batangan Peninsula nine miles northeast of Quang Ngai in Operation Muscatine.

On Monday, the Volunteer Informant Program conducted in Operation Muscatine 10 miles north of Quang Ngai yielded 2,700 rounds of small arms ammunition 37 hand grenades, three M-79 rounds, two 60mm mortar rounds and one claymore mine.

"Brave and Bold" soldiers of the 198th Infantry Brigade treated 129 Vietnamese in two MEDCAPs yesterday.

Division forces suffered one soldier killed and eight wounded and evacuated for treatment.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

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Vol. 2 No. 48 Thursday June 6, 1968

AMERICAL

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MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Partly cloudy Friday to mostly cloudy with intermittent afternoon and evening showers and thunderstorms. Winds east-northeasterly at 10-20 knots. High Friday 94. Low Friday night 76.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL - IO)-- The Americal Division continued with increased action yesterday as elements of the Division killed 13 VC and 32 NVA and captured 80 individual and two crew-served weapons. The 198th Infantry Brigade accounted for most of the weapons captured when they uncovered a large cache in Operation Burlington Trail.

Elements of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry and "F" Troop, 8th Cavalry combined to kill 18 NVA and capture an AK-47 and a .50 caliber anti-aircraft gun in an area eight miles northwest of Tam Ky. An additional enemy was killed by "F" Troop in the Tahng Ninh area.

Elements of the 196th Infantry Brigade killed five NVA and three VC in light action in Operation Burlington Trail yesterday.

In the most significant action, units of the 3d Battalion, 21st Infantry led by CPT Rober Corigan (Arlington, Virginia) and CPT James Humphries (Pacific Grove, California) came into contact with an unknown size enemy force eight miles west of Tam Ky. One of the units knocked out a .50 caliber machine gun position and air strikes accounted for five NVA killed.

A unit of the 11th Infantry Brigade's 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry (A Company) operating in the 196th Infantry Brigade's area killed one VC and captured a hand grenade.

A unit of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry led by CPT John Wolfe (Marcellus, Michigan) accounted for two VC killed in separate incidents yesterday 11 miles west of Tien Phuoc.

Action in the 11th Infantry Brigade's area centered in the Tra Khuc Valley yesterday as 4th Battalion, 3d Infantry elements and "Aero Scout" Infantry elements killed six VC and two NVA, apprehended 13 suspects and captured three weapons. "Jungle Warriors" in the Duc Pho area killed to VC and apprehended nine suspects.

"Old Guard" soldiers from the 4th Battalion, 3d Infantry commanded by CPT John A. Gonzalez (Queens Village, New York) engaged and killed three VC in a sampan and destroyed the sampan 10 miles west of Quang Ngai. Moving up the river, the unit killed three more VC and captured an AK-47 in two contacts.

"Aero Scout" helicopters of the 123d Aviation Battalion, operating in the same area, inserted their ground troops who engaged and killed two NVA and recovered an M-1 carbine and a K-44 rifle.

In the Duc Pho area, a unit of the 3d Battalion, 1st Infantry killed one VC four miles northwest of Duc Pho. Another VC was killed by 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry soldiers 11 miles southeast of Duc Pho.

Enemy activity increased in Operation Burlington Trail yesterday as 198th Infantry Brigade soldiers killed seven NVA, captured four weapons and found a large weapons cache containing 74 firearms. One VC was killed by the Brigade in the Chu Lai area.

Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 52d Infantry engaged and killed one NVA in the jungle northwest of Chu Lai. An AK-47 and three hand grenades were captured in the action. Later, a 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry unit engaged and killed five NVA and captured three weapons in two incidents in the same area.

An element of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry engaged and killed one NVA and captured two hand grenades in fighting northwest of Chu Lai. Another unit of the Battalion located 72 individual and two crew-served weapons in one large cache 20 miles northwest of Chu Lai. The cache, "large enough to outfit an enemy company", contained 36 Soviet carbines, 15 sub-machine guns, two M-1 carbines, four 7165 bolt action rifles, three BARs, two machine guns, two M-1 rifles, two Mark # Lee Enfield rifles, one Soviet PPSH, one K-50, one French 7.5 rifle, one 45 caliber grease gun, more than 3,500 rounds of ammunition and 99 hand grenades.

5th Battalion, 46th Infantry unit killed one VC late yesterday eight miles south of Chu Lai.

Civic action soldiers of the Brigade treated 233 Vietnamese in seven MEDCAPs yesterday.

Division forces suffered three soldiers killed and 17 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

BG George H. Young, Jr. Commanding

MAJ Gerald D. Hill jr., IO

Telephone: Chu Lai 3212 or 2414

Vol. 2. No. 132 Thursday August 29, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Fair to partly cloudy skies. Winds at 10 knots from the Northeast. High Friday 100. Low Friday night 80. (B-6)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Action remained steady in the Americal Division's southern I Corps Tactical Zone yesterday as Division forces and supporting elements accounted for 16 VC and 16 NVA killed and nine individual weapons captured.

Action remained steady yesterday in the 198th Infantry Brigade's area of operations as "Brave and Bold" soldiers and supporting elements reported four VC and eight NVA killed and eight individual weapons captured.

Brigade artillery units were credited with the eight NVA killed by artillery Tuesday night.

The eight NVA bodies were found northeast of Chu Lai by a company of the 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry. The "Professionals" also found three M-16 rifles, three M-1 rifles, one carbine and one AK-47 with the bodies.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123d Aviation Company killed one VC near Chu Lai.

A company of the **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry** killed three VC near Chu Lai.

Civic Action soldiers of the 198th Infantry Brigade treated 68 Vietnamese yesterday during two medical visits.

In action centered in an area nine miles north-northwest of Tam Ky "Dragoons" of the 1st Squadron, 1st Armored Cavalry and supporting elements accounted for eight NVA and one VC killed yesterday.

"B" Troop accounted for one NVA killed, "C" Troop killed five of the NVA, "F" Troop, 8th Cavalry killed one of the NVA and one VC and the 2d Battalion, 1st Infantry "Guardians" killed the other NVA.

In the 196th Infantry Brigade's area of operations "Charger" units killed eight VC and captured one AK-47 in scattered action.

"F" Troop, 17th Cavalry called in artillery on a group of VC resulting in three VC killed 16 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

A reconnaissance element of the 4 Battalion, 21st Infantry engaged and killed two evading VC seven miles south of Hoi An.

The command and control helicopter of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry in two separate incidents killed a total of three VC and captured one AK-47 four miles south of Hoi An.

Scattered enemy contact in the 11th Brigade's area around Duc Pho yesterday resulted in three VC killed.

A fire team led by PFC Edward L. Zimmerly (Ambey, IL) from a company of the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry killed one VC when two VC leaped from a tree and attempted to evade.

Later yesterday a squad from the same company led by SP4 Charles N. Schell (St. Paul, MN) killed two evading VC.

Americal Division forces suffered four soldiers killed and 22 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

Vol. 2. No. 133 Thursday August 30, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Fair to partly cloudy skies. Winds at 10 knots from the Northeast. High Saturday 100. Low Saturday night 79. (B-6)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Action decreased in the Americal Division's southern I Corps Tactical Zone yesterday as Division forces and supporting elements accounted for 11 VC killed and two individual weapons captured.

In the 11th Brigade area of operations around Mo Duc and Duc Pho, ground units killed seven VC and apprehended 10 suspects in scattered action.

"Always First" soldiers of the 3d Battalion, 1st Infantry detained nine suspects for questioning during yesterdays operations. Two rifle companies of the battalion led by 1LT Vincent Satariano (Chicago, IL) and 1LT Eugene S. Phillips (Killeen, TX) killed a total of five VC in three separate contacts north of Duc Pho and east of Mo Duc.

"Sykes Regulars" of the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry reported a total of two VC killed in two incidents south of Duc Pho.

"Charger" units of the 196th Infantry Brigade killed three VC and captured one weapon in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa area yesterday.

A Recon element of the 3d Battalion 21st Infantry killed one VC with small arms fire 16 miles west of Tam Ky yesterday.

"Gimlets" of a Company of the 3d Battalion, 21st Infantry company killed a total of two VC in two separate incidents nin miles west of Tam Ky.

"Guardians" of a 2d Battalion, 1st Infantry company uncovered one M-1 carbine 21 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Action in the 198th Infantry Brigade area of operation was light and scattered yesterday as "Brave and Bold" soldiers and supporting elements killed one VC, detained two suspects, and captured one weapon.

A company of the 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry led by CPT Lawrence G. Johnson (Westhester, IL) killed one VC northwest of Chu Lai yesterday morning.

A group of NVA fled leaving behind one AK-47 rifle yesterday when "Aero Scouts" of the 123d Aviation Company swooped down on the northwest of Chu Lai.

"Ready Rifles" of the 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry captured one wounded VC south of Chu Lai yesterday morning. The VC was evacuated for medical treatment.

A unit of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry led by CPT Chris N. Martin (Schoefield Barracks, HA) captured one VC yesterday when the "Regulars" won a foot race with the VC trying to outrun the unit.

Civic action soldiers of the 198th Infantry Brigade treated 84 Vietnamese yesterday during two medical visits.

Units of the 1st Squadron, 1st Armored Cavalry reported no significant contacts in their area of operations yesterday.

Division forces suffered one soldier wounded and evacuated for treatment.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

MG Charles M. Gettys, Commanding

MAJ Gerald D. Hill Jr., IO

Telephone: Chu Lai 3212 or 2414

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MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Partly cloudy with light scattered rains. Winds variable at 8 knots. High Tuesday, 98, low Tuesday 92. (B-6)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action in the Americal Division's southern I Corps Tactical Zone remained scattered yesterday as Division forces accounted for 12 VC killed, eight NVA killed, and three individual weapons captured.

11th Inf. Bde. action was concentrated north of Duc Pho yesterday as rifle companies from the 3d Bn., 1st Inf. killed six VC and captured two individual weapons during a combat patrol four miles north of LZ Bronco.

The "Always First" Infantrymen of the 3d Bn., 1st Inf. under CPT John P. Nolan (Hopkinsville, Ky.) sweeping the marshy low lands yesterday morning killed a total of four VC in a series of small unit contacts.

A company of same battalion led by 2LT Bruce E. Dikzas (Clarendon Hill, Ill.) observed two VC evading into a spider hole. As the unit moved in, the enemy tossed grenades from their hiding place. Sgt. Thomas H. Swartz (Michigan Center, Mich.) rushed forward, throwing grenades and firing his M-16 into the hole. When Sgt. Swartz crawled in to investigate, he found two dead VC, an M-1 carbine, a Thompson sub-machine gun, and enemy documents.

"Jungle warriors" of the 11th Inf. Bde. apprehended three suspects for questioning in the Duc Pho area yesterday.

Elements of the 196th Inf. Bde. killed one NVA and five VC and captured one AK-47 rifle in scattered action yesterday.

A company of the 3d Bn., 21st Inf. engaged a group of evading VC 26 miles west of Tam Ky, killing two VC, in the same area the "Gimlets" found an assortment of supplies, bandages, 300 malaria pills, 50 pounds of corn, one Chicom grenade, 10 pair of sandals, documents, and one AK-47 rifle.

"Gimlets" of the same company engaged a group of evading VC with small arms fire 25 miles west of Tam Ky. Killing one VC.

"Polar Bears" from a company of the 4th Bn., 31st Inf. following a blood trail 25 miles west of Tam Ky, found the body of a NVA soldier in a freshly dug grave. In the same area six Chicom grenades, one Chicom mine, an NVA ID card, an AK-47 magazine, and three bamboo bangalore torpedoes were found.

In the same area another 4th Bn., 31st Inf. treated 20 Vietnamese during a MEDCAP near LZ Baldy yesterday.

The 2d Bn., 1st Inf. "Legionnaires" distributed 3000 pounds of rice to Vietnamese in the village of Que Son yesterday evening.

One VC was reported killed yesterday during action in the 198th Inf. Bde's. area of operations and seven NVA were killed as a result of an all day contact four miles west of Chu Lai.

One VC body was found yesterday as a result of a contact Saturday night by a night patrol led by Sgt. Earl C. Smith (Garland, Tex.) and 1Lt James Milling (Columbia, S.C.) the patrol's platoon leader said "My men were using enemy tactics by moving at night in small numbers and surprised Charlie."

In other action two companies of the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. ran into a large enemy force early yesterday morning four miles west of Chu Lai. Fighting continued, with heavy air support throughout the day, resulting in seven NVA killed late yesterday evening.

Civic Action soldiers of the 198th Inf. Bde. treated 1195 Vietnamese yesterday during medical visits.

HONG KONG--Communist China is using gunboats to patrol coastal waters from which refugee fishermen slipped away to seek sanctuary in Hong Kong, it was reported Monday.

The Star newspaper quoted government sources as saying, the Chinese Navy is on-----*hard to read*.

Two ? of junks sailed into Hong Kong last week. The fishermen and their families ????

The Immigration Department gave residence status to ??? men, women and children from the boats and said they would be permitted to remain in the Colony.

A total of 234 person were taken into custody as illegal immigrants from 18 junks. The remainder of the escapees were under ? by immigration authorities, spokesman said.

Vol. 2. No. 138 Wednesday September 4, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Cloudy skies with intermittent light rains will continue throughout the forecast. High 92, low 78. Winds variable at 8 knots. (B-6)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Action in the Americal Division's southern I Corps Tactical Zone increased slightly yesterday as Division forces and supporting elements accounted for 30 VC killed, 16 NVA killed, and six individual weapons captured.

In scattered action throughout the 196th Inf. Bde's area of operations yesterday, "Charger" units killed 16 VC, two NVA, and captured three individual weapons.

A company of the 3d Bn., 21st Inf. killed two VC in two separate incidents 18 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

In an area 17 miles northwest of Tam Ky, another 3d Bn., 21st Inf. company killed four VC and two NVA in four separate contacts.

Reconnaissance elements of the 4th Bn., 21st Inf. killed two VC in two separate contacts yesterday four miles south of Hoi An.

A company of the 4th Bn., 21st Inf. engaged and killed one VC six miles south of Hoi An. The unit later killed five VC in the same area.

A company of the 2d Bn., 1st Inf. found the body of one VC killed by small arms fire and one M-79 grenade launcher 13 miles south of Hoi An.

Another company of the same battalion was led by a VC female to a K-44 rifle concealed in a hut 24 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

A company of the 4th Bn., 31st Inf. was fired on by snipers. The unit returned fire killing one VC and capturing one AK-47 33 miles west of Tam Ky.

Scattered action in the 11th Inf. Bde's. area of operations yesterday resulted in nine VC killed, eight NVA killed, and three individual weapons captured in Quang Ngai Province.

A company of the 1st Bn., 21st Inf. killed eight VC south of Quang Ngai yesterday.

Yesterday morning troops of a company of the 3d Bn., 1st Inf. killed one VC, detained one suspect, and captured two hand grenades and ammunition ----Not Readable-----

Yesterday afternoon soldiers of another 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company killed three NVA and captured two AK-47 rifles and a pistol belt with grenades five miles west of Quang Ngai City. Later the same unit killed five NVA and captured one AK-47 seven miles west of Quang Ngai.

In the 196th Inf. Bde's. area of operations around Chu Lai yesterday "Brave and Bold" soldiers and supporting air power reported six NVA killed, and five VC killed.

A search through an area west of Chu Lai by a company of the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. uncovered the bodies of five dead NVA yesterday. The five NVA were killed by fighter bombers flying in support of the battalion Sunday.

In the same area a reconnaissance patrol killed two VC.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123rd Avn. Bn. and helicopters of "F" Troop 8th Cav engaged and killed two VC in separate action south of Chu Lai yesterday.

The reconnaissance platoon of the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. located four enemy bunkers containing three 60mm mortar rounds and 350 AK-47 rounds south of Chu Lai yesterday. Later the platoon found the body of one NVA in a grave in the same area.

A company of the 5th Bn., 46th Inf. killed one VC east of Tien Phuoc yesterday.

Civic Action soldiers of the 196th treated 170 Vietnamese during three MEDCAPS yesterday.

Division forces suffered two soldiers killed and 15 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

MG Charles M. Gettys, Commanding

MAJ Gerald D. Hill Jr., IO

Telephone: Chu Lai 3212 or 2414

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AMERICAL
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NEWS| * * |SHEET
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MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

FRIDAY

Cloudy skies with light
rain the morning decreasing
in the afternoon.

High 85, low 70.

Winds northeast at 10 knots to
20 knots. (B-6)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Action remained scattered during yesterday in the Americal Division's southern I Corps Tactical zone as Division forces accounted for 19 VC and two NVA killed and one weapon captured.

Increased action in the Quang Ngai Province yesterday resulted in 15 VC killed and 16 suspects detained by 11th Inf. Bde's "Jungle Warriors".

A company of the 4th Bn., 3rd Inf. had a big day yesterday as the "Old Guard" soldiers killed one evading VC and detained 16 suspects 12 miles west of Quang Ngai City. The command and control helicopter of the battalion killed another three VC carrying packs in a river ten miles west of Quang Ngai City.

Four VC bodies were found yesterday in a hut four miles southeast of Duc Pho by troops of a (A Company) 1st Bn., 20th Inf. company. The four dead VC were killed in a contact Tuesday night which netted eight other VC. In that contact a secondary explosion resulted from the attack by hand grenades and M-79 fire. Another 1st Bn., 20th Inf. company killed one VC near Sa Huynh yesterday.

Soldiers of a 3rd Bn., 1st Inf. company found the bodies of four VC in freshly dug graves near a trail six miles west of Quang Ngai City yesterday.

The four VC died of wounds from white phosphorous. Tuesday night another company of the battalion killed one VC near the same site.

The 11th Inf. Bde's Military Police killed an evading VC in a tunnel yesterday and found one M-26 hand grenade, money, and a radio in a hut nearby, eight miles north of the "Jungle Warriors" home.

In the 196th Inf. Bde's. area of operations yesterday, "Charger" units killed two VC in the Operation Wheeler/Wallowa area.

A 3d Bn., 21st Inf. company killed one VC 17 miles west of Tam Ky yesterday. Another 3d Bn., 21st Inf. company killed one VC six miles west of Tam Ky.

A search of an area five miles west of Chu Lai proved fruitful again yesterday as 198th Inf. Bde. soldiers found two more NVA bodies and one weapon.

Two VC were killed in other action yesterday.

The reconnaissance platoon of the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. commanded by 1LT Mike Cooper (Seattle, Wash.) found the two NVA buried in shallow graves. A few hours later the unit found one AK-47, one hand grenade, and one pair of binoculars in the same area.

A 1st Bn., 46th Inf. company engaged a group of VC yesterday northwest of Chu Lai, killing one VC.

In the 198th Inf. Brigade's area, eight miles east of Tra Bong, a reconnaissance patrol killed one VC and detained one suspect yesterday.

In other action yesterday a company of the 1st Bn., 52d Inf. commanded by 1LT Jack W. Sorenson (Council Bluffs, Iowa) found three tunnels in the side of a bank south of Chu Lai. The tunnels, which had been recently occupied, were approximately six feet high and six wide.

No significant contacts were reported in the 1st Sqdn, 1st, Armored area of operations yesterday.

Division forces suffered 27 soldiers wounded and evacuated for medical treatment.

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

SATURDAY

Cloudy skies with rain and gusty winds ending in the afternoon. High 89, low 75. Winds southwesterly at 10 knots. (B-6)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Action slowed in the Americal Division's southern I Corps Tactical Zone yesterday as Division forces and supporting elements reported eight VC killed, three NVA killed, seven VC suspects detained, and three individual weapons captured.

Heavy rain failed to stop 198th Inf. Bde soldiers yesterday as they accounted for two VC and two NVA killed, three weapons captured, and discovered two enemy base camps.

The reconnaissance platoon of the 1st Bn., 52d Inf. led by 1LT James A. Lockhart (Montpelier, Ohio) was involved in one contact yesterday. The "Ready Rifles" spotted three NVA west of Chu Lai. The three were engaged, killing two and capturing two AK-47 rifles, two hand grenades, and 155 rounds of AK-47 ammunition.

Early yesterday morning a 1st Bn., 46th Inf. company found the body of one VC killed in action Wednesday night. A CAP team found a VC killed in the same area by the 198th's 1st Bn., 14th Artillery.

Later that morning a reconnaissance platoon of the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. operating five miles west of Chu Lai discovered a large bunker complex used within the past two or three days.

Operating in the same area a 1st Bn., 6th Inf. company commanded by CPT Francis X. Brennan (Boston, Mass.) found an NVA base camp which was capable of holding 25 people.

A 5th Bn., 46th Inf. company found one individual weapon yesterday seven miles southwest of Tien Phuoc.

Civic Action soldiers of the "Brave and Bold" Brigade treated 317 Vietnamese during two MEDCAPs yesterday.

Scattered action throughout the 196th Inf. Bde's area of operations yesterday accounted for five VC and one NVA killed in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa.

3d Bn., 21st Inf. company engaged and killed one evading VC 18 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Another 3d Bn., 21st Inf. company engaged and killed another evading VC 18 miles west of Tam Ky.

A 2d Bn., 1st Inf. company while searching and area 24 miles northwest of Tam Ky, engaged a group of enemy soldiers in a hut after the enemy threw hand grenades at the unit. Three VC and one NVA killed resulted from that contact.

11th Inf. Bde's "Jungle Warriors" reported one VC killed, and seven suspects detained as enemy contacts dropped in the Quang Ngai Province yesterday.

Yesterday morning "Sykes Regulars" of a 1st Bn., 20th Inf. company killed an evading VC three miles southeast of LZ Bronco.

A 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company detained three VC suspects on a trail 4 miles west of Quang Ngai City. Another "Old Guard" company detained two VC suspects in other action 12 miles west of Quang Ngai City.

"Primo Aviation Limited" detained a VC suspect in a village seven miles north of Duc Pho.

A 1st Bn., 20th Inf. company detained one VC suspect four miles southeast of the "Jungle Warriors" home.

No enemy contacts were reported in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav's area of operations yesterday.

Division forces suffered two soldiers killed and nine wounded and evacuated for treatment.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

MG Charles M. Gettys, Commanding; MAJ Gerald D. Hill Jr., IO; Telephone: Chu Lai 3212 or 2414

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Join the Americal Division Veterans Association. Check with your First Sergeant or the Information Office.

Vol. 2. No. 141 Saturday September 7, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT SUNDAY

Cloudy skies with occasional light rain this morning continuing last this afternoon and tonight. High 95, low 79. Winds northwest at 8 to 12 knots. (B-6)

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Action increased in the Americal Division's southern I Corps Tactical Zone yesterday as Division forces and supporting elements killed 23 VC, one NVA and captured one crew-served and five individual weapons.

Fighting erupted west of Quang Ngai City yesterday as 11th Inf. Bde. "Jungle Warriors" and supporting elements killed 20 VC, detained 14 suspects and captured one crew-served and four individual weapons.

"E" Troop, 1st Sqdn, 1st Cav. killed one evading VC six miles west of Quang Ngai City.

"Sharks" of the 174th Aviation Company killed two VC in separate actions eight and 10 miles west of the Province Capital.

A 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company killed three VC and captured two AK-47 rifles near a tunnel complex eight miles southwest of Quang Ngai City. Another company of the battalion killed two more VC in a small valley 10 miles west of metropolitan Quang Ngai.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123rd Aviation Bn., led the day's total with 11 VC killed. Ten of the VC killed in action nine miles northwest of Quang Ngai were wearing Khaki uniforms. In that contact one M-1 carbine, one RPG, one AK-50, and documents were captured. "Aero Scouts" killed the other VC near highway 58 in the same site. The "Aero Scouts" also detained five suspects in the area west of Quang Ngai City.

A reconnaissance element of the 4th Bn., 3d Inf. detained six suspects in separate actions. Three of the suspects were captured near a large tunnel complex near a trail seven miles northwest of the Province Capital. Later a 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company killed one VC in the same area.

A 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company detained two suspects west of Quang Ngai. In the same area a 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company detained one VC suspect.

Light action in the 196th Inf. Bde's area of operations accounted for one VC killed and one individual weapon captured.

An Americal Division reconnaissance patrol observed a group of VC evade into a hut. An artillery fire mission called, resulting in one VC killed 25 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

A 4th Bn., 31st Inf. company found one French SMG 36 miles west of Tam Ky.

Action slowed down yesterday as 198th Inf. Bde. soldiers reported one NVA killed.

Yesterday morning a 1st Bn., 6th Inf. company discovered an NVA grave west of Chu Lai. Another "Regulars" company operating in the same area found a small unit base camp.

Yesterday afternoon a 1st Bn., 46th Inf. company found an NVA pack containing documents and detained one suspect.

Two other 198th Inf. Bde. units detained two additional suspects during search and clear operations.

A 5th Bn., 46 Inf. company found three small tunnels while checking an area after receiving sniper fire.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported two VC killed by "F" Troop 8th Cav., one in the Burlington Trail area and one in the Operation Wheeler/Wallowa area.

Division forces suffered 6 soldiers killed and six wounded and evacuated for treatment.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

MG Charles M. Gettys, Commanding

MAJ Gerald D. Hill Jr., IO

Telephone: Chu Lai 3212 or 2414

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Vol. 2. No. 142 Sunday September 8, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

MONDAY

Cloudy skies with chance of light rain this afternoon and evening. High 94, Low 80, Winds northwest at 8 to 10 knots. (B-6)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action flared in the Americal Division's southern I Corps Tactical Zone yesterday as division forces and supporting elements accounted for 73 VC killed and two individual weapons captured.

Heavy fighting continued five miles west of Quang Ngai City yesterday as 11th Inf. Bde. "Jungle Warriors" reported 66 VC killed, six suspects detained and two individual weapons captured.

In a fire fight that began late Friday night the reconnaissance platoon of the 4th Bn., 3rd Inf., killed 28 VC five miles west of Quang Ngai City.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123d Aviation Bn. killed 16 VC and detained one suspect in the area west of the province capital.

A 3rd Bn., 1st Inf., company killed 10 VC and captured an M-2 carbine in fighting west of the city.

A reconnaissance patrol team killed eight VC with the aid of artillery in the jungle west of Duc Pho yesterday.

A 3rd Bn., 1st Inf., company detained one suspect and a 3rd Bn., 1st Inf. company captured one AK-47 rifle and found one VC killed by artillery west of Quang Ngai City.

In action near Duc Pho a 1st Bn., 20th Inf. company killed one VC near huts seven miles northwest of the "Jungle Warriors" base camp.

Action slowed yesterday as 198th Inf. Bde. soldiers killed two VC.

Late Friday night an unknown-size enemy force attacked a 1st Bn., 46th Inf. company's position in Operation Burlington Trail area. The "Professionals": returned the fire, killing two VC.

Yesterday morning a 1st Bn., 52nd Inf. company commanded by CPT John A. Bierden (Minneapolis, Minn.) detained on male wearing an NVA shirt.

Yesterday afternoon the command control helicopter of the 1st Bn., 6th Inf., detained two suspects. One man was carrying a carbine which he threw away after spotting the command and control helicopter.

Civic action soldiers of the 198th Inf. Bde. treated 2,020 Vietnamese this week during MEDCAPs; and the fund for scholarships for Vietnamese students has reached \$2,300.

In the 196th Inf. Bde's. area of operations yesterday "Charger" units killed five VC in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa.

A 3rd Bn., 21st Inf. company with Regional Forces observed two VC evading. The enemy was engaged with small arms fire, killing both VC 19 miles west of Tam Ky.

A reconnaissance element of the 4th Bn., 21st Inf. engaged and killed one evading VC with small arms fire 12 miles south of Hoi An. Later the element killed another VC in the same area.

A 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company engaged one VC with small arms fire 10 miles south of Hoi An, resulting in one VC killed.

No significant contacts were reported in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav's. area of operations yesterday.

Division forces suffered 10 soldiers killed and 38 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

MG Charles M. Gettys, Commanding

MAJ Gerald D. Hill Jr., IO

Telephone: Chu Lai 3212 or 2414

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Handwritten - FOLLOW THE EXCITING ADVENTURES OF MIRACLE MAN IN THE SOUTHERN CROSS

Volume 2 No. 144 Americal Daily New Sheet TUESDAY September 10, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT (Wednesday)

Partly cloudy skies with scattered showers. High 95', low 79'.

Winds northeasterly at 8 to 10 knots. (B-6)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)— Action remained scattered in the Americal Division's southern I Corps Tactical Zone yesterday as Division forces accounted for 18 VC and one NVA killed and 19 crew-served and 44 individual weapons captured.

Light enemy contacts in Quang Ngai Province resulted in 11 VC killed, eight suspects detained and four weapons captured by 11th Inf. Bde.'s "Jungle Warriors" yesterday.

In the area west of Quang Ngai City a 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company received sniper fire. The "Old Guard" soldiers returned the fire, killing three VC.

Near the same area troops of another 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company killed two evading VC and detained one suspect.

Soldiers of a 1st Bn., 20th Inf. company killed two VC and captured one VC suspect and carbine 10 miles north of Duc Pho. The suspect later lead the "Sykes Regulars" to a tunnel near hits in the same area where a VC identified as a platoon leader was killed and four more suspects detained.

Troops of a 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company killed a VC in their perimeter west of the Province Capital and captured one AK-47 rifle and one Chicom flare pistol.

In other action west of Quang Ngai City, another 3d Bn., 1st Infantry company killed a VC in a hole. In the same area one 4th Bn., 3rd Inf. company detained two suspects who were trying to hide in a crowd.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123rd Avn. Bn. killed one evading VC 12 miles south of LZ Bronco.

Units of the 198th Inf. Bde. killed four VC and one NVA and captured 17 crew-served and 39 individual weapons in scattered action throughout the "Chargers" Operation Wheeler/Wallowa area yesterday.

"Polar Bears" of a 4th Bn. 31st Inf. company commanded by 1LT Dickie Dickson (North Liberty, Ind.) found a large enemy weapons cache and an NVA base camp in a thick double and triple canopy jungle valley 27 miles west of Tam Ky.

The company along with a reconnaissance element of the battalion was conducting a thorough search of the area when they found the weapons and equipment with about 25 huts.

In the weapons cache there were ten B-40 rocket rounds, 31 SKS carbines, five AK-47 rifles, seven RPD light machine guns, nine portable flame throwers, one RPG-7, two US carbines, one K-44 rifle, and a box of maps, overlays, documents, and about 100 pounds of explosives. All the equipment and weapons were evacuated.

"F" Troop 8th, Cav. observed one evading VC 17 miles southwest of Tam Ky. The enemy was engaged, resulting in one VC killed.

A 2d Bn., 1st Inf. company found 2000 pounds of rice in five gallon cans eight miles southwest of Hoi An. The rice will be evacuated and distributed to needy villagers.

A 4th Bn., 31st Inf. company engaged and killed one evading VC with small arms fire 20 miles west of Tam Ky.

A reconnaissance element of the 4th Bn., 21st Inf. engaged a group of evading VC six miles west of Hoi An, resulting in two VC killed.

A 3d Bn., 21st Inf. company engaged two evading NVA eight miles west of Tam Ky, killing one NVA and capturing two NVA ponchos, two pair of black pajamas, and 15 pounds of rice. **(Continued on page 2)**

A continuing search through the rocket ridge area again provided the highlight for yesterday's action by the 198th Inf. Bde. Two VC were reported killed and one individual and two crew-served weapons captured in the Operation Burlington Trail and Chu Lai area.

A unit of the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. commanded by CPT Francis X. Brennen (Boston, Mass.) located two 122mm rockets and additional warheads hidden in holes.

The "Regulars" discovered one carbine and several documents in the jungle highlands four miles west of Chu Lai.

Near Chu Lai a 198th aerial observer spotted one VC killed by artillery.

Early yesterday afternoon a "Blue Ghost" of "F" Troop, 8th Cav. returning from a reconnaissance mission northwest of Chu Lai spotted one VC. The enemy was engaged and killed.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported one VC killed and one suspect detained by their "A" Troop and one suspect detained by "C" Troop in the Operation Burlington Trail area.

Division forces suffered one soldier killed and 13 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

MG Charles M. Gettys, Commanding; MAJ Gerald D. Hill Jr., IO; Telephone: Chu Lai 3212 or 2414

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

THURSDAY

Partly cloudy skies with scattered afternoon and evening showers.

High 92, low 77. Winds northeasterly at 10 knots. (B-6)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Action increased slightly yesterday in the Americal Division's southern I Corps Tactical Zone as Division forces and supporting elements accounted for 13 NVA and 13 VC killed and four individual weapons captured.

Increased action in the Quang Ngai Province yesterday resulted in 13 NVA and eight VC killed, one suspect detained and four weapons were captured by the 11th Inf. Bde. "Jungle Warriors".

The "Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. began the day by detaining one VC suspect and finding one NVA killed by artillery. Later they engaged and killed eight NVA with the aid of artillery.

Air strikes near Quang Ngai accounted for four VC killed. The strikes were directed by a 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company. Later in the same vicinity, "Old Guard" soldiers from another company found two .45 cal. sub-machine guns in bushes near a hut that had been destroyed by an air strike. One K-44 rifle was later found in the same area.

A 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company killed three NVA west of Quang Ngai. "Always First" soldiers of another company found one NVA soldier killed by artillery. One AK-47 rifle was found with the body.

"Sykes Regulars" of a 1st Bn., 20th Inf. company killed two VC eight miles south of Duc Pho. Another company of the battalion killed another two VC in the hill country west of LZ Bronco.

Action remained scattered and light in the 198th Inf. Bde's. area of operations yesterday as "Brave and Bold" soldiers killed three VC.

A 5th Bn., 46th Inf. company commanded by 1LT Michael Hutton (Austin, Tex.) engaged two VC fleeing from a village in the Operation Burlington Trail area, killing one. Later two more VC were killed by the "Professionals" in the same area.

A company of the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. led by CPT. Francis X. Brennan of Boston, Mass.) discovered a base camp located in the rocket ridge area west of Chu Lai yesterday.

Civic Action soldiers of the Bde. treated 420 Vietnamese during seven medical visits in the last two days.

"Chargers" of the 196th Inf. Bde. killed two VC in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa.

The reconnaissance platoon of the 4th Bn., 21st Inf. engaged and killed one VC 11 miles south of Hoi An.

A 3d Bn., 21st Inf. company engaged and killed one VC with small arms fire 21 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported one suspect detained by their "B" Troop yesterday.

Division forces suffered one soldier killed and 15 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

MG Charles M. Gettys, Commanding

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Vol. 2. No. 146 Thursday September 12, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

FRIDAY

Partly cloudy skies with scattered afternoon and evening showers.

High 92, low 77. Winds northeast at 10 knots. (B-6)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)---Action remained scattered in the Americal Division's southern I Corps Tactical Zone yesterday as Division forces and supporting elements accounted for 22 VC killed and one weapon captured.

Operation Champaign Grove began on 4 Sept. in an area 20 miles west of Quang Ngai City. Elements of the 11th Inf. Bde. and the 2nd ARVN Div. have killed 110 VC and 13 NVA, detained 27 suspects, and captured one crew-served and 14 individual weapons in the combined operations.

Light action in Quang Ngai Province yesterday resulted in eight VC killed, one suspect detained and one weapon captured during operations by 11th Inf. Bde. "Jungle Warriors".

The U.S. Air Force accounted for two VC killed yesterday morning when a forward Air Control plane returned fire on two ground gunners, killing both nine miles west of Quang Ngai.

Troops of a 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company found three VC killed by air strikes 10 miles west of Quang Ngai City.

Infantrymen of a 1st Bn., 20th Inf. company detained two VC who led them to a near tunnel near huts nine miles north of Quang Ngai City. Soon after the two VC entered the tunnel there was a large explosion, killing both VC. Later they killed another VC in the same vicinity.

"Old Guard" soldiers of another 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company found one automatic weapon in bushes by a trail 11 miles west of Quang Ngai City.

Cavalrymen of "E" Troop, 1st Cav. detained one VC suspect by a trail near a mortar site which had been used to attack LZ Bronco. The mortar site was less than two miles west of the "Jungle Warriors" home.

Elements of the 196th Inf. Bde. killed nine VC yesterday in the Operation Wheeler/Wallowa area.

A reconnaissance element of the 4th Bn., 21st Inf. in three separate actions yesterday killed a total of six VC nine miles south of Hoi An.

Two 3d Bn., 21st Inf. companies killed three more VC in the same area in two separate contacts.

Two air strikes were flown in support of the 196th yesterday resulting in one secondary explosion.

Action centered west and northwest of Chu Lai yesterday in the 198th Inf. Bde's. area of operations as one light contact, the discovery of a rice cache, and one VC killed highlighted activity.

A 5th Bn., 46th Inf. company commanded by 1LT Nicholas Holmes (St. Cloud Minn.) found 400 pounds of rice yesterday during a search and clear mission in the Burlington Trail area. The rice was booby-trapped with two M-26 grenades which were discovered and destroyed.

A reconnaissance element of the 5th Bn., 46th Inf. accounted for one VC killed yesterday.

In other action a 1st Bn., 6th Infantry company commanded by CPT. Francis X. Brennan (Boston, Mass.) ran into an unknown size enemy force in bunkers on the "rocket ridge" west of Chu Lai. Two air strikes were called in on the NVA unit which was firing on the "Regulars" with automatic weapons and rolling grenades down a hill into the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. soldier's positions. Results of the contact are unknown at this time.

The remainder of the Bde's action centered south of Chu Lai where a 1st Bn., 52d Inf. company commanded by CPT Peter L. Lawson (Taunton, Mass.) discovered two M-16 anti-personnel mines, several spider holes, and documents during a search and clear mission.

"H" Troop, 17th Cav. soldiers operating with the "Ready Rifles" found and destroyed one 8 inch dud round.

Civic Action soldiers of the Bde. treated 301 Vietnamese yesterday during five MEDCAPs.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported four VC killed yesterday in the Burlington Trail area. "F" Troop, 8th Cav. accounted for three of the VC killed and "C" Troop, 1st Cav. accounted for other VC killed.

Division forces suffered two soldiers killed and 35 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

MG Charles M. Gettys, Commanding; MAJ Gerald D. Hill Jr., IO; Telephone: Chu Lai 3212 or 2414

Vol. 2. No. 147 Friday September 13, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

SATURDAY

Mostly cloudy to cloudy with intermittent showers. High 90, low 77, Winds northeast at 8 to 10 knots. (B-6)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Action remained scattered in the Americal Division's southern I Corps Tactical Zone yesterday as Division forces and supporting elements accounted for 29 VC and four NVA killed, two crew-served and three individual weapons captured.

Fighting in the 11th Inf. Bde's. area of operations yesterday resulted in 14 VC and four NVA killed, two suspects detained, and two crew-served and three individual weapons captured.

A Vietnamese national recently escaped from the Viet Cong (who had used him as impressed labor) led troops of a 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company to a complete 105mm howitzer buried near the base of a hill eight miles west of Quang Ngai City. The Vietnamese had been forced to help bury the howitzer during the last TET offensive.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. killed a total of eight VC in four separate contacts yesterday 15 miles west of Quang Ngai City. Later the "Aero Scouts" killed an NVA and captured his AK-47 on mile southwest of the Ha Thanh Special Forces Camp. The "Aero Scouts" also detained two suspects west of Quang Ngai City. One of the suspects had blood on his clothing, but no wounds.

Soldiers of a 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company killed three NVA and captured two AK-47 rifles and one RPD light machine gun in separate actions near the Ha Thanh Special Forces Camp yesterday.

Yesterday morning two evading VC were killed by a 1st Bn., 20th Inf. company eight miles north of Duc Pho. Later in the day the "Sykes Regulars" killed another VC in a firefight 11 miles north of LZ Bronco.

In other action yesterday the U.S. Air Force killed three VC during an air strike 12 miles west of Quang Ngai City.

"Charger" units of the 196th Inf. Bde. killed 12 VC yesterday in the Operation Wheeler/Wallowa.

"Legionnaires" of a 2d Bn., 21st Inf. company engaged and killed one evading VC 25 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

"Polar Bears" of a 4th Bn., 31st Inf. company called an air strike on an area where an aircraft previously received fire, killing one VC 31 miles west of Tam Ky.

In an area centered 15 miles west of Tam Ky, Gimlets" of two 3d Bn., 21st Inf. killed four VC in two contacts 12 miles southwest of Hoi An.

A reconnaissance element of the 4th Bn., 21st Inf. killed four VC in two contacts 12 miles southwest of Hoi An.

A 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company engaged a group of VC hiding in a tunnel 29 miles west of Tam Ky, killing three of them.

Three VC were killed in light scattered activity in the 198th Inf. Bde. area yesterday.

A force from a 5th Bn., 46th Inf. company led by CPT Lawrence G. Johnson (Westchester, Ill.) engaged two VC yesterday afternoon 23 miles northwest of Chu Lai. One VC was killed by the "Professionals" in that jungle skirmish.

An element of the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. "Regulars" discovered a series of six spider holes while sweeping the ridge line west of Chu Lai.

Gunships of "F" Troop, 8th Cav. supporting 198th ground troops, reported killing two VC and destroying four camouflaged enemy huts yesterday afternoon 15 miles west of Chu Lai.

"Brave and Bold" soldiers and medics of the 198th treated 545 Vietnamese yesterday during five MEDCAPs.

No significant contacts were reported in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav's. area of operations yesterday.

Division forces suffered two soldiers killed and eight wounded and evacuated for medical treatment.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

MG Charles M. Gettys, Commanding; MAJ Gerald D. Hill Jr., IO; Telephone: Chu Lai 3212 or 2414

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Vol. 2. No. 150 Monday September 16, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT TUESDAY

Mostly fair to partly cloudy with showers in the afternoon and evening. High 95, low 78. Winds variable at 5 knots. (B-6)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Action remained steady in the Americal Division's southern I Corps Tactical Zone yesterday as Division forces and supporting elements accounted for 38 VC killed and three individual weapons captured.

Action remained steady in the 198th Inf. Bde's. area of operations yesterday as "Brave and Bold" soldiers and supporting gunships accounted for 29 VC killed, three weapons captured, and nine suspects detained during action centered south of Chu Lai.

The first action yesterday morning netted one VC suspect detained as the "Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. swooped down to detain the single suspect attempting to avoid detection. Later that morning "Ready Rifles" of the 1st Bn., 52d Inf. located and detained two more suspects.

As the "Scouts" continued their search for enemy, they spotted and killed one VC as he attempted to evade the helicopter.

A company of the 1st Bn., 52d Inf. commanded by 1LT Jack W. Sorensen (Council Bluffs, Iowa) while making a sweep south of Chu Lai, engaged a group of VC, killing two.

In later action the "Aero Scouts" engaged and killed four VC in the same area.

North of Chu Lai a 5th Bn., 46th Inf. company detained four suspects late yesterday.

"Regulars" of a 1st Bn., 6th Inf. company detained two suspects west of Chu Lai.

Late yesterday evening "Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. engaged an estimated VC company, resulting in 22 VC killed and three carbines captured approximately nine miles south of Chu Lai.

"Charger" of the 196th Inf. Bde. killed six VC in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa yesterday.

In an area centered 15 miles west of Tam Ky, "Gimlets" of two 3d Bn., 21st Inf. companies killed three VC in three separate actions.

Later one of the 3d Bn., 21st Inf. companies called artillery, gunships, and air strikes on numerous sniper positions in the same area. A thorough search of the area disclosed numerous enemy fighting positions destroyed and one VC killed.

The "Chargers" command and control helicopter observed two VC evading eight miles south of Hoi An. The enemy was engaged with M-60 machinegun fire, killing one VC.

Bde. aerial observers called in artillery on a group of VC who evaded into a hut. A check of the area disclosed one VC killed nine miles southwest of Hoi An.

In Operation Champaign Grove yesterday Americal Division units reported three VC killed and 17 suspects detained during operations.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav's. "Blue Ghost" of "F" Trp., 8th Cav. killed two VC yesterday after receiving automatic weapons fire near the Tra Khuc River 12 miles west of Quang Ngai.

A 4th Bn., 3d Inf. artillery observation post nine miles northwest of Quang Ngai confirmed one VC killed by artillery in that area.

In the 11th Bde's Duc Pho area of operations an intelligence source led Vietnamese National Police and their advisor, SSG Lones R. Warren (Taylors, S.C.) of the 11th Bde. MPs, to a large tunnel complex two miles west of Duc Pho where an estimated 15 tons of rice were stored. MACV personnel from Duc Pho will distribute the rice to needy villagers.

"It's the most elaborate tunnel system I've seen in my three years in Vietnam," said SSG Warren. "Probably 150 meters long and constructed by engineers, with caverns as big as tent kits."

Division forces suffered one soldier killed and six wounded and evacuated for medical treatment.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

MG Charles M. Gettys, Commanding

MAJ Gerald D. Hill Jr., IO

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Vol. 2. No. 151 Tuesday September 17, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Fair to partly cloudy skies with afternoon and evening showers. High 95, low 78. Winds northeast at 5 to 10 knots. (B-6)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Action was light and scattered yesterday in the Americal Division's southern I Corps Tactical Zone as Division forces and supporting elements accounted for 13 VC killed and two individual weapons recovered.

"Charger" units of the 196th Inf. Bde. killed eight VC and recovered two individual weapons in scattered action in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa yesterday.

In two separate actions a 3d Bn., 21st Inf. company killed a total of three VC in an area 14 miles west of Tam Ky.

Another "Gimlet" company of the 4th Bn., 21st Inf. killed one evading VC with small arms fire eight miles south of Hoi An.

The Bde. command and control helicopter killed three evading VC 19 miles west of Tam Ky (Note-A/123d Avn Bn Pelican helicopter).

Bde. aerial observers called artillery on suspected VC locations 17 miles northwest of Tam Ky, killing one VC.

A company of the 2d Bn., 1st Inf. at LZ Ross (approximately 20 miles west of Tam Ky) received two 105mm rounds, 10 M-26 hand grenades, 10 4.2 inch rounds, seven 81mm mortar rounds, six 60mm mortar rounds, three M-79 rounds, one 90mm recoilless rifle round, 300 rounds of M-60 ammunition, and two LAWS under the Voluntary Informant Program yesterday.

Action in the 11th Inf. Bde's. area of operations was light and scattered yesterday as "Jungle Warriors" combined with "Shark" gunships of the 174th Avn. Co. to kill four VC and detain 11 suspects.

Elements of the 3d Bn., 1st Inf. detained 10 suspects for questioning in Operation Champaign Grove, 12 miles west of Quang Ngai City yesterday.

11th Bde. MPs led by SSG Lones A. Warren (Greenville, S.C.) and "Sharks" of the 174th Avn. Co. killed four VC and detained one suspect five miles southeast of Duc Pho; as the gunships entered the area they spotted one VC evading to the west.

The helicopters landed and SSG Warren's men took the VC under fire, killing him. Shortly afterward the gunships cornered four VC in a hut. As the MPs approached, the VC fled. The "Sharks" killed one of the fleeing VC and MPs killing the two VC and detained the fourth.

Action slowed yesterday as one VC was killed in the 198th Inf. Bde's. area of operations.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. working south of Chu Lai engaged two VC killing one. Four hand grenades were recovered from the VC's body.

Six suspects were detained yesterday by "Brave and Bold" soldiers and supporting units. ARVN troops operating with a 1st Bn., 52d Inf. company detained three suspects in two separate incidents. All three of the suspects were carrying weapons. **A 1st Bn., 6th Inf. company commanded by CPT Thomas K. Chapman (Schofield Barracks, Hawaii) detained one wounded suspect in the "rocket ridge" area west of Chu Lai.** "Aero Scouts" detained two additional suspects.

Civic Action soldiers of the Bde treated 136 Vietnamese yesterday during two medical visits.

Division forces suffered one soldier killed and four wounded and evacuated for medical treatment.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

MG Charles M. Gettys, Commanding

MAJ Gerald D. Hill Jr., IO

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Join the Americal Division Veterans Association. Check with your First Sergeant or the Information Office.

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT THURSDAY

Mostly fair with scattered showers. High 95, low 77 Winds from north northeast at 10 knots.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Action was scattered yesterday in the Americal Division's southern I Corps Tactical Zone as Division forces and supporting elements accounted for 11 VC and eight NVA killed and one crew-served and four individual weapons captured.

"Charger" units of the 196th Inf. Bde. and supporting elements killed eight VC and captured one individual weapon in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa yesterday.

The 2d Bn., 1st Inf. command and control helicopter killed two VC 17 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

A 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company in two separate incidents nine miles south of Hoi An killed two VC and captured one M-16 rifle. The battalion command and control helicopter later killed two VC in the same area.

A 3d Bn., 21st Inf. "Gimlet" company killed one evading VC 15 miles west of Tam Ky.

"F" Trp., 8th Cav. killed one VC four miles east of Thang Binh.

Scattered enemy contacts yesterday resulted in eight NVA and three VC killed, two suspects detained, and three individual and one crew-served weapon captured during operations by 11th Bde. infantrymen in Quang Ngai Province.

Troops of a (A Company) 1st Bn., 20th Inf. company killed three NVA and then discovered a weapons and supply cache containing one RPD light machinegun, two AK-47 rifles, six RPG-7 rocket rounds, six Chicom hand grenades, one M-26 hand grenade, three RPD machinegun drums, over 1500 rounds of AK-47 ammo., 600 rounds of M-16 ammo., pouch, nine NVA packs, one U.S. trip flare, three NVA first aid packs, two NVA helmets, and assorted documents. The cache was found near a trail 20 miles west of Quang Ngai City.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. killed two VC in separate actions near huts located near the Tra Khuc river 15 and 16 miles west of Quang Ngai City. The "Scouts" also captured an M-1 carbine and detained one suspect in that action.

11th Bde. MPs from Duc Pho killed an evading VC near a hut four miles northwest of the "Jungle Warriors" home.

A 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company killed five NVA yesterday after receiving automatic weapons fire about three miles southwest of Ha Thanh.

In action late Monday night troops of a 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company detained one suspect among huts near the Tra Khuc River 15 miles west of Quang Ngai City.

Action was light and scattered in the 198th Inf. Bde. area of operations yesterday as "Brave and Bold" soldiers denied the enemy supplies and destroyed booby traps.

"Professionals" of a 5th Bn., 46th Inf. company found 400 pounds of rice the VC had cached in the hills northwest of Chu Lai. Later the company found and destroyed three booby traps.

Three M-79 rounds were found by a company of the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. as they searched a ridge line west of Chu Lai.

Another "Regulars" unit of the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. treated 426 Vietnamese during five MEDCAPs north of Chu Lai yesterday.

1st Bn., 52d Inf. Civic Action soldiers brought the total of civilians treated yesterday to 472 as the "Ready Rifles" attended to 46 more Vietnamese civilians.

"Dragoons" of the 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported no significant contacts in their area of operations yesterday.

Division forces suffered six soldiers killed and 31 wounded and evacuated for medical treatment.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

MG Charles M. Gettys, Commanding; MAJ Gerald D. Hill Jr., IO; Telephone: Chu Lai 3212 or 2414

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Vol. 2. No. 153 Thursday September 19, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT FRIDAY

Fair to partly cloudy skies with showers and thunderstorms. High 92, low 78. Winds northeast at about 5 to 8 knots. (B-6)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Action increased slightly in the Americal Division's southern I Corps Tactical Zone yesterday as Division forces reported 30 VC and seven NVA killed and two individual and one crew-served weapon captured.

In the 196th Inf. Bde's Operation Wheeler/Wallowa area yesterday "Charger" units killed 17 VC and captured one individual weapons.

Two 3d Bn., 21st Inf. companies killed two VC seven miles west of Tam Ky in two separate incidents. Another company of the battalion killed on evading VC with small arms and M-79 fire in the same area.

An OP for the 3d Bn., 21st Inf. called in artillery, killing one VC in an area seven miles west of Tam Ky.

In numerous small contacts yesterday the recon platoon of the 4th Bn., 21st Inf. killed 13 VC seven miles south of Hoi An.

Enemy contacts in the 11th Inf. Bde. was concentrated west of Quang Ngai in the Operation Champaign Grove as "Jungle Warriors" killed 10 VC and three NVA, detained one suspect, and captured one weapon.

A 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company commanded by CPT Paul C. Place (Kenilworth, NJ.) killed four VC and captured two packs while patrolling in a valley 20 miles west of Quang Ngai. "Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. screening for the 3d Bn., 1st Inf. killed four NVA in the same area.

A rifle platoon of a 1st Bn., 20th Inf. company led by 1LT Robert L. Janowitz (Glen Rock, N.J.) conducting a sweep through the troublesome mountains west of Ha Thanh OP4 killed two NVA soldiers and captured one AK-47 rifle, two NVA packs, and field equipment yesterday morning 18 miles west of Quang Ngai.

The recon platoon of the 1st Bn., 20th Inf. led by 1LT Ronald D. Hopper (Chagrin Falls, Ohio) killed two VC hiding in a tunnel west of Ha Thanh.

Another "Sykes Regulars" company of the 1st Bn., 20 Inf. killed one NVA in an area 18 miles west of Quang Ngai.

"Brave and Bold" soldiers of the 198th Inf. Bde. killed one VC and captured one crew-served weapon yesterday during scattered action in their area of operations.

The S-5 of the 1st Bn., 46th Inf. was credited with one VC killed yesterday when a VC fired on a Marine vehicle on Highway 1. A passenger in the vehicle observed the muzzle flash and engaged the enemy with machinegun fire, killing one VC.

A 1st Bn., 6th Inf. company led by CPT Robert L. Hicks (Boise, Idaho) located a VC base camp yesterday afternoon near Chu Lai. Although the VC avoided contact with the "Regulars" they were forced to leave behind a supply of beans, corn, and potatoes. Military documents which the enemy forgot in their haste to evade were also captured with the food supply.

One enemy flame thrower was captured by a unit northwest of Chu Lai yesterday.

Civic Action soldiers and infantrymen of a 1st Bn., 46th Inf. company conducted a cordon and search of a village northwest of Chu Lai yesterday morning. As a result of the MEDCAP led by the battalion surgeon, CPT Roger Browne (Philadelphia, PA.) following the action, 135 Vietnamese were treated.

The "Professionals" distributed 35 pounds of soap and evacuated five villagers for further medical treatment.

Some 136 more civilians were treated as the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. and the 1st Bn., 46th Inf. as each held two MEDCAPs.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported five VC killed, 15 huts and four bunkers destroyed by the 3d Bn., 16th Artillery, firing in support of "Blue Ghosts" of "F" Trp., 8th Cav. in Operation Burlington Trail yesterday. The "Blue Ghost" later killed an additional VC in the same area.

Division forces suffered eight soldiers killed and 32 wounded and evacuated for medical treatment.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

MG Charles M. Gettys, Commanding; MAJ Gerald D. Hill Jr., IO; Telephone: Chu Lai 3212 or 2414

Vol. 2. No. 163 Sunday September 29, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT MONDAY

Partly to mostly cloudy with occasional showers. High 90 Low 75. Winds variable at 5 to 10 knots. (B-6)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Action was light and scattered in the southern portion of I Corps Tactical Zone yesterday. Americal Division forces reported six NVA and 18 VC killed, one crew-served and two individual weapons captured, one NVA captured, and 14 suspects detained.

Scattered fighting in the 11th Inf. Bde's. area of operations yesterday resulted in nine VC killed and 11 suspects detained.

Troops of the 1st Bn., 20th Inf. operating with "Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. accounted for six VC killed and five suspects detained yesterday.

In the first action the two forces combined to kill four VC evading into a cave near a beach 10 miles northeast of Quang Ngai City.

The other two VC were killed in separate actions near abandoned railroad tracks 12 miles north of Quang Ngai City. One of the VC killed was wearing a green uniform. The other was killed when the unit spotted and engaged a group of VC. The group was traveling to the southwest of the area where an engineer unit had just received fire. In that contact five VC suspects were also detained. One of the detainees had pack marks on his back.

An OP of the 1st Bn., 20th Inf. spotted three VC near huts eight miles west of Quang Ngai City. The "Sykes Regulars" called in artillery from the 6th Bn., 11th Arty., killing all three.

In other action a recon. plt. from the 4th Bn., 3d Inf. detained two VC suspects without ID cards in a hut seven miles south of Duc Pho.

A 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company detained another VC suspect without an ID card among rice paddies near the same site.

Another 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company detained three VC suspects near a beach four miles southeast of Duc Pho.

In operation Wheeler/Wallowa, "Charger" units of the 196th Inf. Bde. killed eight VC yesterday.

A 2d Bn., 1st Inf. company engaged and killed with small arms fire a VC evading 10 miles southwest of Hoi An.

Another 2d Bn., 1st Inf. company was led to a dead VC by a Vietnamese boy yesterday. The boy said the VC had been wounded by the unit the day before.

A 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company received automatic weapons fire yesterday nine miles west of Tam Ky. The "Gimlets" returned fire with small arms. After the firing ceased, the unit searched the area. The "Gimlets" spotted a VC hiding in a spider hole. The enemy was engaged and killed with M-26 grenades.

In an area centered nine miles southwest of Hoi An, a recon. plt of the 4th Bn., 21st Inf. killed two VC.

Blue Ghosts" of "F" Trp., 8th Cav. working with the 2d Bn., 1st Inf. Observed three evading VC. The gunship engaged the VC, killing all three 15 miles southwest of Hoi An.

Six NVA were killed and one NVA captured as action tapered off in the 198th Inf. Bde's. area of operations yesterday. One crew-served and two individual weapons were also captured in the Burlington Trail area.

A 5th Bn., 46th Inf. company led by CPT Herbert A. Walter (Columbus, Ga.) killed six NVA who attacked their fire support base Friday night.

The NVA sappers had used a large portion of the night to climb the steep sides of the fire support base southwest of Chu Lai. But the "Professionals" were alert and opened fire as the enemy approached the defensive wire.

A search of the area at first light produced the bodies of six NVA and a seventh who had been wounded. The wounded prisoner was evacuated for medical treatment and interrogation.

Two AK-47 rifles and one RPG were also found in the search.

West of Chu Lai a 1st Bn., 6th Inf. company led by CPT Robert L. Hicks (Boise, Idaho) destroyed two booby traps yesterday afternoon. The "Regulars" found the booby traps while on a sweeping mission.

Civic Action soldiers of the Bde. treated 536 Vietnamese civilians during five MEDCAPs yesterday.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported one VC killed and three suspects detained in the Operation Burlington Trail area yesterday.

"F" Trp., 8th Cav. detained two suspects 15 miles north of Tam Ky.

"C" Trp., of the 1st Sqdn. found one VC body and detained one suspect. 15 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Seven Americal Division soldiers were reported wounded and evacuated for medical treatment as a result of yesterday's action.

Remember to take your malaria pills daily

Vol. 2. No. 164 Monday September 30, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT TUESDAY

Mostly Cloudy Occasional Rain Showers High 88 Low 75 (B-6)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Americal Division forces reported eight VC and one NVA killed and one individual weapon captured yesterday in the southern I Corps Tactical Zone.

Light action yesterday near Duc Pho resulted in one VC killed and five suspects detained during operations by 11th Inf. Bde. "Jungle Warriors".

Among huts three miles northwest of Duc Pho, troops of a 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company killed one evading VC and captured enemy documents.

"Old Guard" soldiers of a 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company detained three VC suspects in two separate actions four miles southeast of Duc Pho. The "Old Guard" soldiers detained a Vietnamese female trying to evade in a hut and found enemy documents and ID cards without pictures on them. Later they detained two more VC suspects by a trail near the same site.

In other action troops of another 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company detained a Vietnamese female without an ID card near a trail five miles south of Duc Pho. The infantrymen also detained one military age male in rice paddies 12 miles north of Duc Pho.

Light action in the Operation Wheeler/Wallowa area yesterday resulted in six VC killed by "Charger" units of the 196th Inf. Bde.

In an area centered 11 miles southwest of Hoi An, a recon. plt. from the 4th Bn., 21st Inf. killed two VC in two separate actions.

A 2d Bn., 1st Inf. company found the body of one VC killed by an air strike 21 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

A 3d Bn., 21st Inf. OP called artillery in on a group of VC 18 miles west of Tam Ky, killing one VC.

Another 3d Bn., 21st Inf. OP spotted two VC 12 miles west of Tam Ky. The "Guardians called in artillery killing both VC.

"Brave and Bold" soldiers of the 198th Inf. Bde. reported one VC and one NVA killed, one suspect detained, and one individual weapon captured in Operation Burlington Trail.

Yesterday morning a 1st Bn., 52d Inf. company led by 1LT Michael J. Deal (Arlington, VA.) spotted two enemy soldiers running six miles west of Tam Ky. The "Ready Rifles" engaged the fleeing enemy killing one NVA. The second surrendered and was evacuated for interrogation.

Early yesterday morning an unknown size enemy force attacked a fire support base north of Chu Lai. Units of the 1st Bn., 6th. Inf. repulsed the enemy attack which followed a mortar attack.

A search of the area at day-break revealed that one wounded VC and one K-50 rifle had been left behind. The wounded VC was evacuated for medical treatment and interrogation, but died shortly thereafter.

Two Vietnamese civilians taking advantage of the Volunteer Informant Program (VIP) yesterday, led soldiers of a 1st Bn., 6th Inf. company to a seven pound satchel charge north of Chu Lai.

No enemy contacts were reported by the 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. yesterday in their area of operations.

Two Americal Division soldiers were killed and 30 wounded and evacuated for medical treatment yesterday

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

MG Charles M. Gettys, Commanding

MAJ Paul B. Parham, IO

Telephone: Chu Lai 3212 or 2414

This News Sheet is published daily under the supervision of the IO, Americal Division APO96374 as an authorized Army publication. Views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army.

Vol. 2. No. 166 Wednesday October 2, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

THURSDAY

Partly Cloudy Occasional Showers High 88 Low 74 (B-6)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)-Americal Division soldiers reported two VC killed and 14 suspects detained in southern I Corps Tactical Zone yesterday.

11th Inf. Bde. "Jungle Warriors" reported one VC killed and 11 suspects detained during operations in Quang Ngai Province yesterday.

In action near Duc Pho, "Old Guard" soldiers of a 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company killed one evading VC near a trail one mile southwest of Duc Pho. The company also detained one VC suspect who had no ID card near the same site.

Recon. troops of the 3d Bn., 1st Inf. detained four VC suspects near abandoned railroad tracks 11 miles northwest of Duc Pho. Three of the suspects were caught as they tried to flee on bicycles.

Soldiers of another 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company detained two evading VC suspects near a hut two miles north of Duc Pho.

"Always First" soldiers of another 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company detained one suspected VC who had no ID card three miles northwest of Duc Pho.

In other action "Old Guard" soldiers of a 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company detained one VC suspect whose ID card had been altered. The suspect was caught near Highway 1, eight miles south of Duc Pho.

"Sykes Regulars" of the 1st Bn. 20th Inf. combined with "Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. to detain one VC suspect hiding atop a hill, five miles northwest of Quang Ngai City.

"Dragoons" of the 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported one VC killed, one VC captured, and two suspects detained in their area of operations yesterday.

"Blue Ghosts" of "F" Trp., 8th Cav. killed one VC 15 miles west of Tam Ky.

"C" Trp., wounded one VC in a contact 10 miles northeast of Tam Ky yesterday. The VC was evacuated for medical treatment and interrogation. Two VC suspects were detained in the same area.

Forward air controllers flying in support of the 198th Inf. Bde. ground forces directed 18 air strikes against an unknown size enemy force west of Tam Ky.

The air strikes ignited five secondary fires and destroyed four enemy bunkers.

390 Vietnamese civilians were treated as a result of five MEDCAPs conducted yesterday, three by "Professionals" of the 5th Bn., 46th Inf., and two by "Regulars" of the 1st Bn., 6th Inf.

196th Inf. Bde. "Chargers" reported no contacts yesterday in their area of operations.

One Americal Division soldier was killed and 22 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment yesterday.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

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Vol. 2. No. 172 Tuesday October 8, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

WEDNESDAY

Partly Cloudy High 96 Low 75

0750-1937-Hours of non-moonlight

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Thirty VC killed and 17 suspects detained were the results of light scattered enemy contacts in the Americal Division's southern I Corps Tactical Zone yesterday.

"Jungle Warriors" of the 11th Inf. Bde. killed 18 VC and detained 17 suspects in action centered northeast of Quang Ngai City yesterday.

Soldiers of the 1st Bn., 20th Inf. working with "Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. killed eight VC in three contacts in an area centered 10 miles northeast of the province capital.

Infantrymen of another 1st Bn., 20th Inf. company killed three VC and detained one VC suspect near huts 11 miles northeast of Quang Ngai City.

"Sykes Regulars" also found four 82mm mortar rounds, four shot gun shells, five mortar fuses, and several mud bunkers in a village in the same vicinity.

A 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company found three dead VC near Highway 1, 11 miles south of Duc Pho.

Another 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company found another VC body late Sunday night near Highway 1, six miles south of Duc Pho. The VC had been killed by harassment and interdiction fire from the 6th Bn., 11th Arty.

"Old Guard" soldiers also detained five VC suspects near a stream four miles south of Duc Pho.

Late Sunday night troops from a 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company detained 11 VC suspects on a beach three miles north of Duc Pho.

Troops of a another 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company found the body of a VC late Sunday night near Highway 1, four miles north of Duc Pho.

"Always First" soldiers of one 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company killed a VC six miles west of Duc Pho.

"Always First" soldiers of one 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company killed a VC six miles west of Duc Pho.

The 3d Bn., 1st Inf. command and control helicopter killed one VC near a village four miles north of Duc Pho.

In the 196th Inf. Bde.'s area of operations yesterday "Charger" units killed eight VC.

A 2d Bn., 1st Inf. company spotted a group of VC 13 miles northwest of Tam Ky. The "Guardians" engaged the enemy with small arms and M-79 fire killing six.

The 2d Bn., 1st Inf. command control helicopter killed one VC three miles south of Que Son.

A 4th Bn., 21st Inf. reconnaissance platoon engaged and killed one VC seven miles southwest of Hoi An.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported four VC killed in their area of operations yesterday.

The 3d Bn., 16th Arty. killed four VC eight miles west of Tam Ky while firing in support of "B" Trp., 1st Sqdn.

Contacts were light and scattered in the 198th Inf. Bde.'s area of operations yesterday.

A 1st Bn., 52d Inf. company led by CPT John A Dierden (Minneapolis, Minn.) found a tunnel complex while searching an area west of Tam Ky. The "Ready Rifles" found 50 pounds of rice in the complex.

"Professionals" of the 5th Bn., 46th Inf. held six MEDCAPs south of Chu Lai. **"Regulars" of the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. held two north of Chu Lai. A total of 914 Vietnamese civilians were treated during the eight MEDCAPs.**

Division forces suffered four soldiers wounded and evacuated for medical treatment as a result of yesterday's contacts.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

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MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

THURSDAY Fair to Partly Cloudy Skies High 95 Low 75
0841-2058--Hours of non-moonlight

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Americal Division units reported light scattered contacts their southern I Corps Tactical Zone yesterday. Division forces accounted for seven VC and one NVA killed, four individual weapons captured and 15 suspects detained.

Scattered action in Quang Ngai Province yesterday resulted in three VC killed, 10 suspects detainee, and three individual weapons captured by 11th Inf. Bde. "Jungle Warriors".

Yesterday morning "Sykes Regulars" of a 1st Bn., 20 Inf. company combined with "Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. to kill one VC and capture his carbine near a trail 11 miles northeast of Quang Ngai City.

Later yesterday morning three miles north of Duc Pho, "Always First" troops of a 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company engaged and killed one VC with hand grenades. One M-1 rifle was captured in that action near rice paddies.

Yesterday afternoon another company from the 3d Bn., 1st Inf. killed one fleeing VC and captured his AK-47 rifle seven miles northwest of Duc Pho.

One 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company detained four VC sympathizers near a village two miles north of Duc Pho.

A 1st Bn., 20th Inf. company detained two VC suspects near a village 13 miles northeast of Quang Ngai City.

In other action "Old Guard" soldiers of the 4th Bn., 3d Inf. combined with "Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. to detain four VC suspects eight miles south of Duc Pho.

In the 196th Inf. Bde.'s area of operations "Charger" units killed two VC and one NVA and captured one individual weapon.

A 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company engaged and killed one VC with small arms fire eight miles southwest of Hoi An. Near the same site another 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company killed one VC and captured his AK-47 rifle.

A 4th Bn., 31st Inf. company engaged and killed one NVA 13 miles southwest of Hoi An.

The 198th Inf. Bde. reported two VC killed in their area of operations yesterday.

A Combined Action Platoon operating south of Chu Lai came under heavy automatic weapons fire yesterday morning. The platoon called artillery from the 198th's 1st Bn., 14th Arty., resulting in two VC killed.

A 1st Bn., 52d Inf. company found a spider hole complex west of Chu Lai yesterday. A small assortment of food and supplies were found in the complex. Later in the same area the unit destroyed a booby-trapped Chicom grenade.

Another 1st Bn., 52d Inf. company detained five VC suspects in the Burlington Trail area yesterday.

"Regulars" of the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. held three MEDCAPs; "Professionals" of the 1st Bn., 46th Inf. held one, and the 5th Bn., 46th Inf. held two. A total of 586 Vietnamese civilians were treated during the six MEDCAPs.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

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The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported negative contact in their area of operations yesterday.

Americal Division forces suffered three soldiers killed and 34 wounded and evacuated for medical treatment.

Vol. 2. No. 174 Thursday October 10, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT FRIDAY

Partly Cloudy High 95 Low 75 1025-2144--Hours of non-moonlight

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Thirteen VC and two NVA were killed, two individual weapons were captured, and 15 suspects were detained by Americal Division soldiers and supporting units in the southern I Corps Tactical Zone yesterday.

In the 196th Inf. Bde.'s area of operations "Charger" units killed six VC and two NVA and captured one individual weapon.

A 4th Bn., 31st Inf. company spotted three VC 17 miles west of Tam Ky. The "Gimlets" engaged the enemy, killing one and detaining two VC.

An NVA threw a grenade at troops of a 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company from his concealed position yesterday. The "Gimlets" immediately fired into the position, killing the NVA. One AK-47 rifle was captured in that action. The troops later killed one VC in the same area.

The reconnaissance element of the 4th Bn., 21st Inf. engaged and killed two VC with small arms fire five miles south of Hoi An. In the same area another company of the battalion engaged a group of VC, killing one.

Gunships of the 71st Avn. Co. firing in support of a sniffer mission yesterday killed one NVA 19 miles west of Tam Ky.

A 2d Bn., 1st Inf. company spotted a group of VC running from a hut 15 miles northwest of Tam Ky. The enemy was engaged, resulting in one VC killed.

11th Bde. infantrymen reported five VC killed, 15 VC suspects detained, and one individual weapon captured as scattered contacts continued yesterday in Quang Ngai Province.

"Shark" gunships of the 174th Avn. Co. killed two VC near Highway 1 in the 4th Bn., 3d Inf. area of operations, one mile northwest of Duc Pho.

"Always First" soldiers of a 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company killed one VC and captured his M-1 carbine 10 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Near huts five miles west of Duc Pho, troops of another 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company killed a VC. Miscellaneous documents were found on the dead VC's body. Later another VC was killed near the same site by the company.

The reconnaissance element of the 1st Bn., 20th Inf. detained three VC suspects 11 miles northeast of Quang Ngai City.

Reconnaissance troops of the 3d Bn., 1st Inf. detained two VC suspects, who were carrying medical supplies, five miles north of Duc Pho.

Yesterday morning "Sykes Regulars" of a 1st Bn., 20th Inf. company detained five VC suspects 11 miles northeast of Quang Ngai City.

In an area centered seven miles north of Quang Ngai City, "Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. working with infantrymen of the 1st Bn. 20th Inf. detained two VC suspects in two separate actions.

Yesterday afternoon the 4th Bn., 3d Inf. command and control helicopter detained one VC suspect one mile west of Duc Pho.

The 198th Inf. Bde. reported two VC killed in their area of operations yesterday.

A Combined Action Patrol found two VC bodies in the Chu Lai area yesterday. The VC had been killed by artillery fire from a 1st Bn., 82d Arty. Battery.

"Dragoons" of the 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported no contacts in their area of operations yesterday.

Americal Division losses were five wounded and evacuated for medical treatment.

Four young Vietnamese women trained by 1st Bn., 6th Inf. medical personnel held their first MEDCAP yesterday, and treated 241 Vietnamese.

Less than a week ago the girls were "graduated" during a ceremony at Ly Tin District Headquarters. They had completed two weeks of intensive instruction in the basics of medicine and hygiene.

Other "Brave and Bold" units combined forces to bring the days total to 801 Vietnamese treated during six MEDCAPs.

Vol. 2. No. 175 Friday October 11, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

SATURDAY Cloudy Skies Occasional Showers High 92 Low 76.

1118-2233-Hours of non-moonlight

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)-Americal Division forces reported 10 VC killed, four individual weapons captured, and 7000 pounds of rice captured in the southern I Corps Tactical Zone yesterday.

In the 196th Inf. Bde.'s area of operations yesterday, "Charger" units reported six VC killed, three individual weapons captured, and 7000 pounds of rice captured.

A 3d Bn., 21st Inf. company engaged and killed one VC with small arms fire 21 miles west of Tam Ky.

A 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company spotted one VC who ran into a tunnel, eight miles north of Hoi An. The enemy was engaged with M-26 grenades, resulting in one VC killed.

Another 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company spotted a VC running into a bunker 10 miles west of Hoi An. The unit engaged and killed the VC with M-26 grenades.

The reconnaissance element of the 4th Bn., 21st Inf. engaged and killed two VC with small arms fire nine miles north of Hoi An.

Military Police at LZ Ross's main gate received small arms fire yesterday. Mortars fired into the suspected sniper position resulted in one VC killed.

A 4th Bn., 31st Inf. company searching an area 29 miles west of Tam Ky yesterday found one M-16 rifle, one M-1 carbine, and one MAS-36 rifle.

In an area 25 miles northwest of Tam Ky yesterday, troops of a 2d Bn., 1st Inf. company found 7000 pounds of rice.

Units of the 198th Inf. Bde. reported two VC killed, three VC captured, and three VC suspects detained yesterday.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. killed two VC south of Chu Lai yesterday morning. The gunships then went into search the area. The "Aero Scouts" detained three military age males in the area for interrogation. All three suspects were later classified as VC.

In the Operation Burlington Trail area a 1st Bn., 52d Inf. company led by 1LT Stephen J. Olsen (Minneapolis) detained two VC suspects yesterday morning. Neither of the suspects had ID cards.

Another 1st Bn., 52d Inf. "Ready Rifles" company led by 1LT Michael J. Deal (Arlington, Va.) detained one VC suspect in the same area.

Civic Action soldiers of the brigade treated 525 Vietnamese during five MEDCAPs yesterday.

Light enemy contact continued yesterday in Quang Ngai Province as 11th Bde. infantrymen reported one VC killed, one individual weapon captured, and two suspects detained.

"E" Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. working with the 4th Bn., 3d Inf. detained one VC suspect five miles southeast of Quang Ngai City.

Another 1st Bn., 20th Inf. company killed one VC three miles northeast of Son Tinh. In the same area a platoon from the 1st Cav.'s "E" Trp., engaged a group of VC, resulting in one SDS rifle captured.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported one VC killed by "F" Trp., 8th Cav. yesterday nine miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Americal Division forces suffered four soldiers killed and 12 wounded and evacuated for medical treatment.

198th Inf. Bde. soldiers have added a new word to their list, VETCAP. Now Veterinarians of the Brigade treat animals while doctors and medics attend to the villagers.

"Brave and Bold" soldiers held their first VETCAP yesterday. 35 cows were examined and 11 received on-the-spot treatment.

Some people collect strange war souvenirs. Perhaps the most unusual came late Wednesday night.

SP4 Michael L. Rogers (Baltimore) of a 1st Bn., 6th Inf. company shot and killed a full-grown leopard.

The handsome 80-pound beast is now a trophy that will be the envy of any trophy collector.

The leopard came too close to the 198th unit's defensive position and Rogers brought the animal down with one perfectly placed shot through the heart.

A skinner went to work yesterday morning and by noon the skin was drawing a crowd of photographers and many envious stares.

Vol. 2. No. 178 Monday October 14, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

TUESDAY Cloudy Skies Rain Showers High 85 Low 73 1347-0113 Hours of non-moonlight.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Americal Division units and supporting elements accounted for 16 VC killed and 19 VC suspects detained in the southern I Corps area yesterday.

"Charger" units and supporting elements accounted for 15 VC killed in the Operation Wheeler/Wallowa area yesterday.

In an area 16 miles northwest of Tam Ky a 1st Bn., 2d Inf. OP observed a group of VC harvesting rice in an unauthorized harvest area. The OP called in artillery, resulting in 5 VC killed.

In an area centered 12 miles west of Tam Ky a reconnaissance element from the 3d Bn., 21st Inf. killed two VC in two separate contacts.

A 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company killed one VC seven miles south of Hoi An. The VC was hiding in a stream when he was killed.

In a series of contacts nine miles south of Hoi An a 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company killed four VC.

Gunships from the 14th Avn. Bn. engaged a group of VC six miles south of Hoi An, killing two.

"Blue Ghosts" of F Trp., 8th Cav. flying in support of the 4th Bn., 21st Inf., engaged and killed one VC seven miles south of Hoi An.

Action in the 11th Inf. Bde. area of operations dropped yesterday. "Jungle Warriors" of the brigade killed one VC and detained three suspects.

The brigade's only kill was credited to early morning artillery fire from the 6th Bn., 11th Arty. The VC body was found in an area seven miles northeast of Duc Pho.

Later in the morning, elements of E Trp., 1st Cav. apprehended two VC suspects in the same area. The two had been wounded by the artillery barrage.

Elements of a 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company led by CPT Grady Middleton (Quincy, Fla.) captured a VC suspect as they moved through rice paddies southeast of Duc Pho.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported 10 VC suspects detained in the Operation Burlington Trail area yesterday. "Blue Ghosts" of F Trp., 8th Cav. detained two and A Trp., 1st Cav., detained eight.

Units of the 198th Inf. Bde. detained six VC suspects yesterday in the Chu Lai area.

A 5th Bn., 46th Inf. company led by CPT Geoge [sic] L. Harmon detained four VC suspects while sweeping an area yesterday morning. The unit later found and destroyed a tunnel.

Another 5th Bn., 46th Inf. company led by 1LT James J. Frazier (Decatur, Ill.) located and destroyed an 81mm round while searching an area south of Chu Lai.

"Regulars" of a 1st Bn. 6th Bn., company led by CPT Thomas A. Chapman (Schofield Barracks, Hawaii) detained one VC suspect while sweeping an area west of Chu Lai.

In the Burlington Trail area a 1st Bn., 52nd Inf., company led by CPT Floyd W. McLean, Jr., (Ft. Sill, Okla.) captured 700 pounds of rice. The "Ready Rifles" found the rice when they searched two abandoned huts west of Tam Ky.

A further search of the area revealed a tunnel which the company destroyed.

Shortly afterwards the company detained a VC suspect near the same site.

Civic action soldiers of the brigade treated 183 Vietnamese during two MEDCAPs yesterday.

Americal forces suffered two soldiers killed and 17 wounded and evacuated for medical treatment yesterday.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

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Vol. 2. No. 180 Wednesday October 16, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

THURSDAY

Cloudy Rain Showers High 83 Low 73 1513-0302-hours of non-moonlight.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Americal Division forces accounted for nine VC killed and 23 VC suspects detained in the southern I Corps area yesterday.

The 11th Inf. Bde. reported six VC killed and 17 VC suspects detained in their area of operations yesterday.

A 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company detained 16 VC suspects in an area centered three miles south of Duc Pho.

Another 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company detained one VC suspect four miles southeast of Duc Pho.

"Always First" soldiers of a 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company killed two VC in an area centered six miles northwest of Duc Pho.

"Shark" gunships of the 174th Avn. Co., supporting the 4th Bn., 3d Inf. three miles south of Duc Pho killed one VC.

A 1st Bn., 20th Inf. company killed two VC in separate actions nine miles east of Quang Ngai City.

Later near the same site another company of the battalion killed one VC.

"Charger" units of the 196th Inf. Bde. killed three VC in the Operations Wheeler/Wallowa area yesterday.

In action 10 miles south of Chu Lai a 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company engaged two VC, killing one.

In two separate incidents the 2d Bn., 1st Inf. command and control helicopter killed two VC 17 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Units of the 198th Inf. Bde. detained three VC suspects in their area of operations yesterday.

"Aero Scouts of the 123d Avn. Bn. detained three VC suspects in separate incidents south of Chu Lai.

A 5th Bn., 46th Inf. company commanded by CPT Herbert A. Walter (Columbus, Ga.) uncovered a cache of 10 M-79 rounds, 13 M-16 AP mines, and a booby trapped M-14 mine in the Chu Lai area.

Later in the day another company of the battalion led by CPT George L. Harmon (Dothan, Ala.) found and destroyed a booby-trapped 155mm round.

In the Burlington Trail area a 1st Bn., 52d Inf. company led by CPT Jack W. Sorensen (Council Bluffs, Iowa) found and destroyed three booby traps.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav reported three VC suspects detained in the Operation Burlington Trail area yesterday by its "C" Trp.

One Americal soldier was killed and nine wounded and evacuated for medical treatment yesterday.

The 198th Inf. Bde. reached a milestone yesterday. The "Brave and Bold" soldiers treated their 100,000th Vietnamese under the MEDCAP program the 1000,000th patient was treated in less than one year since the brigade has been in the Republic of Vietnam. A young Vietnamese woman trained by the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. treated the 100,000th patient.

At the same time, not far away, an Americal Division Veterinarian and Vet technicians from the 52d Inf. Plt. (Scout Dog) were holding their second VETCAP in the 198th's area of operations.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

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Vol. 2. No. 181 Thursday October 17, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

FRIDAY Cloudy Rain Showers High 86 Low 73 1553-0355--Hours of non-moonlight.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Ten VC and one NVA were killed, two individual weapons were captured, and 8 suspects were detained by Americal Division soldiers hiking through heavy monsoon rain and flooded rice paddies during combat sweeps in southern I Corps yesterday.

In the Operation Wheeler/Wallowa area "Charger" elements of the 196th Inf. Bde. killed six VC and captured one individual weapons.

"Gimlets" of a 3d Bn., 21st Inf. company engaged two VC 10 miles west of Tam Ky yesterday. One VC was killed and one was detained.

In an area centered 16 miles west of Tam Ky, another 3d Bn., 21st Inf. company killed a total of three VC in two separate contacts.

A 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company engaged a group of VC with small arms fire seven miles south of Hoi An. Two VC were killed and one was wounded and detained.

"Polar Bears" of a 4th Bn., 31st Inf. company engaged two VC 21 miles west of Tam Ky. One VC was wounded and detained and one M-16 rifle recovered.

The 2d Bn., 1st Inf. command and control helicopter destroyed a hut containing 1500 pounds of rice 12 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

"Guardians" of a 2d Bn., 1st Inf. company found 1000 pounds of rice in a hut 12 miles south of Hoi An.

"Jungle Warriors" of the 11th Inf. Bde. accounted for four VC killed, five VC suspects detained, and three-and-one-half tons of rice captured.

Elements of a 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company commanded by CPT Paul C. Place (Kenilworth, N.J.) combined with "Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. to kill two VC while sweeping rice paddies eight miles north of Duc Pho. The "Always First" company also discovered two caches containing 700 pounds of rice.

"Sykes Regulars" of a 1st Bn., 20th Inf. company led by CPT George F. Robb (Strongsville, Ohio) killed two VC and detained five VC suspects while searching an area 10 miles northwest of Quang Ngai City.

"Brave and Bold" soldiers of the 198th Inf. Bde. killed one NVA and captured one individual weapon yesterday.

A 1st Bn., 52d Inf. company led by CPT Jack W. Sorensen (Council Bluffs, Iowa) engaged two NVA west of Tam Ky yesterday afternoon.

A hail of fire from the "Ready Rifles" company killed one of the NVA and wounded the second. One AK-47 rifle, web gear, and two Chicom grenades were captured from the dead NVA's body.

In a delayed report, troops of the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. and the 5th Bn., 46th Inf. treated 1017 Vietnamese in a four day period during 13 MEDCAPs. Twelve of the MEDCAPs were conducted by the 5th Bn., 46th Inf.

"Dragoons" of the 1st Bn., 1st Armored Cav. reported no significant contacts in their area of operations yesterday.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

MG Charles M. Gettys, Commanding

MAJ Paul B. Parham, IO

SP/5 Ronald A Nahass, Editor

Telephone: Chu Lai 3212 or 2414

This News Sheet is published daily under the supervision of the IO, Americal Division APO96374 as an authorized Army publication. Views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army.

Americal Division forces suffered two soldiers wounded and evacuated for medical treatment yesterday.

Vol. 2. No. 182 Friday October 18, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

SATURDAY Cloudy Rain Showers High 86 Low 73 1632-0450--Hours of non-moonlight

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Americal Division units accounted for 11 VC killed, seven VC suspects detained, and 2,250 pounds of rice captured in southern I Corps zone yesterday.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported five VC killed by the 3d Bn., 16th Arty. in the Burlington Trail area while firing in support of "Dragoons" of "B" Trp., 1st Cav.

"Charger" units of the 196th Inf. Bde. accounted for four VC killed and a rice cache captured in the Operation Wheeler/Wallowa area yesterday.

"Gimlets" of a 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company spotted a group of VC 12 miles south of Hoi An. the enemy was engaged resulting in one VC killed.

"Guardians" of a 2d Bn., 1st Inf. company observed one VC hiding atop a rock 12 miles southwest of Hoi An. The VC was engaged and killed with small arms fire.

A 3d Bn., 21st Inf. company engaged and killed a VC 12 miles west of Tam Ky. Later, near the same site the "Gimlets" killed a second VC.

A 2,250 pound rice cache was found by a 2d Bn., 1st Inf. company 12 miles southwest of Hoi An.

Action in the 11th Inf. Bde.'s area of operations remained light and scattered yesterday. "Jungle Warrior" units reported two VC killed and two VC suspects detained.

A 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company led by 1LT Larry Birchfield (Albuquerque, N.M.) accounted for both enemy kills.

The "Always First" company engaged and killed the first VC while making a combat sweep four miles north of Duc Pho. Miscellaneous enemy documents were found on the enemy's body.

Later, the company spotted a second VC hiding in a spider hole. The enemy was engaged and killed. Two M-26 grenades were captured as a result of that action.

A 1st Bn., 20th Inf. company led by CPT Harold A. Maxson III (Wichita, Kan.) detained one VC suspect near Quang Ngai yesterday. The suspect had several items of equipment on his person which a Kit Carson Scout tentatively identified as NVA issue.

Another 1st Bn., 20th Inf. "Sykes Regulars" company led by CPT Alfred M. Webb (LaJolla, Calif.) apprehended one VC suspect near the same site.

Units of the 198th Inf. Bde. detained five VC suspects in their area of operations yesterday.

"Regulars" of a 1st Bn., 6th Inf. company led by 1LT Larry Stovall detained one VC suspect north of Chu Lai yesterday morning.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. detained two VC suspects yesterday during two separate incidents south of Chu Lai. The two military-age males were caught trying to flee from the gunships.

A 5th Bn., 46th Inf. company led by CPT Herbert A. Walter (Columbus, Ga.) detained two VC suspects yesterday afternoon. The suspects were detained by the "Professional" while sweeping an area south of Chu Lai.

Civic action soldiers of the brigade treated 258 Vietnamese during four MEDCAPs yesterday.

Americal forces suffered two soldiers wounded and evacuated for medical treatment yesterday.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

MG Charles M. Gettys, Commanding

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Vol. 2. No. 183 Saturday October 19, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT SUNDAY

Cloudy Rain Showers High 86 Low 74 1711-0542--Hours of non-moonlight

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Americal Division units accounted for 40 VC and one NVA killed, 24 VC suspects detained, and six individual weapons captured in southern I Corps yesterday.

Action in the 11th Inf. Bde. area of operations picked up sharply yesterday. "Jungle Warrior" infantrymen killed 26 VC, detained 10 VC suspects and captured four individual weapons.

The action took place on the Song Ve 12 miles south of Quang Ngai City.

In action beginning just before noon yesterday, "Shark" gunships of the 174th Avn. Co. operating with 3d Bn., 1st Inf. soldiers engaged a group of approximately 15 enemy soldiers, killing three VC.

A short time later a 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company commanded by CPT James O'Herron (Winona, Minn.) killed one VC fleeing their combat sweep in the same area.

The action picked up as the 3d Bn., 1st Inf. command and control helicopter engaged three fleeing VC, killing two and detaining the third.

At the same moment, a 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company led by 1LT Larry Birchfield (Albuquerque, N.M.) reported contact with a company-size enemy element across the Song Ve opposite their position. The "Always First" unit called for gunship support.

The company then initiated the action by killing seven VC and capturing two AK-47 rifles.

During the course of the long afternoon battle, the "Always First" unit detained three suspects and captured a K-44 rifle.

Meanwhile, the 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company led by CPT James O'Herron had maneuvered into a blocking position, killing two VC.

A short time later the company killed a lone evading VC. Then a second VC was killed when he tried to recover the first VC's body.

"Shark" gunships accounted for one more VC killed during the afternoon.

"War Lord" gunships from the 123d Avn. Bn. flying in support of the 3d Bn., 1st Inf. killed five VC.

In other action a 1st Bn., 20th Inf. company led by CPT George M. Robb (Strongsville, Ohio) killed two VC and detained three suspects 11 miles northwest of Quang Ngai City.

A 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company commanded by CPT Grady Middleton (Quincy, Fla.) killed one VC, captured an M-1 carbine, and detained three VC suspects five miles southwest of Duc Pho.

"Charger" units of the 196th Inf. Bde. killed 12 VC and captured one individual weapon in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa yesterday.

A 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company killed two VC in two separate incidents seven miles south of Hoi An.

Another 4th Bn., 21st company killed one VC nine miles south of Hoi An.

Another 4th Bn., 21st Inf. company killed one VC nine miles south of Hoi An.

A 4th Bn., 21st Inf. recon. plt. spotted a group of VC southwest of Hoi An. The group of VC were engaged with small arms fire, resulting in three VC killed. Later the unit killed another VC in the same area.

A 2d Bn., 1st Inf. company uncovered a small cache of ammo and equipment, including one AK-47 rifle, 17 miles west of Tam Ky.

A 3d Bn., 21st Inf. company, 13 miles west of Tam Ky, observed a small group of VC moving north. The "Gimlets" called an artillery fire mission, resulting in one VC killed.

A reconnaissance element from the 3d Bn., 21st Inf. killed one VC 12 miles west of Tam Ky.

Three VC were killed seven miles west of Tam Ky by a 2d Bn., 1st Inf. company yesterday.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported two VC killed and three VC suspects detained 10 miles northwest of Tam Ky by "F" Trp., 8th Cav. yesterday.

Units of the 198th Inf. Bde. killed one NVA, detained 11 suspects and captured one individual weapon yesterday.

A 1st Bn., 6th Inf. recon. plt. led by 1LT George Wright (Lake Geneva, Wis.) detained one VC suspect west of Chu Lai yesterday morning.

Two VC suspects were detained south of Chu Lai by a 5th Bn., 46th Inf. company led by 1LT James J. Frazier (Decatur, Ill.). The two suspects were carrying medical supplies and documents. Later the company captured an AK-47 rifle while on a searching mission.

Late yesterday morning a 1st Bn., 6th Inf. company led by CPT Robert L. Hicks (Boise, Idaho) detained two VC suspects while sweeping an area south of Chu Lai. The "Regulars" also found and destroyed one home-made mine in the same area.

(Continued)

(Continued) Vol. 2. No. 183 Saturday October 19, 1968

"Professionals" of a 5th Bn., 46th Inf. recon. plt. led by 1Lt William G. Mullen (Falmouth, Mass.) killed one NVA west of Chu Lai yesterday afternoon.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. detained six VC suspects in the Chu Lai area.

In the Burlington Trail area a 1st Bn., 46th Inf. company led by CPT Roger Dimsdale (Washington, D.C.) captured 300 pounds of rice and 100 rounds of .50 cal. ammo while on a reconnaissance in force mission northwest of Chu Lai.

314 Vietnamese were treated during four MEDCAPs held by the civic action soldiers of the brigade yesterday.

-Division Losses-

Americal forces suffered four soldiers killed and 22 wounded and evacuated for medical treatment yesterday.

A joint operation involving Americal Division troops and Vietnamese civilians from the Que Son District of Quang Ngai Province has resulted in 529,830 pounds of rice harvested to date in the unsecured regions of the Que Son Valley.

A 2d Bn., 1st Inf. company reported 800 pounds of rice harvested yesterday.

A 4th Bn., 31st Inf. company reported another 500 pounds of rice harvested.

The two 196th Inf. Bde. companies are providing security for the refugees who are daily airlifted into the area to harvest the rice.

Vol. 2. No. 185 Monday October 21, 1968
MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT TUESDAY

Rain, Rain, Rain

High 88 Low 74

1752-0645--Hours of non-moonlight 0% illumination

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Eighteen VC and one NVA were killed, four individual weapons captured, and eight suspects were detained in Southern I Corps yesterday by Americal Division units.

Nine VC and one NVA were killed and three individual weapons were captured by 196th Inf. Bde. "Charger" units in Operations Wheeler/Wallowa yesterday.

A 3rd Bn., 21st Inf. company killed one VC with M-60 machine gun fire 12 miles west of Tam Ky. The VC was wearing a grey uniform.

A short time later the "Gimlet" company spotted a group of NVA moving up a trail. A hasty ambush was set up, resulting in one NVA killed and one AK-47 and one SKS rifle, and four Chicom grenades captured.

Another 3d Bn., 21st Inf. company killed one VC with M-60 machinegun fire as he fled a hut 14 miles west of Tam Ky. The VC was wearing a khaki uniform.

"Guardians" of a 2d Bn., 1st Inf. company killed one VC 15 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

A 4th Bn., 21st Inf. recon. plt. engaged a group of VC fleeing a hut seven miles south of Hoi An. Three VC were killed and one M-1 carbine was captured.

The "Gimlet" recon. plt. later killed three VC in the same area.

Action in the 11th Inf. Bde.'s area of operations was slowed by heavy rain and winds with gusts up to 35 knots yesterday. "Jungle Warrior" units accounted for six suspects detained.

One VC was killed by a 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company commanded by CPT James O'Herron (Winona, Minn.) during a combat sweep five miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Later in the afternoon the "Always First" unit encountered two more VC. The enemy was engaged resulting in two VC killed six miles northwest of Duc Pho.

"Old Guard" soldiers of a 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company led by 1LT Robert F. Woodruff (Columbus, O.) killed two VC two miles northwest of Duc Pho.

The unit searched the area and found a 100 pound box of TNT.

A short time later the 4th Bn., 3d Inf. command and control helicopter (C&C) commanded by LTC Albert L. Russel, Jr. (Haleiwa, Ha.) killed one VC three miles west of Duc Pho.

In the same vicinity the C&C detained VC suspects later in the day.

Units of the 198th Inf. Bde. accounted for three VC killed, two suspects detained, one weapon captured, and a small ammo cache found yesterday.

In the Burlington Trail area a 1st Bn., 52d Inf. company led by CPT Jack W. Sorensen (Council Bluffs, Iowa) detained one VC suspect west of Tam Ky.

A 1st Bn., 46th Inf. company led by 1LT David O. Bergeron (Fairfield, O.) found an enemy ammo cache hidden in a cave and tunnel complex northwest of Tam Ky.

125 Chicom grenades 44 70mm artillery rounds, 3,100 AK-47 rounds, and eight RPG rockets were among the items in the cache.

The unit found two VC bodies later in the day near the same site.

1LT Bergeron's company later spotted a small group of VC in the vicinity. An artillery fire mission was called, resulting in one VC killed.

A 1st Bn., 6th Inf. company engaged two VC five miles west of Chu Lai, wounding one and capturing one AK-47 rifle. The wounded VC was evacuated for medical treatment and interrogation.

In the Chu Lai area a 5th Bn., 46th Inf. Company captured 450 pounds of rice.

480 Vietnamese were treated during five MEDCAPs held by 198th Inf. Bde. soldiers yesterday.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported negative contact in their area of operations yesterday.

Americal losses were one soldier wounded and evacuated for medical treatment.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

MG Charles M. Gettys, Commanding

MAJ Paul B. Parham, IO

PFC Donald J. Mahoney, Editor

Telephone: Chu Lai 3212 or 2414

Vol. 2. No. 186 Tuesday October 22, 1968
MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT WEDNESDAY

Mostly Cloudy

Occasional Afternoon & Evening rainshowers

High 85 Low 72

0747-1836--Hours of non-moonlight

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Americal Division units accounted for 20 VC and one NVA killed, 10 suspects detained, and one individual and one crew-served weapon captured yesterday in southern I Corps.

"Charger units of the 196th Inf. Bde. accounted for 14 VC and one NVA killed and one 60mm mortar tube captured in the Operation Wheeler/Wallowa area yesterday.

11th Inf. Bde. "Jungle Warriors" accounted for four VC killed, nine suspects detained and one individual weapon captured in their area of operations yesterday.

Elements of the 1st Bn., 20th Inf. operating 15 miles northwest of Quang Ngai City, accounted for three VC killed yesterday.

The 1st Bn., 20th Inf. command and control helicopter commanded by LTC William D. Guinn (Greeneville, Tenn.) killed the first VC.

The 11th Inf. Bde. command control helicopter, also providing support for the "Sykes Regulars," engaged two VC. One was killed and the other detained by the helicopter commanded by COL John W. Donaldson (Alexandria, VA.)

The third VC was killed by a 1st Bn., 20th Inf. company when the "Sykes Regulars" spotted him hiding in a spider hole with a false cover made from wood, dirt and grass.

Early yesterday afternoon a 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company commanded by CPT Alfred N. Webb (LaJolla, Calif.) observed a VC hiding in a fortified bunker. He was engaged and killed when he refused to surrender.

Meanwhile, another "Old Guard" company, commanded by CPT John J. Murphy (Springfield, Penn.) detained three VC suspects just outside the western perimeter of LZ Bronco, at Duc Pho.

Later another company of the battalion, led by CPT Robert F. Woodruff (Columbus, O. detained four VC suspects during a combat sweep two miles west of Duc Pho.

Late yesterday afternoon the brigades S-2 detained one VC suspect 12 miles southeast of Duc Pho during an aerial reconnaissance mission.

One 4th Bn., 3d Inf. company found a French MAC pistol five miles south of Duc Pho.

198th Inf. Bde. soldiers killed two VC and detained one suspect in their area of operations yesterday.

"Professionals" of a 1st Bn., 46th Inf. company, led by 1LT David O. Bergeron (Fairfield, O.) killed one VC west of Tam Ky.

Another company of the battalion, led by CPT Roger Dimsdale (Washington, D.C.), found a tunnel containing two Chicom compasses, maps, 50 pounds of small arms ammo in the same area.

Nearby, one VC suspect was evacuated for interrogation after he had been detained by "Brave and Bold" soldiers. The suspect had been hiding in a cave.

"Regulars" of a 1st Bn., 6th Inf. company, led by 1LT Larry Sovall (Hendersonville, Tenn.) killed one VC while making a sweep west of Chu Lai.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported negative contact in their area of operations yesterday.

The Americal Division suffered one soldier wounded and evacuated for medical treatment yesterday.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

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Vol. 2. No. 187 Wednesday August 23, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

TUESDAY

Partly to Mostly Cloudy

Occasional Showers

High 82 Low 70

1956-0853-hours of non moonlight. 6% Illumination

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)-Americal Division soldiers accounted for 10 VC killed, three suspects detained and one crew-served weapon captured yesterday.

11th Inf. Bde. soldiers reported five VC killed, two suspects detained and one crew-served weapon captured.

"Always First" soldiers of a 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company led by Larry S. Birchfield (Albuquerque, N.M.) killed five VC hiding in a small tunnel in a village, four miles north of Duc Pho. The company also captured one 60mm mortar and two grenades in that action.

The 4th Bn., 3d Inf. command and control helicopter detained a total two VC suspects in two incidents in an area centered five miles south of Duc Pho.

"Charger" units of the 196th Inf. Bde. killed four VC and detained one VC suspect in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa.

"Gimlets" of a 3d Bn., 21st Inf. company killed one VC 15 miles west of Tam Ky.

"Guardians" of a 2d Bn., 1st Inf. company engaged two VC with small arms fire 16 miles northwest of Tam Ky yesterday. One was killed and the other was wounded and detained.

The 4th Bn., 21st Inf. Recon. Plt. killed two VC seven miles south of Hoi An.

2,500 pounds of rice were captured by "Guardians" of a 2d Bn., 1st Inf. 19 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported negative contact in their area of operations.

* * * *

The 198th Inf. Bde.'s 1st Bn., 14th Arty. accounted for one VC killed in the Chu Lai area.

Today the 198th Inf. Bde. has been in the Republic of Vietnam one year.

From Chu Lai to Duc Pho to La Giang to Hau Duc, "Brave and Bold" soldiers fought to this anniversary.

The brigade has to it's credit 1,226 VC and 401 NVA killed, 667 individual and 106 crew-served weapons captured and more than 57.2 tons of rice captured from the enemy.

Civic action soldiers of the brigade have treated over 101,000 Vietnamese civilians.

Artillerymen of the brigade have fired well over 200,000 rounds in support of infantrymen.

The 198th has been and will continue to be a mission oriented, mission operated, mission completed brigade.

Soldiers of the Americal Division salutes the 198th Inf. Bde. for their outstanding accomplishments during the brigade's first year in Vietnam.

The Americal Division suffered no casualties yesterday.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

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Vol. 2. No. 190 Saturday October 26, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT SUNDAY

Cloudy to Mostly Cloudy Occasional Rain High 82 Low 70 no Moonlight 2226-1209

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Units of the Americal Division killed 18 VC and one NVA, detained one NVA and 12 VC suspects and captured one individual weapon in southern I Corps yesterday.

Units of the 198th Inf. Bde. killed nine VC and one NVA and detained one NVA and 12 VC suspects.

In the Burlington Trail area the 1st Bn., 52d Inf. recon. plt., led by 1LT Barry Luther (Orange Park, Fla.) detained one VC suspect who had been wounded in the leg.

Early that morning a 1st Bn., 52d Inf. company led by CPT Jack W. Sorensen (Council Bluffs, Iowa) engaged and killed one NVA. The enemy was killed when he attempted to flee the "Ready Rifles" west of Tam Ky.

The "Ready Rifles" recon. plt. was next to make contact. The infantrymen engaged two NVA, wounding one. The wounded NVA was detained and evacuated for medical treatment. He had been carrying a pack filled with rice and medical supplies.

CPT Sorensen's company again made contact as they continued to operate west of Tam Ky. They engaged and killed one VC who was carrying military documents.

"Blue Ghosts" of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed two VC while flying in support of "Brave and Bold" infantrymen northwest of Chu Lai.

In two separate actions, the 1st Bn. 52d Inf. recon. plt. detained one VC and called in artillery on a group of VC moving west. Results of the artillery fire mission were one VC killed and two VC suspects detained.

In the Chu Lai area a 5th Bn., 46th Inf. company, led by CPT Michael R. Smith (New Lebanon, Ohio) reported receiving small arms fire southwest of here. Fire was returned killing five VC. A check of the area resulted in six VC suspects detained.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. detained two VC suspects south of Chu Lai in the afternoon.

Civic action soldiers of the 1st Bn., 46th Inf.; 5th Bn., 46th Inf.; and the **1st Bn., 6th Inf. treated 865 Vietnamese during five MEDCAPs.**

In the 196th Inf. Bde.'s area of operations, "Charger" units killed eight VC and captured one individual weapon and 13,900 pounds of rice.

A 3d Bn., 21st Inf. company spotted two VC with weapons 14 miles west of Tam Ky. The enemy was engaged with small arms fire, resulting in one VC killed and one K-44 rifle captured.

A 4th Bn. 21st Inf. company killed one VC seven miles south of Hoi An with small arms fire.

The 3d Bn., 21st Inf. command and control helicopter killed one VC 14 miles west of Tam Ky.

In two separate incidents, in an area centered 15 miles west of Tam Ky, a 3d Bn. 21st Inf. company killed a total of three VC.

"Guardians" of a 2d Bn., 1st Inf. company engaged and killed one VC with small arms fire 15 miles west of Tam Ky.

Another company of the battalion killed one VC 11 miles southwest of Hoi An.

A 4th Bn., 31st Inf. company found 3,000 pounds of rice 14 miles southwest of Hoi An.

Another company of the battalion found 7,200 pounds of rice in various containers hidden huts, 25 miles west of Tam Ky.

A 2d Bn., 1st Inf. company found 3,700 pounds of rice 16 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Two days ago, Vietnamese civilians, under the Voluntary Informant Program (VIP), turned in to the 4th Bn., 21st Inf. 50 M-26 grenades, 40 81mm mortar rounds, 2 1/4 pounds of Flex-X, eight 106mm recoilless rifle rounds, five 3.5" rocket rounds, one Claymore mine, and assorted small arms ammo, etc.

Yesterday, the "Gimlets" received 28 M-26 grenades, 2 1/2 pounds of Flex-X, two 4.2" mortar rounds, and five 81mm mortar rounds under the VIP.

"Guardians" of the 2d Bn., 1st Inf. received 30 105mm artillery rounds, one M-72 LAW, six M-26 grenades, and one Claymore mine under the VIP on the 25th also.

Very light action in Quang Ngai Province resulted in one VC killed by 11th Inf. Bde. "Jungle Warriors."

The single action took place near the Song Ve. "Always First" soldiers of a 3d Bn., 1st Inf. company killed one VC 19 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav. reported two tons of polished rice captured yesterday. The rice was found by "Dragoons" of A Trp. two miles south of Thang Binh.

Seven Americal soldiers were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment.

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

THURSDAY

Tommorrow's forecast: partly cloudy to cloudy with early morning and afternoon showers High temperature of 83 and low of 70 moon rise 1237 set --0049 (on 27th)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Americal Division forces reported killing two NVA and eight VC, discovering four NVA bodies, capturing two VC and 12 individual weapons and detaining three VC suspects in light scattered action in southern I Corps yesterday.

"Charger" units of the 196th Inf. Bde. and a Mobile Strike Force element OPCON to the 196th killed two NVA and two VC and detained two VC suspects in action near Tam Ky and Que Son.

Mobile Strike Force 14 engaged a platoon-sized element 11 miles west of Que Son early in the morning and killed two NVA and detained two VC suspects and three AK-47 rifles.

A Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav., OPCON with the 2-1 Inf., caught three VC fleeing west and killed one with small arms fire 23 mile southwest of Tam Ky. Nearer Tam Ky, recon troops of the 3-21 Inf. also killed one VC suspect fleeing west.

Troops of the 198th Inf. Bde. and supporting gunships killed four VC and detained two VC suspects during light contact in the "Brave and Bold" area.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. killed four VC while flying a visual recon mission over an area 10 miles west of Chu Lai at noon. The VC were carrying packs and Chicom hand grenades.

Two VC suspects were detained three miles south of Chu Lai by Co. A, 5-46 Inf., led by CPT Herbert A. Walter (Columbus, Ga.).

Infantrymen of 5-46 and 1-6 spent the afternoon patrolling the Chu Lai area to ensure the safety of thousands of Americal Division troops who watched the Bob Hope Christmas show at the Division amphitheater.

In a day of very light action, 11th Inf. Bde. troops found the graves of four NVA soldiers, detained one VC suspect and assembled nine weapons from parts captured in a cache three days ago.

The NVA graves, approximately two days old, were found 25 miles west of Duc Pho by a recon platoon of the 3-1 Inf. The NVA had been killed by small arms fire.

The first platoon of Co. C, 4-21 Inf. completed assembling parts of nine-weapons, including two French rifles, a French submachinegun, a Chicom K-44, two 30-cal. rifles, two M-1 carbines and a 12-gauge shotgun.

A 60-year-old Vietnamese female suspected of being a Viet Cong was detained three miles northwest of Duc Pho by Co. A, B-1 Inf.

Two VC were killed two miles northeast of Thang Binh by B Trp., 1st Sqdn.,

One Americal Division soldier was killed and one wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, while two members of the Mobile Strike Force were killed and eight evacuated, according to an initial report.

M E R R Y C H R I S T M A S

Vol. 2 No. 255 SATURDAY December 30, 1968

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT TUESDAY

Tomorrow's forecast: partly cloudy skies. High temp. of 85 and low of 69 degrees. Moon rising 1452 hours and setting at 0317.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Americal Division forces reported killing 21 VC, detaining 10 VC suspects and capturing one weapon and almost six tons of rice in moderate action in southern I Corps yesterday.

Units of the 11th Inf. Bde. killed nine VC and detained seven VC suspects, but the day's body count was overshadowed by several discoveries of enemy materiel and weaponry.

The Volunteer Informant Program, VIP, continued to prove its worth as 20 Vietnamese children turned over 120 Chicom hand grenades and one 155mm round to an 11th Bde. loudspeaker team north of Duc Pho in the morning. The children promised to return with more spoils today.

Cos. B and D of the 4-21 Inf. spent much of the day raiding enemy base camps, destroying huts, and rounding up supplies, including 7500 pounds of rice.

D Co. hit two base camps near a stream 23 miles west of Duc Pho. In the first, 13 huts were destroyed, many with sleeping quarters for 20 people and one divided into a classroom-mess hall.

Near the camp, a rack designed to hold seven weapons was confiscated along with 7000 pounds of rice and documents and signs. Another 18 huts were located later in the same area, and a dozen M-79 rounds and an NVA entrenching tool were found. The huts were destroyed.

In operations near a stream two miles further west, B Co. found eight huts, three on stilts, and trip flares, foxholes, and 500 pounds of rice.

Among the day's detainees was a VC suspect who presented an identification card but was tripped up by a recon element of the 1-20 Inf. which discovered he couldn't speak Vietnamese.

Near a position of Co. A, 4-3 Inf., a VC female attempted to rotate a claymore mine towards the Americans. She was killed when the mine exploded as she turned it.

Nearby, the "Old Guard" soldiers found the bodies of two VC killed during a firefight the night before when a small arms and artillery battle had erupted. Also recovered were several grenades while three VC suspects were held.

The value of cavalry and air support was obvious in the 196th Inf. Bde. area where gunships, artillery and ground troops combined to kill five VC and capture one AK-47 rifle and 1850 pounds of rice.

"Blue Ghost" gunships of the 8th Cav. killed two VC 15 miles west of Tam Ky and nine miles further west, an aerial observer working with the 4-31 Inf spotted six VC in the open and directed 3-82 Arty. fire to kill one.

The 3-82 also answered a call from Co. C, 2-1 Inf. after a large group of VC were spotted in a ravine 18 miles southwest of Hoi An. One VC was killed by small arms fire and the gathering routed.

Infantrymen of Co. D, 4-31 Inf. accounted for the other VC kill when they trapped an enemy soldier fleeing a hut five miles from the battle area in the ravine.

Rice caches were seized by F Trp., 17th Cav. working with the 4-31 Inf., and a patrol from Tiger Base, A 2-1 Inf. observation post.

F Trp. gathered 1300 pounds of rice from an area in and around hooches 26 miles west of Tam Ky. the OP patrol, moving 22 miles northwest of Tam Ky, found two crocks containing 200 pounds of rice apiece and then discovered cans holding 150 more pounds in a rice paddy area.

Seven VC were killed, four by gunships just after daybreak, and three VC suspects were detained in a day of light action in the 198th Inf. Bde. area.

Gunships of the 176th Assault Hel. Co., working with the 1-6 and 5-46 Inf., killed two VC each in contacts northwest of Binh Son. Later, Co. A, 5-46 Inf., surprised five VC and killed two in a brief firefight nine miles west of Binh Son.

No Americal Division soldiers were killed, and five were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to a initial report.

Vol. 3. No. 2 THURSDAY January 2, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT FRIDAY

Tomorrow's forecast: partly to mostly cldy. with chance of light morning showers. High temp. of 83, low of 68. Moon rise at 1709, set at 0532.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Action decreased sharply in southern I Corps yesterday as Americal Division forces reported killing one NVA and nine VC, discovering the body of one VC, detaining 1 VC suspects, relocating 30 refugees, and capturing three tons of rice, all in the Tam Ky and Duc Pho areas.

The total body count differed greatly from the average daily count of the previous week which saw 24 NVA and 63 VC killed.

The majority of the day's contacts with enemy forces occurred in the 196th Inf. Bde. area where two units killed six VC and relocated 30 refugees, and a third unit discovered three tons of rice.

Co. C, 3-21 Inf. engaged six VC during the day and killed four in three encounters. At 1750 and 1845 hours, Co. C killed two VC with small arms fire as they fled west 13 miles west of Tam Ky. In later afternoon in the same area, the "Gimlets" took on four VC in a firefight and killed two.

Between shooting incidents, Co. C helped 30 Vietnamese refugees move from the area to Nui Loc Son.

Elements of the 4-31 Inf. accounted for the other VC kills, both 25 miles West of Tam Ky.

Co. C, 1-46 Inf. found three tons of rice in 15 large crocks in two hootches 11 miles southwest of Hoi An. The rice was held for distribution to Vietnamese villagers.

In the 11th Inf. Bde. area, one NVA and one VC were killed, one VC body was found, and 21 VC suspects were detained.

Co. B, 4-21 Inf., operating 22 miles northwest of Duc Pho, found the body of an NVA killed by small arms fire in the previous 24 hours and, about an hour later in the afternoon, located the body of a VC killed much earlier by air strikes.

Co. B, 1-20 Inf., led by CPT John R. Hill (Winchendon, Mass.), killed an evading VC in a rice paddy five miles northwest of Duc Pho in the morning and then joined Cos. C and D to round up 12 VC suspects in the area. Co. C, 4-3 Inf. detained the other nine VC three miles south of Duc Pho.

Two VC were killed in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area by A Trp. and a "Blue Ghost" gunship of F Trp., 8th Cav. Both were working west of Tam Ky.

Relative quiet prevailed in the 198th Inf. Bde. area where no major contacts were reported.

Troops and medical teams of the 1-6 Inf., operating on K-3 island and in the village of Ky Chanh, brought their two-day total to 429 patients by treating 143 Vietnamese in MEDCAPs.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS SHEET

MG Charles M. Gettys, Commanding

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This New Sheet is published daily under the supervision of the IO, Americal Division APO 96374, as an authorized Army publication. Views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army.

For the fourth consecutive day and fifth day in the last six, no Americal division soldiers were reported killed. Two were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3. No. 5 SUNDAY January 5, 1969
MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT MONDAY

Tomorrow's forecast: Mostly cloudy in the morning and clearing in the afternoon. High temp. of 81' with a low of 72'. Moon rise at 2040 hours and set at 0905 hours.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Americal Division forces struck hard at enemy rice supplies for the second consecutive day as the body count dipped to 10 VC killed in southern I Corps yesterday.

Units of the 196th Inf. Bde. captured almost nine tons of rice in the Tam ky area to bring the Division's two-day total to slightly under 19 tons of rice discovered.

Elements of the 3-21 Inf. killed two VC and found eight tons of rice, while Co. C, 1-46 Inf. engaged six VC and killed four to account for most of the action in the 196th Inf. Bde. area.

Starting at 1430 hours, Co. ?A, 3-21 Inf. spent a busy afternoon corralling rice. The first platoon found and destroyed two tons of rice 18 miles northwest of Tam Ky and, 30 minutes later, the second and third platoons located six tons of rice under the floors of several huts a mile further northwest. That rice was bagged and evacuated.

A recon element of the 2-1 Inf. found two rice caches of 700 and 600 pounds each in hootches 20 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

The two kills by the 3-21 Inf. were credited to Cos. A and C in operations from 17-19 miles northwest of Tam Ky. Both VC were killed by small arms fire.

Co. C, 1-46 Inf. surprised six VC in a hootch area eight miles southwest of Hoi An and scattered them in all directions. Accurate small arms fire killed two VC outright, and Co. C later found two more bodies during a thorough search of the area. One lay by a trail, and the other was in a fresh, shallow grave.

Two companies of the 1-20 Inf. killed three VC, and 40 VC suspects were detained in light action in the rain-swept 11th Inf. Bde. area of southern Quang Ngai Province.

In three incidents near hootches and a stream 11-12 miles north of Duc Pho, Co. D, 1-20 Inf., led by 2LT Robert E. Maxwell (Troy, N.Y.), killed two evading VC and detained two VC suspect. Later, Co. D detained three more VC suspects near hootches a mile north of Duc Pho.

Co. B, 1-20 Inf. killed one VC and detained two VC suspects in three actions by the Song Tra Cau two miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Co. C, 4-3 Inf. detained 29 VC suspects in three encounters by a trail and stream five miles south of Duc Pho. Ten of the suspects were apprehended without ID cards in an area where sniper fire had been reported earlier.

For the first time in three days the 198th Inf. Bde. recorded a kill as "Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn., flying for the 5-46 Inf., killed a VC seven miles southwest of Binh Son in mid-afternoon.

In civic action work, the 5-46 Inf. treated 83 Vietnamese patients in two MEDCAPs, while the 1-6 Inf. treated 95 patients at Ky Chanh and 25 at K-4.

Two Americal Division soldiers were killed, and four were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment according to an initial report.

Vol. 3. No. 8 WEDNESDAY January 8, 1969
MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT THURSDAY

Tomorrow's forecast: Cloudy with showers most of the day. Winds northeasterly at 10 to 15 knots. High temperature of 80' with a low of 65'. Moon will rise at 2312 hours and set at 1058 hours.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Americal Division forces reported killing 10 VC, detaining seven VC suspects and capturing one individual weapon in a day of gusting winds in southern I Corps yesterday.

Heaviest action occurred in the 11th Inf. Bde. area where six VC were killed in four encounters with Cos. B and C, 4-3 Inf., and seven VC suspects were detained.

In early morning, Co. C found the bodies of three VC killed by small arms fire within the previous 24 hours eight miles southeast of Duc Pho. Moving northeast, Co. C detained a VC suspect in the afternoon and, at dusk, killed a VC in the same area.

Almost simultaneously, Co. B, operating a short distance further south, killed a VC. Minutes later a recently formed Co. B Short Range Patrol engaged and killed on VC three miles south of Duc Pho.

Co. C, 1-20 Inf. detained six VC suspects outside a small village three miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Three companies accounted for the three VC killed in separate incidents in the 196th Inf. Bde. area.

At 0555 hours, Co. A, 3-21 Inf. killed a VC 14 miles northwest of Tam Ky while, at 0940 hours, Co. B, 201 Inf. killed a VC nine miles further northwest and captured his AK-47 rifle.

Co. D, 4-31 Inf. engaged two VC and killed one 24 miles west of Tam Ky.

The remaining kill was credited to C Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. which spotted a VC and killed him six miles southeast of Hoi An.

In the 198th Inf. Bde. area, the 1-6 Inf. treated 148 Vietnamese in a MEDCAP at Ky Chanh Monday, and the 5-46 Inf. followed yesterday by treating 55 at Nuoc Mau.

For the third consecutive day and seventh day in the last 10, no Americal Division soldiers were reported killed. Seven were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment.

MALARIA PLAYS NO FAVORITES---
REMEMBER TO TAKE YOUR MALARIA
PILL DAILY.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS SHEET

MG Charles M. Gettys, Commanding

MAJ Paul B. Parham, IO

SP4 Bill Elsen, Editor

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Vol. 3. No. 9 THURSDAY January 9, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT FRIDAY

Tomorrow's forecast: Partly cloudy to mostly cloudy with chance of showers. Winds northerly at 10 knots. High temperature of 81' with a low of 60'. Moon will rise at 2312 hours and set at 1134 hours.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Two companies of the 4-3 Inf. were involved in half the day's action as Americal Division forces reported killing one NVA and 18 VC, finding one VC body, detaining 21 VC suspects, and capturing two individual weapons in southern I Corps yesterday.

"Old Guard" companies B and C killed eight VC and found a VC body in six incidents in the 11th Inf. Bde. area where other units killed an NVA and another VC, detained 20 VC suspects, and seized two weapons.

Co. C, led by 1LT Ralph Durkhart (Kansas City, Mo.), killed five VC and discovered the two-day-old grave of a VC killed by small arms fire in four incidents six miles south of Duc Pho below Highway 1.

Co. C engaged and killed one VC at 0840 hours, engaged six and killed three at 1230, and engaged four and killed one at 1430. Four VC suspects were rounded up in the encounters.

Co. B, led by CPT Jack Pryor (Fresno, Calif.), detected noise and furtive movement on its night perimeter at 0430 hours, then surprised and killed two VC trying to infiltrate. At 1420 hours, Co. B took on five VC and killed one. Both actions occurred six to eight miles south of Duc Pho.

Eleven more VC suspects were detained by Co. B, its Short Range Patrol, and Co. A.

Twenty-five miles west of Duc Pho, Cos. B and C, 4-21, accounted for the remaining kills. Co. B called for support from the 6-11 Arty. to kill two of 30 VC seen moving in the area. The dead VC wore khaki uniforms, web gear, and packs.

Co. C engaged three NVA, killed one, and took two K-44 rifles in the same area.

Six VC were killed in three incidents involving two companies of the 196th Inf. Bde.

Co. D, 2-1 Inf. killed four VC in a firefight 28 miles northwest of Tam Ky and took packs containing clothing and documents which were extracted.

Co. A, 3-21 Inf. killed a VC running north and later killed a VC wearing khaki clothing and trying to flee a hootch. Both actions occurred 15 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Cos. A and C of the 1-52 Inf. each killed a VC in the only battle action in the 198th Inf. Bde. area where the civic action program again was spotlighted.

Shortly before noon, Co. C engaged and killed a VC six miles southwest of Tam Ky. Later a VC suspects was detained in the same area. A mile further southwest, Co. A killed a VC at 1425 hours.

The 1-6 Inf. treated 49 Vietnamese in a MEDCAP at Hill 54, and three Vietnamese nurses trained by the 1-6 medical platoon treated 72 patients at Ky Chanh.

COL Hanz K. Druener yesterday assumed command of the 16th CAG. He replaced COL William C. Tyrrell who becomes central district engineer for the U.S. Army Engineer Construction Agency, Vietnam in Cam Ranh Bay.

COL Druener had been serving as chief of the Logistics Division, Office of the Aviation Officer, Headquarters, USARV.

One Americal Division soldier was killed, and two were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

The death was the fifth reported in the Division in the first eight days of 1969. In that time, 151 NVA and VC have been killed.

Vol. 3. No. 10 FRIDAY January 10, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT SATURDAY

Tomorrow's forecast: Partly cloudy to mostly cloudy with intermittent showers. Winds northwesterly at 5-10 knots. High temperature of 84' with a low of 68'. Moon will rise at 0003 hours and set at 1211 hours.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Two units led the 198th Inf. Bde. in its heaviest day of action in almost two weeks as contact with enemy troops increased yesterday in southern I Corps.

Americal Division forces reported killing three NVA and 25 VC, detaining three VC suspects, and capturing one individual weapon in the fourth largest day of action since Christmas.

A recon element of the 1-52 Inf., led by 1LT Barry Luther (Orange Park, Fla.), engaged 12 enemy soldiers and killed seven, **while Co. A, 5-46 Inf., commanded by CPT Herbert A. Walter, killed four VC in three encounters to account for the 198th's total.**

The recon unit barely had time for lunch before launching a busy afternoon. Shortly after noon southeast of Tien Phuoc, the unit took on a mixed group of seven enemy soldiers and killed two NVA and one VC while capturing 200 pounds of rice.

After moving another 2-3 miles from Tien Phuoc, the recon group engaged four VC at 1840 hours and won a brief firefight with four VC killed and no friendly casualties.

CPT Walter's company made life hectic for small groups of VC operating southeast of Chu Lai. One company element opened the day at 0758 hours by surprising and killing a fleeing VC four miles southeast of Chu Lai.

In subsequent actions, Co. A killed three VC five miles northeast of Binh Son.

Meanwhile, the medical platoon of the 5-46 was treating 141 Vietnamese in MEDCAP visits to Nuoc Mau and Chau Tu Three. **The 1-6 Inf. treated 45 patients at Ky Chanh.**

Three units accounted for one NVA and 10 VC killed as 196th Inf. Bde. troops saw more action than in the past four days.

Operating effectively at the platoon level, Co. B, 3-21 Inf., led by CPT Robert Wahl, killed four VC in two actions 11-12 miles northwest of Tam Ky. At 1500 hours, the first platoon saw three VC in black and green clothing and killed two with small arms fire. A half hour later, the second platoon caught two evading VC and killed them a mile away.

Co. C added to the 3-21 total by killing a VC at 1700 hours 15 miles west of Tam Ky.

Even farther west, the 4-31 Inf. killed three VC in two encounters, with Co. D surprising and killing one 25 miles west of Tam Ky.

Co. D, 2-1 Inf. adjusted artillery fire on four VC moving near its defensive perimeter and killed two 28 miles northwest of Tam Ky. Later, Co. D killed an NVA and got his AK-47 rifle five miles nearer Tam Ky. The NVA also yielded a pack containing rice and clothing.

Units of the 11th Inf. Bde. spent a relatively quiet day and reported only six incidents in which five VC were killed and three VC suspects detained.

Co. C, 1-20 Inf. located the graves of three VC killed in a firefight Wednesday night near a trail six miles west of Duc Pho.

Co. D, 4-21 Inf. spotted 15 VC with packs moving near a stream 19 miles west of Duc Pho and called in an artillery burst from Btry. D, 6-11 Arty. to kill one. Ninety minutes later, Co. B called on the same battery to kill a VC wearing an NVA pistol belt in a draw 25 miles west of Duc Pho.

The VC suspects were detained in separate incidents by Co. D, 1-20 Inf., working with the 174 Aslt. Hel. Co. north and northwest of Duc Pho, and by Co. C, 4-3 Inf. south of Duc Pho.

"Blue Ghosts" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav., flying in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area, killed on VC at 1145 hours 8 1/2 miles southeast of Hoi An.

Despite the increased action no Americal Division soldiers were reported killed. Two were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3. No. 12 SATURDAY January 12, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT MONDAY

Partly cloudy with intermittent showers. Winds northeasterly at 10 knots, gusting 20 to 25 knots. High temperature of 85' with a low of 70'. Moon will rise at 0152 hours and set at 1335 hours.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Companies of the 3-21 Inf. continued their personal assault on the enemy as Americal Division forces reported killing three NVA and 29 VC, finding one NVA body, detaining 19 VC suspects, and capturing one individual weapon and 6 1/2 tons of rice in southern I Corps yesterday.

Cos. B, C, and D of the 3-21 Inf. raised their three-day body count to 29 by killing 14 of 21 VC who died in the 196th Inf. Bde. area. In addition 196th units captured 6 1/2 tons of rice and relocated 100 refugees.

At 1000 hours, Co. D, 3-21 Inf. engaged and killed four VC 12 1/2 miles west of Tam Ky and, in two late afternoon encounters, killed two more VC in the same area. Co. C killed three VC in as many incidents 14 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Co. B, with 11 kills Thursday and Friday, added five more yesterday. At 1815 hours, Co. B spotted seven VC 9 1/2 miles west of Tam Ky and adjusted artillery fire to kill three. Earlier, the "Gimlets" had found a VC killed by artillery near the same area and, a half hour later, killed a VC with small arms fire.

An element of the 4-31 Inf., operating 20-21 miles west of Tam Ky, killed six VC in three contacts within 20 minutes. The other VC kill was credited to F Trp., 17th Cav. which surprised a VC at 0545 hours 20 1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

In addition to its three kills, Co. C, 3-21 Inf. captured 4500 pounds of rice 14 miles northwest of Tam Ky in the largest of seven rice discoveries totaling 6 1/2 tons in the 196th area. Units of the 4-31 Inf. accounted for 2700 pounds taken farther west.

Cos. B, C, and D of the 4-31 Inf. also relocated 100 Vietnamese refugees from an area 23-26 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky to Nui Loc Son. Co. D moved 74 refugees, Co. B 20, and Co. C 6.

Two incidents dominated action in the 11th Inf. Bde. area where three NVA and five VC were killed, one NVA body found, a weapon captured, and 16 VC suspects detained.

During the afternoon, Co. B, 4-21 Inf. engaged and killed three NVA in a brief firefight 18 miles northwest of Duc Pho. The NVA were wearing green uniforms with pistol belts and ponchos, and one yielded a K-44 rifle with 40 rounds of ammo.

An Americal Long Range Patrol, working 10 miles west of Quang Ngai City watched four VC moving in the area and called in the 6-11 Arty to kill three.

Co. C, 4-21 Inf. discovered the body of an NVA apparently killed several days ago 18 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Other VC kills went to a "Shark" gunship of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. a half-mile southwest of Mo Duc, and to Co. A, 1-20 Inf. four miles southeast of Quang Ngai City.

Elements of the 4-3 Inf. detained eight VC suspects within three hours in an area four miles southeast of Duc Pho, and Co. A, 1-20 Inf. detained five in the same area where it killed a VC.

Scattered actions southwest of Tam Ky accounted for the three VC killed by artillery fire and three VC suspects detained in the 198th Inf. Bde. area.

At 1540 hours, Co. D, 1-52 Inf. saw two VC eight miles southwest of Tam Ky and called in artillery fire to kill both. Almost three hours later, a 198th aerial observer directed artillery to kill one VC spotted nine miles further southwest.

The medical platoon of the 1-6 Inf., led by CPT David Phillips (Norristown, Pa.), treated 45 patients in a MEDCAP at K-4.

Five Americal Division soldiers were killed, and 24 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3. No. 19 SUNDAY January 19, 1969
MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT MONDAY

Mostly cloudy with chance of showers in the evening. Winds will be variable at about 5 knots. High temperature will be 84' with a low of 68'. Moon will rise at 0900 hours and will set at 2050 hours.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Americal Division forces reported killing one NVA and 18 VC, detaining 14 VC suspects, and capturing 4200 pounds of rice in light action in southern I Corps yesterday.

Operation Russell Beach produced two VC killed, 1000 pounds of rice evacuated, and several enemy fortifications destroyed as Americal units joined Marine and ARVN troops in advancing their cordon of the Batangan Peninsula.

Quang Ngai City was the focal point for most of the action in the 198th Inf. Bde. area where 11 VC were killed, including the two in Operation Russell Beach.

Co. B, 4-3 Inf., OPCON to the 198th for Russell Beach, caught five VC digging foxholes on the peninsula eight miles northeast of Quang Ngai City and killed two while capturing one in a firefight. Co. A, 4-3 Inf. evacuated 1000 pounds of rice to the refugee holding center.

Co. D, 5-46 Inf. blew up 310 more meters of tunnel complex to bring to 420 meters the total length of tunnel passage the unit has destroyed in three days.

At 1600 hours, 3470 refugees had been moved off the peninsula to a holding area near Quang Ngai City. Fifty-six had been identified as members of the VC infra-structure. The over-all VC casualty rate stood at 48 at 1900 hours.

Elsewhere in the 198th area, Co. C, 4-21 Inf. killed four VC at 1400 hours four miles northwest of Quang Ngai City. Recovered in the skirmish was a 138-yard bolt of cloth. Nearby, a "Shark" gunship of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. killed a VC fleeing the area.

Elements of the 1-52 Inf. killed four VC. Co. C engaged and killed three VC and captured three Chicom grenades three miles southeast of Tien Phuoc.

Co. D, 1-6 Inf. found 32000 pounds of rice in two caches eight miles southwest of Chu Lai.

Co. C, 3-21 Inf. killed four more VC to give the battalion 21 VC kills in three days as five VC were killed and 19 refugees relocated in the 196th Inf. Bde. area.

Co. C, led by CPT Richard Rinaldo (Pemberton, N.J.), killed the VC in four incidents 14-15 1/2 miles west of Tam Ky. Three VC were killed by the second platoon on a search and clear mission.

An element of the 4-31 Inf. killed a VC and damaged two sampans 22 miles west of Tam Ky.

Co. C, 3-1 Inf. saw more of an elusive NVA unit and killed one in a pre-dawn firefight, while Co. A, 1-20 Inf. killed two VC to account for all action in the 11th Inf. Bde. area. Thirteen VC suspects were detained.

Co. C engaged an unknown-size enemy force at 0155 hours and, on a dawn sweep, found a uniformed NVA dead with eight Chicom grenades nearby.

The action occurred near a small village three miles southwest of Quang Ngai City, three miles closer to the city than last Wednesday night's major conflict between the 3-1 and a large NVA force.

Co. A, 1-20 Inf. received sniper fire as it moved along a trail four miles northwest of Duc Pho. Return fire killed a VC, and Co. A later killed another VC in a similar firefight two miles further northwest.

Cos. B and C, 1-20 Inf., operating three miles northwest of Duc Pho, detained four VC suspects, while "Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. corralled four more just west of Duc Pho.

Three Americal Division soldiers were killed, and 14 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3. No. 21 TUESDAY January 21, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT WEDNESDAY

Partly cloudy. Winds from the east at 5-10 knots. High temperature will be about 85' with a low of 68'. Moon will rise at 1022 hours and will set at 2240 hours.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—More and heavier contact with NVA troops and continued success in operation Russell Beach that included discovery of almost 15 tons of salt, culminated a busy day in southern I Corps yesterday.

Americal Division forces reported killing 14 NVA and 22 VC, finding two VC bodies, detaining 45 VC suspects, and capturing two individual weapons plus 29,110 pounds of salt and 7450 pounds of rice.

In a contact made in mid-morning and still alive early this morning Co. B, 4-21 Inf. confirmed killing at least three NVA in heavy fighting with an unknown-size enemy force 6 1/2 miles northwest of Quang Ngai City.

While patrolling the area, Co. B received and returned heavy machinegun and mortar fire to start an incident that flared throughout the day and last night when the area was illuminated. Co. A, 4-21 Inf. came to Co. B's aid.

Other units of the 11th Inf. Bde. killed 10 VC, found two VC bodies, and detained 23 VC suspects.

Two companies of the 1-20 Inf. killed four VC apiece, and one found a fifth killed by artillery. Co. E, the 1-20's mortar team, killed four VC in support of Co. A near a small village 10 miles north of Duc Pho.

The 1-20 recon unit engaged six VC and killed four 6 1/2 miles northwest of Duc Pho and, in a report delayed from Sunday night found a VC killed by artillery a half-mile nearer Duc Pho.

"Shark" gunships of the 174 Aslt. Hel. Co. killed two evading VC eight miles north of Duc Pho, and Co. C, 3-1 Inf. found the three-day-old grave of a VC killed by artillery 20 1/2 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

For the third consecutive night the headquarters of the 3-1 Inf. received enemy fire. No report of casualties or damage was immediately available.

No kills were recorded in Operation Russell Beach, but units of the 4-3 Inf. and 5-46 Inf. advanced almost 600 meters their cordon of the Batangan Peninsula, an area 6-10 miles northeast of Quang Ngai City under siege also by Marine, Navy and ARVN elements.

Americal soldiers were involved in seven incidents that saw two weapons captured, 18 bunkers and over 200 feet of tunnels destroyed, and 29,910 pounds of salt and 7450 pounds of rice seized.

In addition, Co. D, 4-3 Inf. was presented with 700 refugees who appeared on the beach after apparently agreeing with the message being broadcast overhead by a 198th Inf. Bde. PSYOP helicopter. That exodus brought to 4564 the number of refugees processed through the holding center behind the cordon.

With two consecutive days of clear weather behind them, Americal units have now destroyed 46 bunkers and over 3000 meters of tunnel complexes in the eight days of Russell Beach. Eleven VC have been killed, and six individual weapons captured.

Co. C, 5-46 Inf. uncovered two rice and salt caches yesterday. At 1630 hours, Co. C found 12 tons of salt and a ton of rice seven miles northeast of Quang Ngai City. Earlier, Co. C had discovered 150 pounds of rice and 110 of salt nearby.

Co. B, 5-46 Inf. turned up 5800 pounds of salt and 200 of rice, and Co. A, 4-3 Inf. came up with 3000 pounds of rice, all during the cordon movement.

Co. D, 5-46 Inf. destroyed eight bunkers, and engineers working with the 5-46 Inf. blew 10 bunkers and more than 200 feet of tunnel. Various enemy rounds were also captured.

Elsewhere in the 198th area, 10 NVA and two VC were killed by gunships "Blue Ghosts" of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed the NVA in one action and "Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. killed the VC in two in two incidents.

F Trp. came to the aid of the 4-6 ARVN Inf. in a large-scale battle that began at 2030 hours Sunday with an unknown-size NVA force seven miles southwest of Tam Ky. ARVN units killed 30 NVA in fierce ground fighting, and F Trp. added 10 kills from the air.

"Aero Scout" kills came at 1000 and 1015 hours 11 miles southwest and 8 1/2 miles south of Tam Ky.

Co. D, 1-6 Inf., working eight miles south of Chu Lai, captured 1000 pounds of rice and detained 22 suspects.

Topped by the 3-21 Inf., one of the Americal's most active units this month, the 196th Inf. Bde. totaled 10 VC killed, 1100 pounds of rice taken, and 37 refugees relocated.

Three units of the 3-21 killed six VC to bring the battalion total VC kill to 106 through the first 20 days this month. On only one day in that period did the 3-21 fail to kill at least one VC, with its high coming Jan. 11 when 14 VC were killed.

The 3-21 recon unit killed four VC in three incidents yesterday. One died at 1115 hours 14 1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky and, at 1530, the unit registered kills in two places—one where the morning action occurred and and [sic] 1 1/2 miles southwest of Tam

Ky.

In Operation Fayette Canyon, an Americal Long Range Patrol surprised and killed three VC 20 miles northwest of Tam Ky, and Co. B, 1-46 Inf. killed a VC two miles nearer Tam Ky.

F Trp., 17th Cav. and Co. A, A-31 Inf. found rice caches of 300 and 800 pounds, respectively, and Cos. B and D, 4-31 Inf. moved two groups totaling 37 refugees from an area 27--28 miles west of Tam Ky to Nui Loc Son.

Three Americal Division soldiers were killed, and 20 wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3. No. 23 THURSDAY January 23, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT FRIDAY

Forecast for tomorrow: Fair to partly cloudy. Winds east to southeast. High temperature of 86' with a low of 68'. Moon will rise at 1135 hours and will set at 2147 hours.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—The 3-21 Inf., pushing its average daily body count to almost six, yesterday added 10 more VC kills to an impressive January total as action in southern I Corps turned moderate and scattered after Tuesday's high incident and enemy casualty rate.

Americal forces reported killing seven NVA and 26 VC, detaining nine VC suspects, finding just under six tons of rice, and capturing four weapons, one crew-served.

Operation Russell Beach also returned to relatively normal action as Co. C, 4-3 Inf., which killed 17 VC Tuesday, logged the only two killed yesterday.

Four elements of the 3-21 Inf., led by the recon unit for the second consecutive day, provided the 196th Inf. Bde. with the major portion of its 13 VC kills. Four rice caches totaling 700 pounds were also found.

The 3-21 recon unit, working 13 - 13 1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky, killed one VC at 0930 and engaged and killed four at 1300. One of the four was killed in the first burst of fire while the other three dove into a tunnel. Ignoring the advice of the recon's Kit Carson, they refused to reappear and were killed in the tunnel.

Co. B spotted six VC moving 14 miles northwest of Tam Ky and directed artillery fire to kill two. A half-mile away, a 3-21 observation post called artillery on two VC and killed one. Co. C found a VC killed by artillery 9 1/2 miles west of Tam Ky and Co. A, working near the recon unit, killed one of four VC engaged.

A Vietnamese civilian led a platoon of Co. C, 1-46 Inf. to locate the body of a VC killed by small arms fire within the previous 24 hours and 16 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

A Short Range Patrol of Co. A, 1-46 Inf. killed a VC 14 miles northwest of Tam Ky, and Co. A found the four small caches of rice, hidden nearby in packets, 55-gallon drums, and five-gallon pails.

Co. C, 4-31 Inf. killed one of four VC engaged 20 miles west of Tam Ky.

In Operation Russell Beach, Co. C, 4-3 Inf. continued operations behind the cordon of the Batangan Peninsula and again caught VC trying to flee the besieged area.

At 1255 hours, Co. C engaged five VC five miles northeast of Quang Ngai City and killed two in a firefight. Meanwhile, forward air controllers of the 198th Inf. Bde. directed air strikes in support of the cordon and observed two secondary explosions and 12 secondary fires.

In a delayed report, Co. D, 5-46 Inf. rounded up 81 refugees at 1920 Tuesday after the Vietnamese had crossed a river to surrender. They were moved to the operation's Combined Holding and Interrogation Center near Quang Ngai City.

The CHIC yesterday welcomed 559 more refugees who brought the nine-day total to 6894, including 119 identified as members of the VC infra-structure.

Dr. John Connelly, senior medical advisor in Quang Ngai Province, also reported welcoming a visitor. "We delivered our first baby at CHIC today!"

Americal units in the operation have killed 32 VC and captured 11 individual weapons, while combined Americal, Marines, Navy, and ARVN totals are 90 VC killed and 25 weapons captured.

Elsewhere in the 198th area, seven VC were killed and two individual and one crew-served weapons captured. Five tons of rice were also found.

Co. A, 5-46 Inf. killed three VC and took two AK-47 rifles and an RPG launcher in a VC attack on an observation post at 0417 hours 5 1/2 miles south of Chu Lai. American losses were described as light.

An element of the 1-52 Inf. killed two of the three VC engaged 9 1/2 miles south of Tam Ky, and Co. C, 1-52 Inf. killed a VC 8 1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky. H Trp. 17th Cav. killed a VC six miles west of Chu Lai.

Working 8 1/2 miles south of Chu Lai, Co. D, 1-6 Inf. discovered five tons of rice and evacuated the cache to the Russell Beach CHIC.

Cos. A and B, 4-21 Inf. and the NVA continued their encounters 6 1/2 miles northwest of Quang Ngai City. Seven NVA were killed in three incidents, while other units killed four VC, detained nine VC suspects, and destroyed a weapon.

At 1530, Co. B killed an NVA and, 30 minutes later, found the badly-burned bodies of five NVA killed in air strikes within the previous 24 hours. Cos. A had killed an NVA at 0720.

"Shark" gunships of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. killed one of two VC seen running nine miles north of Duc Pho. The other, carrying an Ak-47 rifle, scooted into a tunnel which was promptly destroyed.

An element of the 3-1 Inf. twice spotted single VC running in the open and killed both. One was near the Song Tra Khuc 12 miles west of Quang Ngai City and the other on a trail eight miles southwest of Quang Ngai City.

Five Americal Division soldiers were killed, and 20 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3. No. 28 SUNDAY January 28, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT WEDNESDAY

Tomorrow's forecast: Fog in the morning in valleys and low areas. Fair to partly cloudy. Winds from the southeast at 5-15 knots. High temperature 90' with a low of 70'. Moon rise at 1503 hours, set at 0347 hours.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—It's a case of "any day now" in Operation Russell Beach and a case of "every day now" to the west-northwest of Quang Ngai City.

Preparations for a final surge forward continued yesterday on the Batangan Peninsula while, some 12 miles west, units of the 11th Inf. Bde. pounded scattered VC elements in the 11th's biggest day in weeks.

Americal Division forces reported killing 64 VC, detaining 15 VC suspects, and capturing slightly over a ton of rice in southern I Corps. For the first time in 14 days, no NVA were encountered.

Three companies of the 5-46 Inf. crossed the Song Chau Me Dong to join A Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. and H Trp., 17th Cav. on the east bank in preparation for today's Russell Beach probe of approximately 1 1/2 miles between cordon and sea.

When the entire cordon moves across the river, Cos. B, C, and D, 5-46 Inf. will line up with Co. D, 4-3 Inf. and two Marine companies to lead the way. Other 5-46 and 4-3 Inf. units remain behind the narrowing line to conduct sweeps with Marine and ARVN elements. Navy ships still stand off shore.

In four brief skirmishes yesterday, Co. C, 4-3 Inf. killed three VC behind the cordon 5 1/2 miles northeast of Quang Ngai City, and Co. B, 5-46 Inf. found a VC killed by small arms fire in the cordon area four miles further northeast. Cos. C also found a 600-pound rice cache.

Marine units discovered the intricate tunnel complexes in the immediate cordon area. Co. M, 3-26 Regt. searched a 25 by 30-foot complex consisting of 10 tunnels leading to a large center area recently occupied, and Co. L, 3-26 entered a 500-foot tunnel complete with brick and concrete reinforcements and branch tunnels.

PSYOP missions encouraged 334 more refugees to leave the peninsula area and brought to 10,691 the number who have fled since Russell Beach began 115 days ago. More than 350 refugees are confirmed VC, and 121 VC have been killed in the operation.

Elsewhere in the 198th Inf. Bde. area, Co. C, 1-52 Inf. engaged three VC and killed two 8 1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky, **and Co. D, 1-6 Inf. found 1000 pounds of rice six miles south of Chu Lai.**

Three ground units and air elements killed 40 VC in 15 clashes in the 11th Inf. Bde. area where heavy action was centered for the eighth consecutive day from 5-8 1/2 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai City. Fifteen VC suspects were detained.

In one of the largest single-unit encounters in the last month, the recon unit of the 4-21 Inf. battled 13 VC in an extended firefight that left 11 VC dead and two wounded but able to avoid capture 8 1/2 miles northwest of Quang Ngai City. the dead carried VC ponchos and wore new clothing. No Americans were killed or injured in the encounter.

Three miles below that action, Co. A, 4-21 Inf. killed three VC in two incidents and detained three VC suspects.

"Shark" gunships of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co., working with Co. A, 1-20 Inf., killed seven VC in two actions eight miles north and 15 1/2 miles northwest of Duc Pho. "Sharks" engaged eight VC and killed four in one incident and engaged and killed three for Co. A, which killed one VC and then found the buried bodies of five killed by artillery fire.

Co. D, 1-20 Inf. killed two VC in separate incidents 12-12 1/2 miles southeast of Duc Pho, and Co. C, 3-1 Inf. killed a VC six miles northwest of Quang Ngai City.

Another element of the 3-1 Inf. killed nine VC in four encounters from 12-13 miles west-southwest of Quang Ngai City, and an element of the 4-21 Inf. found a VC killed by air strikes six miles northwest of Quang Ngai City.

Three units found small rice caches totaling 550 pounds in the area of heaviest action west-northwest of Quang Ngai City.

Nine VC were killed in as many incidents in the 196th Inf. Bde. area where Co. A, 3-21 Inf. accounted for three VC as did 1-46 Inf. units.

Co. A killed VC 12 1/2 - 14 1/22 miles northwest of Tam Ky. The 1-46 recon unit killed two VC, one with artillery fire in a battle with an unknown-size enemy force 19 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky, and Co. C, 1-46 Inf. killed a VC 15 1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky. Co. C, 2-1 Inf., working with Popular Force troops, engaged two VC and killed one 21 1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky and, about a mile away, Co. D, 2-1 Inf. called in artillery to kill one of four VC seen moving nearby.

The other VC kill went to Co. D, 4-31 Inf. 24 miles west of Tam Ky.

"Blue Ghosts" of F Trp., 8th Cav. joined C Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. in a three-hour fight with VC elements 16 miles north-northwest of Tam ky. The two troops killed nine VC in the only action in the 1-1 area.

In eight incidents between 1510 and 1815 hours, F Trp. killed seven VC and C Trp. two. The kills brought F Trp.'s three-day total to 26 VC killed.

Three Americal Division soldiers were killed, and 22 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment. No Marines were killed, and tow were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment. All casualty figures were based on initial reports.

Vol. 3. No. 33 SUNDAY February 2, 1969
MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT MONDAY

Mostly cloudy to cloudy with showers throughout the day. Winds will be variable at 5-10 knots. High temperature will be variable at 5-10 knots. High temperature will be 81' with a low of 67'. Moon rise will be at 1928 hours and will set at 0744 hours.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Operation Russell Beach's most successful day yet and capture of more weapons than on any day since mid-December made news yesterday in southern I Corps.

Americal and Marine units combined to kill 25 VC and capture seven weapons as action heated up on the Batangan Peninsula, while Co. C, 3-1 Inf. found a large weapons cache for the second consecutive day northwest of Quang Ngai City.

Throughout southern I Corps, Americal Division forces reported killing one NVA and 49 VC, finding two VC bodies, and capturing 40 weapons, three crew-served.

Two Americal units and three Marine companies provided the action in Operation Russell Beach as Marine Cos. K and M, 3-26 Regt. reached the northern edge of the peninsula while other elements continued the mop up to the rear.

At 0215 hours, Co. I, 3-26 Regt. saw armed groups of 50 and five VC trying to evade the cordon 11 miles northeast of Quang Ngai City. A mortar and small arms attack killed 11 VC. At 0930, Co. I engaged six VC moving into a nearby treeline and killed three.

Co. M, 3-26 Regt. killed two VC and found a booby-trapped M-72 LAW rocket in separate incidents on line, and Co. L searched a nearby tunnel to find a K-44 rifle and four VC killed by small arms fire and then turned up another LAW, an M-1 rifle, and an M-1 carbine in the vicinity of the tunnel.

Two miles behind the cordon, Co. C, 4-3 Inf. voided a grenade tossed out of a tunnel, then killed two VC evading the tunnel. Inside, Co. C found 25 VC suspects, including 18 military-age males and seven females, and a K-44 rifle. Co. C later killed a VC nearby.

In a delayed report of Friday action, H Trp., 17th Cav. found two VC killed by small arms fire and took an M-1 rifle 6 1/2 miles east-northeast of Quang Ngai City.

Another delayed report credited Co. L, 3-26 Regt. with evacuating 39 Vietnamese found in a tunnel near the line Friday.

Elsewhere in the 198th Inf. Bde. area, Co. A, 1-6 Inf. killed an NVA and a VC and captured two weapons nine miles west of Chu Lai.

At 0850, Co. A engaged an unknown size NVA force, killed one, and took an AK-47 automatic and small arms fire and returned it to kill a VC and capture and M-1 carbine.

After finding 27 weapons under bushes Friday, Co. C, 3-1 Inf. discovered 32 more yesterday along a hedgerow eight miles northwest of Quang Ngai City. Other units of the 11th Inf. Bde. killed eight VC and found two VC bodies.

Co. C, led by CPT William J. Straub (Mt. Kisco, N.Y.), found three crew-served weapons—a French machinegun, a U.S. .30-cal machinegun, and a BAR. Individual weapons included nine M-1 carbines, seven Thompson submachineguns, six M-1 rifles, four SKS rifles, and three .45-cal grease guns.

Also found were 555 SKS rounds, 63 Chicom grenades, a 250 pound shaped charge, and three mines made of five gallon cans two-thirds full of TNT.

In a cave, Co. B, 3-1 Inf. found the bodies of two VC killed by small arms fire two days ago seven miles northwest of Quang Ngai City, while a UH-1 helicopter, working with the 3-1, killed five VC in four incidents 10-12 1/2 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai City.

Co. A, 1-20 Inf. killed two VC with small arms fire and called in the 6-11 Arty. to kill a third in two incidents 11 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Two battalions accounted for 12 of 15 VC killed in the 196th Inf. Bde. area where two units of the 3-21 Inf. killed seven VC and two of the 4-31 Inf. killed five.

Co. B, 3-21 Inf. killed six VC in four actions 11-11 1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky, and Co. C added the seventh 12 1/2 miles west of Tam Ky. Co. A, 4-31 Inf. killed four VC in three encounters 21 1/2 miles west of Tam Ky, while Co. D used artillery support to kill one VC 24 miles est of Tam Ky.

At 0740, Co. B, 1-46 Inf. killed two of three VC engaged 20 miles northwest of Tam Ky, and F Trp., 17th Cav. first killed a VC, then found and destroyed a tunnel and 200 pounds of rice 1 1/2 miles further northwest.

Three Americal Division soldiers were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, and 11 Marines were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment. All casualty figures were based on initial reports.

Vol. 3. No. 39 SATURDAY February 8, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT SUNDAY

Tomorrow's forecast calls for cloudy to mostly cloudy skys. Winds will be variable at 5-15 knots. High temperature of 75' with a low of 65'. The moon will rise at at [sic] 2340 hours and will set at 1132 hours.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—A day of firefights for Co. A, 3-21 Inf. and a day of discoveries for F Trp., 17th Cav. gave the 196th Inf. Bde. the best overall showing among Americal Division units yesterday.

Throughout southern I Corps, Americal forces reported killing 57 VC, detaining 10 VC suspects, capturing five individual weapons, finding 9 1/2 tons of rice, and relocating 260 refugees as action increased sharply.

Co. A, 3-21 Inf., led by CPT Thomas Tuffing (Pittsburgh, Pa.), killed 14 VC in six incidents, and F Trp., 17th Cav. found 19,000 pounds of rice in two caches, three sugar cane factories, and an abandoned VC marketplace. Other 196th elements killed four VC and captured three weapons.

Between 0930 and 1345 hours, Co. A engaged VC elements six times from 12 1/2 - 13 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky. eight VC were killed in three actions in the same place.

Co. C, 3-21 Inf. killed a VC 16 miles west of Tam Ky, and the 3-21 recon unit killed a VC 12 1/2 miles west-south-west of Tam Ky.

Co. B, 2-1 Inf. fired on its perimeter after two trip flares were ignited at 2019 Thursday night. A daylight check revealed one VC killed 24 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

An Americal Long Range Patrol, operating 24 1/2 miles west-southwest of Tam Ky, killed a VC fleeing an attempt to capture him.

In a hole covered by weeds, Co. B, 1-46 Inf. found three BARs three B-40 rockets, and a bangalore torpedo.

Cos. B and C, 2-1 Inf. moved the major refugee groups- 89 and 148 people, respectively--to An Hoa from an area 24 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky. Recon and Co. C, 4-31 Inf. moved 23 more refugees in three groups to Nui Loc Son from 21-23 miles west of Tam Ky.

F Trp. discoveries were made in a small area 21 miles northwest of Tam Ky. At 1900 Thursday, F Trp. found 150 abandoned huts containing nine tons of polished rice and, yesterday, F Trp. turned up nine 100-pound bags of dried potatoes in one hut and nearby found 1000 pounds of sandbagged rice in graves.

F Trp. also found three abandoned sugar cane factories, each 30 by 40 feet with grinding wheels and vats and 4500 pounds of brown sugar. One factory was in operating condition and had been used recently. Six small bags of vegetables and eight bags of dried fish were also taken.

Arranged on both sides of a trail were 15 huts forming a marketplace nearby. A sign on one hut urged Vietnamese people to rebel against American and South Vietnamese and "rally" to the VC cause. The structures were destroyed and the signs extracted.

Delayed accounts of sharpshooting by two artillery units brought the 11th Inf. Bde. count to 28 VC killed on one of the area's quietest days in weeks.

Btry. A, 3-18 Arty. and Btry. C, 6-11 Arty. killed 18 VC at 1830 Wednesday after an 11th Bde. observation post spotted 60-70 uniformed and arms VC walking in five to 10-man groups 11 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai.

When the same OP spotted 12 VC, again uniformed and armed, in the same area at 1800 Thursday, Btry. C fired to kill eight VC.

In Operation Vernon Lake II, Co. D, 3-1 Inf. engaged eight VC, killed one, and captured an M-16 rifle and an unknown-type rifle at noon 11 miles west southwest of Quang Ngai.

Co. D, 1-20 Inf. recorded the other VC kill 12 1/2 miles southeast of Duc Pho.

Co. B, 5-46 Inf. was the most active unit in Operation Russell Beach with Marine troops no longer under operational control of Task Force Cooksey on the Batangan Peninsula.

In a delayed report, Co. B ambushed and killed a VC at 2010 Thursday. Co. B yesterday detained seven VC suspects in two tunnels and a military aged male carrying rice along the coast. The incidents occurred 11 miles northeast of Quang Ngai.

Five VC were killed elsewhere in the 198th Inf. Bde. area.

A UH-1 helicopter, working with the 1-52 Inf., killed two of three VC engaged near a river 15 miles southwest of Tam Ky and Co. C. 1-52 killed a VC after working itself out of an ambush three miles nearer Tam Ky.

Another UH-1, working with the 5-46 Inf., killed a VC 9 1/2 miles southeast of Chu Lai, and **Co. D, 1-6 Inf. killed a VC six miles south of Chu Lai.**

"Blue Ghosts" of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed five VC in as many encounters in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area.

Two kills occurred 14 1/2 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky. The others took place nine miles west-northwest and seven and 10 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Vol 3 No. 49 TUESDAY February 18, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT WEDNESDAY

Tomorrow's forecast calls for fair to partly cloudy skies. Winds will be from the southeast at 5-15 knots. High temperature will be about 87 with a low of about 70. Moon rise will be at 0852 hours and will set at 2118 hours.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)-- Combat action dropped to its lowest level since last fall as Americal Division forces engaged enemy troops only four times yesterday while allied units operated under a 24-hour standdown throughout South Vietnam.

The truce, which began at 1800 hours Sunday, put Americal troops on the defensive yesterday, and only three of six kills in southern I Corps were recorded during the truce period. In one case, two VC initiated contact; in the other, a VC body was found.

In addition to killing six VC, Americal units detained a VC suspect, captured an M-1 carbine, found and destroyed 900 pounds of rice, and discovered evidence of enemy telephone tapping.

Four VC were killed in the 11th Inf. Bde. area, including three in Operation Vernon Lake II, and the carbine taken.

At 1130, two VC shot at Co. D, 3-1 Inf., and were killed in the return of small arms fire 12-1/2 miles southwest of Quang Ngai. The carbine was captured along with clothing, documents, a U.S. pistol belt, and canteen. At 1825, Co. D detained a VC suspect digging a grave 11 miles southwest of Quang Ngai.

Co. B, 3-1 Inf., also operating in Vernon Lake II at 1130, found a VC killed by small arms fire within the previous 24 hours 13 miles southwest of Quang Ngai.

At 1855, Co. D, 1-20 Inf. directed fire from Btry. C, 1-82 Arty. to kill one VC 15 miles south of Quang Ngai.

A "Shark" gunship of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. destroyed 15 structures 4 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Twelve minutes after the truce expired, Co. C, 1-46 Inf. engaged four VC and killed two 20 miles northwest of Tam Ky in the 196th Inf. Bde. area.

At 0800, the 1-46 recon unit found and destroyed 900 pounds of rice 21 miles northwest of Tam Ky and, at 1015, Co. A, 26th Engr. Bn. found two land lines tapped with a wire leading from the lines to a tin can positioned near two foxholes in an area 12-1/2 miles north-west of Tam Ky.

No kills were reported in the 198th Inf. Bde. area, but units of the 1-6 Inf. and the 1-52 Inf. joined "Aero Scouts" of the 123d Av. Bn. to find several enemy fortifications and structures.

Co. B, 1-6 Inf. was plagued by sporadic automatic weapons fire from an unknown-size enemy force throughout the day as were helicopters working in the 198th area.

Nine miles south of Tam Ky, Co. B and "Aero Scout" pilot 1LT Thomas O'Hara (Boston, Mass.) combined to find nine fresh spider holes, a small group of VC, a newly-dug tunnel, and a hole with five fighting positions.

1LT O'Hara, working with the 1-52 Inf. in the same area, located new firing positions, two tunnels with nearby bunkers, and six hootches under a canopy containing 40-50 rounds.

In the afternoon, "Aero Scout" pilot CW2 Allan-Danforth (Birmingham, Ala.), working with 198th units west of Chu Lai, spotted two camouflaged huts, two tunnels, and an 8-by-10 hole with fighting positions.

Two Americal Division soldiers were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 54 SUNDAY February 23, 1969

[This was a day of one of the heaviest attacks on the Division in Vietnam. There is little detail in the reporting. This is probably because there was a lot to report]

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)---Striking with small arms fire, recoilless rifle, mortar, and rocket fire, enemy forces directed 37 attacks against 30 allied positions in southern I Corps between 0117 and 0700 hours this morning.

NVA and VC elements, sometimes working together, made ground probes at six sites, three of which were manned by Regular Force units and one of which is an ARVN OP.

The Chu Lai Defense Command area was hit at 0152, 0230, and 0700 hours by 82mm mortar and 122mm rocket rounds. The first barrage included 18-20 82mm mortars, the second three 122mm rockets, and the third brought at least 12 rocket rounds approximately 40 minutes after daybreak.

Other Americal Division positions attacked by the enemy included the following LZs: Bronco (four attacks), Bayonet (two), Gator, Cork, Dottie, Liz, Buff, Hawk Hill, Baldy, Hill 69, Professional, and Hill 38. Among other sites hit were Binh Son, Tam Ky, Song Tinh, and the An Tan bridge area.

First reports showed at least 19 enemy soldiers killed, and at least 16 individual weapons captured. Fifteen kills and all the weapons were recorded by A Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. which subdued a large enemy force slightly west of Tam Ky at 0740.

Fewer than 10 Americal Division soldiers were killed, and 51 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to initial reports. A preliminary assessment of Americal positions under attack indicated that damage was light.

**** Action before 2400 hours in southern I Corps was moderate and divided almost evenly throughout the Americal's three brigade area. Twenty-six contacts with enemy units were made.

Americal forces reported killing six NVA and 29 VC, detained 26 VC suspects, capturing seven individual weapons, and evacuating 4350 pounds of rice.

**** Four elements of the 4-31 Inf. and two of the 2-1 Inf. killed five NVA and five VC and captured four weapons in the 196th Inf. Bde. area. A sixth NVA was also killed.

Co. D, 2-1 Inf. and its companion Popular Force team were involved in the area's largest single encounter at 0822 hours when an unknown-size enemy force sprang an ambush 20-1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

After receiving 15-20 rounds of automatic weapons fire, Co. D and the PF's returned fire to kill two NVA and a VC. A later sweep of the rugged area turned up two SKS rifles and two M-16 rifles.

In three actions, Co. D, 4-31 Inf. killed an NVA and a VC and Co. B, 4-31 Inf. killed two NVA 26 miles west of Tam Ky. Co. A engaged three VC with mortar fire and killed one a mile **closer to Tam Ky while a UH-1 helicopter with the 4-31 killed a VC 18 miles west of Tam Ky.**

A 2-1 Inf. observation post spotted seven VC nearby and directed artillery fire to kill one 19 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

The remaining NVA was killed by Co. A, 1-46 Inf. 21 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

F. Trp., 17th Cav., working an area 14-1/2-15-1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky, found and evacuated 4350 pounds of rice in five caches ranging from 600 to 1700 pounds apiece.

Companies of the 4-3 Inf. and C Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. totaled nine VC killed and two weapons captured in nine incidents in the 198th Inf. Bde. area. The 4-3 and C Trp. are OPCON to the 198th.

Co. D, 4-3 Inf. killed four VC in three incidents and utilized a Short Range Recon Patrol which killed a fifth VC. Four kills occurred in an area 7-1/2-8 miles northwest of Quang Ngai, and the fifth three miles further northwest.

Co. B, 4-3 Inf. killed a VC 11-1/2 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai, and the 4-3 recon unit found an AK-47 rifle a half-mile away. In separate incidents, Co. B detained 13 of 26 VC suspects halted in the 198th area and also destroyed a tunnel. Co. C also blew a tunnel after removing six VC suspects.

(Continued)

(Continued) Vol. 3 No. 54 SUNDAY February 23, 1969

C Trp. killed three VC in two encounters seven miles west-southwest of Tam Ky and then found an SKS rifle in the same general area. Working with C Trp., Co. A, 1-52 Inf. killed two VC and, 45 minutes later, found 10 pounds of C-4 in a tunnel and blew both together.

**** Co. A, 3-1 Inf. added seven VC kills to the impressive total in Operation Vernon Lake II as 11th Inf. Bde. units killed 10 VC, detained three VC suspects, and captured one weapon.

Co. A, operating 17-18 miles southwest of Quang Ngai, engaged VC elements four times between 1400 and 17445 and killed seven. Since Vernon Lake II began Nov. 2, 118 NVA and 226 VC have been killed, and 34 NVA and 38 VC bodies found. Of 145 weapons captured, five were crew-served.

Cos. B and C, 1-20 Inf. each killed a VC 5-1/2 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai and seven miles southeast of Duc Pho, respectively. A "Shark" gunship of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co., working with Co. C, killed a VC.

The 1-20 recon unit found an AK-47 rifle 6-1/2 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

"Blue Ghosts" of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed three VC in as many incidents in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area between 1642 and 1735. The actions occurred 6-1/2 miles and eight miles west of Tam Ky and 10 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

Prior to 2400, one Americal Division soldier was killed, and 12 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

[23-24 Feb 69 were days of some of the heaviest battles for the division. Too much was going on to report unit actions in full detail]

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Led by three troops of the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. and gunships of the 174 Aslt. Hel. Co. and F. Trp., 8th Cav., Americal Division forces rebounded sharply from seven hours of early-morning enemy attacks against more than 40 positions in southern I Corps yesterday.

Although the number of contacts with enemy troops was average (24), action was extremely heavy as Americal units killed 10 NVA and 159 VC, found five VC bodies, and captured 32 weapons, four crew served.

The cavalry and gunships accounted for 134 enemy dead in three major incidents in the Tam Ky and Duc Pho areas.

Between 0117 and approximately 0800 hours, NVA and VC elements launched ground, small arms, recoilless rifle, mortar and rocket attacks on 11 landing zones, four observation posts, three night defensive positions, three Special Forces camps, seven district headquarters areas, and one provincial capital.

The Chu Lai Defense Command area received 66 122mm and 140mm rockets and 18-20 82mm mortars yesterday morning. Twenty-six rockets landed in the sea, and damage throughout the five-sector CLDC area was described as light.

**** Trps. A and C, 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. killed seven NVA and 59 VC, and the 1-1 command-and-control helicopter and four "Blue Ghosts" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed 16 in only six incidents.

The major action occurred barely west of the Tam Ky airstrip in the Pineapple Forest where Americal units caught an estimated VC battalion in the open and began a fierce 55-minute battle at 1030.

Touching off subsequent events was a ground attack by a mixed enemy force on a Regular Force OP in the Pineapple area. The enemy held half the hill at 0415 when a platoon of A Trp., arrived to extract five wounded American advisors.

By 0700, the enemy was in complete control, and the A Trp. platoon was redeployed to counterattack. Behind a 40-minute small arms and mortar barrage, the "Dragoons" routed the insurgents by killing seven NVA and eight VC and capturing 10 AK-47 rifles and six assorted M-1 rifles and carbines.

Anticipating further trouble, the 1-1 moved B Trp. in to search and clear and brought C Trp. up to block southern approaches to the Pineapple area. At 0935, the entire A Trp. entered the area to relieve pressure on an ARVN unit under fire.

Leading Trps. A, B, and C, respectively, were CPT Earl V. Shackerford (Hopkinsville, Ky.), CPT Larry Beale (Macon, Ga.), and CPT Kenneth Lamison Jr. (El Paso, Tex.).

Big action started shortly after 1000 when a recon flight by the 1-1 command-and-control helicopter drew ground fire. The C&C notified a "Blue Ghosts" team and coordinated troop moves on the ground. A platoon of A Trp. attacked a large enemy force in the open, and C Trp. advanced from the south.

The C&C chopper killed nine VC at 1030, and four "Blue Ghosts" moved with C Trp. as the enemy forces fanned out in an area 600 meters long and 400 meters wide. Bordered on two sides by heavy forest, the area sloped into rice paddies from a hill in the center.

"There were so many people on the ground that we had to wait before hitting while we marked friendly troop positions," said CPT Lonnie Reavis (Waterloo, Iowa), who commanded the F Trp. gunships.

Piloting the "Blue Ghosts" were 1LT Richard Watson (Columbus, Ga.), CW2 John Wiley (Smyrna, Tenn.), CW2 Fred Nicoley (Rodelo, W. Va.), and WO1 Thomas Hunter (South Bend, Ind.).

(Cont'd. on page 2)

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

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Telephone: Chu Lai 3212 This News Sheet is published daily under the supervision of the

IO, Americal Division APO 96374 as an authorized Army publication. Views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army.

**Page 2 AMERICAL NEWS SHEET (Cont'd.) Vol. 3 No. 55 MONDAY
Feb. 24, 1969**

At 1118, A Trp. slammed into the area to kill 29 VC and C Trp. followed seven minutes later with 12 kills and two rifles captured. Working just above C Trp., the four "Blue Ghosts", hampered slightly by a low ceiling and haze, killed nine VC.

Ten minutes later, A Trp. chopped up a squad-size unit and killed 10 VC before contact was broken as enemy troops fled into the dense foliage. At noon, B Trp. moved through the area on a sweep but did not reestablish contact.

No Americal soldiers were killed and one was wounded and evacuated for medical treatment.

**** Four "Shark" gunships of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. killed 50 VC in two significant incidents near Duc Pho. Other 11th Bde. units killed 11 VC.

"Shark" action started in early-morning when WO1 John Pennington (Newark, Ohio) spotted rocket and mortar flashes from his perch atop a high hill in the middle of the 11th Bde. headquarters at LZ Bronco.

WO1 Pennington called artillery on the flash points, but the "Sharks" remained atop and at the foot of the hill where they waited to scramble as a reactionary force. Their work day began in earnest at 0500 when a large VC force threatened the Duc Pho airstrip.

Scrambling quickly west, four "Sharks" caught the VC in the open and killed 23 before pulling off to refuel and rearm. In addition to WO1 Pennington, the other pilots were WO1 Ellsworth Beebe (Tiffin, Ohio), WO1 William Cooper (Huddleston, Va.), and WO1 Robert Thomas (Birmingham, Ala.).

At approximately 0900 hours, rocket launches were spotted from LZ Liz. six miles northwest of Duc Pho. Artillery fire in the area was impossible because of an Americal patrol nearby.

On arrival, the "Sharks" caught a large VC group at the launch site before it could reach cover of a well-fortified bunker nearby. Despite ground fire, the "Sharks" killed 27 VC and destroyed 20 huts in the area to silence the intruders.

Elsewhere in the 11th area, four units of the 3-1 Inf. killed nine VC in four incidents in Operation Vernon Lake II. Two were killed in an unsuccessful ground attack at an LZ. The two remaining VC kills went to Co. B, 1-20 Inf. which put down a probe at another LZ.

**** All but one of seventeen VC killed in the 198th Inf. Bde. area were caught trying to breach perimeters in four incidents at three LZs. Of nine individual and four crew-served weapons captured, eight were taken in the abortive ground attacks.

Sweeps in the 198th area turned up approximately 60 sites from which rockets were fired in the morning. 1LT Andrew Wise (Columbus, Ga.), flying an "Aero Scout" gunship for the 123d Avn. Bn., spotted 40-60 sites in the Chu Lai area.

Co. A, 1-52 Inf., working 8-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky, detained three children, ages five to 11, who indicated they had been attending a VC class on helicopter sniping techniques. Technical charts were found nearby.

**** Co. D, 2-1 Inf. killed three NVA, captured a .38-cal pistol, and found four VC killed by artillery a week ago in four incidents in the 196th Inf. Bde. area. Other 196th units killed four VC and found a fifth VC body in four other encounters.

**** Six Americal Division soldiers were killed, and 57 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

MIRACLE SAFETY REMINDERS

In Company M there's a breach, From the drowning of Private O'Teeth.

Although he couldn't swim, His air mattress held him, Till it swamped half-a-mile from the beach.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Four units of the 3-1 Inf. and two of the 3-21 Inf. led the way as Americal Division troops engaged the enemy 17 times and withstood several assaults on Americal positions in southern I Corps yesterday.

Americal units reported killing three NVA and 27 VC, and capturing two individual and one crew-served weapons as both the rate and volume of action dropped considerably after Sunday's hectic events.

Enemy probes against four LZs were reported between 2400 hours Sunday and 0500 this morning. At 1815 yesterday, one sector of the Chu Lai Defense Command received three 122mm rockets which caused no casualties or damage.

**** Nine VC were killed by 3-1 Inf. troops in Operation Vernon Lake II, and another 3-1 unit killed two VC near Duc Pho as 11th Inf. Bde. forces killed one NVA and 14 VC.

A UH-1 helicopter, working with the 3-1, called mortar fire from Co. E, 301 Inf. to kill four VC 12 miles southwest of Quang Ngai, and the 3-1 recon unit killed two VC a mile beyond.

Operating 17-1/2-18 miles southwest of Quang Ngai, Co. A killed three VC in two incidents. Co. B killed two VC in separate encounters barely southeast of Duc Pho.

Air Force CPT Jack Stitzel (Phoenix, Ariz.), an 11th Bde. Forward Air Control pilot, directed air strikes seven miles west-northwest of Duc Pho to kill three VC and destroy three camouflaged huts.

A mortar platoon of Co. C, 1-20 Inf. killed an NVA 6-1/2 miles south of Duc Pho, and Co. C detained three VC suspects without ID cards two miles nearer Duc Pho.

Cos. A and B, 3-21 Inf. accounted for nine of 10 VC killed and captured a weapon in the 196th area where 2900 pounds of rice were also found.

In delayed reports of Sunday action, Co. A killed two VC at 1830 and found an AK-47 rifle 15 minutes later 8-1/2 miles west of Tam Ky. In two incidents yesterday, Co. A directed artillery fire on groups of eight and five VC to kill five and one, respectively, eight miles west of Tam Ky.

Co. B killed a VC 13 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky, and a UH-1 helicopter, working with the 4-31 Inf., killed a VC 24-1/2 miles west of Tam Ky.

Co. C, 1-46 Inf. found and evacuated 2900 pounds of rice buried in camouflaged crocks 18 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Comparative quiet descended on the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area after a frenzied Sunday morning which saw 84 enemy soldiers killed in six incidents. Two NVA and a VC were killed yesterday, and one crew-served weapon was destroyed.

At 1650, B Trp., 1-1 engaged an unknown-size enemy force and killed two NVA three miles southeast of Tam Ky. Another B Trp. element found and destroyed five bunkers 3-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. flew into .50-cal fire 2-1/2 miles south of Tam Ky and eliminated the problem by killing a VC and destroyed the machinegun.

Two VC were killed and an AK-47 rifle taken in the 198th Inf. Bde. area as "Brave and Bold" troops intensified patrolling near Chu Lai and below Tam Ky where several enemy rockets and mortar attacks were launched in the past two mornings.

In three incidents, two LZs reported receiving enemy fire and one attempted ground probe yesterday.

Co. A, 1-52 Inf. rooted out one trouble spot by finding and destroying a tunnel complex in one LZ area 11-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

H Trp., 17th Cav. killed a VC and captured the rifle 11 miles southeast of Chu Lai, and **Co. C, 1-6 Inf. ambushed and killed a VC 5-1/2 miles west of Chu Lai.**

A UH-1 helicopter of the 176th Aslt. Hel. Co. crashed and burned after receiving heavy .50-cal fire three miles south of Tam Ky. Four Americans were killed in the crash.

Seven Americal Division soldiers were killed, one was listed as missing in hostile action, and 33 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--NVA and VC elements in the Tam Ky area are finding out that large enemy gatherings within striking distance of the city are not very popular with the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav.

For the second time in three days, troops of the 1st tangled with, then mangled an estimated battalion-size enemy force harassing the Tam Ky area. Yesterday's six-hour clash killed 167 NVA and one VC after Sunday's 55-minute battle left seven NVA and 77 VC dead.

On a busy day throughout southern I Corps, Americal Division forces reported killing 171 NVA and 42 VC, and capturing 18 weapons, four crew-served.

**** Action began for the 1-1 at 1220 hours when the third platoon of B Trp., led by 1LT Larry D. Smith, ran into intense RPG and automatic weapons fire from a wooded hill near the Tam Ky River where the platoon was on a search and clear mission three miles south of Tam Ky.

After immediately returning fire, the platoon lined up and assaulted the NVA force in well-fortified trenches and underground bunkers. "Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. worked overhead in the densely-wooded, swampy area.

When one platoon attack was thrown back, the second platoon joined its troopmates, and elements of C Trp. began arriving in the area. All units poured heavy fire on the NVA position, and B Trp. killed the VC at 1540.

At 1600, both B Trp. platoons and the first C Trp. reinforcements grouped and stormed the hill again. Within 15 minutes, close contact was established, and heavy fighting raged until nightfall about 1900 when the Cav. troops moved into a night defensive position around the hill.

At 1740, B Trp. engaged and killed 10 NVA in the lone incident isolated from the general melee that sputtered between 1300 and 1600 and picked up from 1600 to 1900.

In six hours of fighting, C Trp., led by CPT Kenneth Lamison Jr. (El Paso, Tex.), killed 143 NVA, B Trp. nine, and a Headquarters Trp. element five. Two Americans were killed, and 11 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment.

Collected during the afternoon were four AK-47 rifles, a .45-cal pistol, a .50-cal machinegun, a 7.62mm Chicom machinegun, an RPG-7, and RPG-2.

In the 1-1's Operation Hardin Falls, A Trp. killed five VC and captured three K-44 rifles in a firefight with 10-12 VC 14 -1/2 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky.

Two "Aero Scout" gunships of the 123d Avn. Bn. killed 12 VC in support of an ARVN element 1-1/2 miles southwest of Quang Ngai to top action in the 198th Inf. Bde. area where four other incidents produced one NVA and seven VC killed and three weapons taken.

Co. B, 1-52 Inf., led by CPT Jerry W. Lindsay (Enox, Ohio), engaged and killed five VC and captured two AK-47 rifles seven miles southwest of Tam Ky, and Co. A, 1-52 Inf. killed an NVA and a VC in separate incidents five miles further southwest.

Co. C, 4-3 Inf. killed a VC and took a 9mm pistol five miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

At 1450 eight miles southwest of Chu Lai, Co. B, 1-6 Inf. found a large rocket launch site with five well-camouflaged huts, all 15 by 20 feet, and 12 well-built bunkers. None of the site was visible from the air.

In the area were a rocket storage area 200 by 300 meters, a sizable room, rocket aiming stakes, and in the bunkers were empty rocket crates. Fifteen fresh graves were found.

An "Aero Scout" recon flight turned up 12 rocket blast holes, well-used trails, two camouflaged huts, five fresh graves, and an apparent enemy training center.

Two battalions of the 11th Inf. Bde. killed three NVA and seven VC and took a weapon, and E Trp., 1st Cav. found two weapons in six incidents in the Quang Ngai and Duc Pho areas.

Co. B, 1-20 Inf., let by CPT John R. Hill (Winchendon, Mass.), found three NVA killed by the 6-11 Arty. within the previous 24 hours five miles northwest of Duc Pho and, a half-mile away, found a VC killed by small arms fire and killed one of three VC engaged.

Co. C, 3-1 Inf. engaged seven VC and killed two a mile northwest of Duc Pho and, in Operation Vernon Lake II, Co. A, 3-1 Inf. killed three VC 16 miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

E. Trp. found an SKS rifle and an M-1 carbine seven miles south of Quang Ngai and later found and destroyed a 750-pound bomb.

Co. A, 1-46 Inf. killed seven of 10 VC recorded in the 196th Inf. Bde. area.

At 1130, Co. A killed a VC 21 miles northwest of Tam Ky and, at 1915, killed six of 25 VC engaged three miles nearer Tam Ky.

Co. D, 4-31 Inf., working 29 miles west of Tam Ky, killed a VC and relocated 23 Vietnamese refugees to Nui Loc Son. Co. D, 2-1 Inf. directed artillery to kill one of nine VC seen moving 21-1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Three Americal Division soldiers were killed, and 16 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

MIRACLE SAFETY REMINDER

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action returned to a more normal pace yesterday as the newly-proclaimed enemy offensive slogged through its fourth day in southern I Corps.

In 15 ground contacts and nine by air, Americal Division forces killed one NVA and 27 VC, found five VC bodies, and captured three individual weapons.

The first three days of the latest enemy push, termed an "offensive" yesterday by the U.S. command in Saigon, have resulted in 184 NVA and 288 VC dead in the Americal area.

Enemy units continued to harass Americal positions yesterday and early this morning by shelling three LZs, an Observation Post, and a province capital. One sector of the Chu Lai Defense Command area received two 122mm rockets which caused no casualties or damage at 2315 hours yesterday.

In seven incidents, elements of three battalions killed an NVA and five VC, found 15 VC bodies, and captured three weapons in the 198th Inf. Bde. area.

Co. B, 1-6 Inf., led by CPT Richard W. Jessop (Knightstown, Ind.), destroyed a small base camp seven miles south of Chu Lai and discovered 15 graves containing the bodies of 15 VC killed 7-10 days ago by air strikes.

Working 5-1/2 miles west of Chu Lai, Co. A, 1-6 Inf. killed two VC and captured an AK-47 rifle.

Co. C, 4-3 Inf. killed two VC in encounters at 0135 and 2005 hours 5-5-1/2 miles northwest of Quang Ngai, and Co. A, 1-52 Inf. killed an NVA and got his AK-47 rifle, then found an RPD light machinegun in two incidents 11 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123d Avn. Bn. killed a VC and detained a VC suspect 8-1/2 miles north-northwest of Quang Ngai.

Seven air strikes, the three most effective directed by 198th Forward Air Control pilot Air Force CPT Jack L. Dickens (Madison, W. Va.), destroyed 16 structures, two bunkers, and 20 meters of trench line. Three structures were damaged and one secondary explosion and two secondary fires were observed.

Cos. C and D, 4-21 Inf. killed four VC, and a UH-1 helicopter found five VC killed by artillery to account for all the action in the 11th Inf. Bde. area.

Co. C, led by CPT Thomas S. Hyde (Leavenworth, Kan.), killed three VC in separate incidents six and seven miles south-southwest of Quang Ngai. Co. D, led by CPT Robert E. Winn (Midriff, Tex.), killed a VC a half-mile further from Quang Ngai.

The UH-1, working with the 3-1 Inf., found the dead VC 13 miles southwest of Quang Ngai in the Vernon Lake II operational area. They had been killed by the 6-11 Arty.

Five VC were killed and 1800 pounds of rice found in the 196th Inf. Bde. area.

Co. D, 4-31 Inf. killed two of four VC engaged 24 miles west of Tam Ky, and Co. B, 4-31 Inf. killed a VC four miles nearer Tam Ky.

F. Trp., 17th Cav. killed a VC 18 miles northwest of Tam Ky, and Co. C, 2-1 Inf. killed another 3-1/2 miles further northwest.

Co. B, 1-46 Inf. found and evacuated 1000 pounds of rice 20 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky while Co. A, 2-1 Inf. found 800 pounds of rice 16 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

"Blue Ghosts" of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed eight VC in seven incidents in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area. Four kills occurred 5-9 miles north, two 15-15-1/2 miles north-northwest, and the last eight miles northwest of Tam Ky.

155 mm howitzers from B Btry., 3rd Bn., 16th Arty., commanded by CPT Reginald Fontenot (Lake Charles, La.) fired 54 rounds in support of Civilian Irregular Defense Group forces at Tien Phuoc CIDG Camp. One secondary explosion, which produced a huge fireball, was recorded. A large number of enemy soldiers were believed to have been killed.

**** Six Americal Division soldiers were killed, and 15 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Cos. A and C, 1-46 Inf. and a UH-1 helicopter working with the 1-46 killed 16 VC to highlight moderate action in southern I Corps yesterday.

Americal Division forces engaged enemy units 17 times and reported killing 38 VC. One weapon was found but not during enemy contact.

In the fifth day of their offensive, enemy forces mortared or rocketed LZs, one observation post, two night defensive positions, one Special Forces camp, and one district headquarters in the Americal area.

Enemy losses total 840 killed and 120 weapons captured since Sunday in southern I Corps. Fewer than 25 Americal soldiers have been killed.

In addition to the 1-46 Inf.'s 16 kills, three other units and a Forward Air Control pilot killed eight VC in the 196th Inf. Bde. area. A K-44 rifle was also captured.

In five incidents between 0930 and 1315 hours, elements of Co. A, 1-46 Inf. killed seven VC 19-20-1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky. The major encounter at 0930 left three VC dead, and another was killed 15 minutes later.

Not far from Co. A, the UH-1 killed four VC in two encounters 20-1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky at 0815 and 0855. Less than an hour later in the same area, the UH-1 confirmed five VC killed in an air strike directed by 196th FAC pilot Air Force CPT Stephen J. Maechtlin (Cleveland Heights, Ohio).

Co. C, 1-46 Inf., operating 16-17 miles northwest of Tam Ky, killed two of an estimated 101-12 VC engaged at 0930 and, at 1845, killed three VC after receiving 75 M-79 rounds from an unknown-size enemy force.

Working with the 1-46 Inf. nearby, F Trp., 17th Cav. killed a VC.

The other VC kills went to Co. D, 4-31 Inf. 24 miles west of Tam Ky and to Co. C, 3-21 Inf. 10 miles nearer Tam Ky. Co. A, 2-1 Inf. found the K-44 19 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

Two troops of the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. killed seven VC in two incidents, one of which occurred in the Hardin Falls operational area.

At 1315, B Trp., led by CPT Larry Beale (Macon, Ga.), destroyed a tunnel complex and killed four VC three miles west of Tam Ky, not far from the site of last Sunday's battle in which 1-1 troops killed 75 enemy soldiers.

In Hardin Falls 11 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky, A Trp., let by CPT Early V. Shackerford (Hopkinsville, Ky.), received small arms fire and returned it to kill three VC during an 0230 probe of the troop's night defensive position.

Two VC were killed and various enemy supplies and ammo captured or destroyed in the 198th Inf. Bde. area.

Co. D, 4-3 Inf. used 4.2" mortar fire to kill two VC nine miles northwest of Quang Ngai in the only enemy contact.

In the Oregon area 12-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky, Co. D, 1-52 Inf. found three NVA packs containing clothing and turned up 16 82mm rounds, seven 60mm rounds, and four foxholes.

Co. A, 1-6 Inf., working 6-1/2 miles west of Chu Lai, located a bunker topped by a bamboo hut. Underneath the bunker were two tunnels.

Eight air strikes in the 198th area destroyed four structures, two bunkers, and an automatic weapons firing position.

In the 11th Inf. Bde.'s lone contact, a UH-1 helicopter working with the 3-1 Inf. reported finding five VC killed by small arms fire in Operation Vernon Lake II 14 miles southwest of Quang Ngai.

Co. C, 3-1 Inf. found and destroyed a varied assortment of U.S. clothing and equipment in a VC camp area two miles southeast of Duc Pho. Among items discovered were five field mess kits and five mess trays, two rain jackets and three new ponchos, three air mattresses, seven soft caps, three pair of socks, and two pairs of combat boots.

Air Force CPT Jack Stitzel (Phoenix, Ariz.), an 11th Bde. FAC pilot, directed air strikes that resulted in one secondary explosion and two sustained fires seven miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

Eight Americal Division soldiers were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Three of the Americal Division's four major operations--Vernon Lake II, Fayette Canyon, and Hardin Falls--were terminated at midnight Friday, and statistics indicate unqualified success in each.

Only Operation Russell Beach, now in a pacification phase, continues into March in the effort to rid the Batangan Peninsula area of VC influence and fortifications.

March debuted on the seventh day of the enemy offensive--a day on which Americal units engaged the enemy 15 times and enemy forces attacked three LZs, a night defensive position, a Special Forces camp, and two district headquarters in southern I Corps.

Americal units reported killing five NVA and 39 VC, finding one VC body, and capturing seven individual weapons.

In the 11th Inf. Bde. area, Operation Vernon Lake II ended after 119 days of action involving units of the 3-1 and 4-21 Infs, which pushed the 3d NVA Division out of its bastion southwest of Quang Ngai. Eighty-one enemy base camps were discovered along with 121 tons of rice, 1253 mortars, 196 rockets, and over 23,400 rounds of small arms ammo.

Enemy casualties totaled 455 with 118 NVA killed and 34 found dead, and 265 VC killed and 38 found dead. Six weapons were captured and 17 enemy suspects were detained. Twenty-three Americal soldiers were killed.

Eleven VC were killed in the 11th Bde. area yesterday as a UH-1 helicopter, working with the 3-1 Inf., found eight VC killed by 6-11 Arty. fire 18 miles southwest of Quang Ngai and E Trp., 1st Cav. killed three VC in two incidents six miles southwest of Quang Ngai and five miles northwest of Duc Pho.

On a perimeter sweep a mile east of Duc Pho, Hq. Co., 1-20 Inf. found a .38-cal. pistol hidden under a rock.

Co. D, 4-21 Inf. found and destroyed 31 bunkers and 30 spider holes in three incidents 8-1/2 miles southwest of Quang Ngai.

Operation Fayette Canyon, which joined units of the 196th Inf. Bde.'s 2-1 and 4-31 battalions and the 198th Inf. Bde.'s 1-46 battalion, finished with an outstanding kill ratio.

Begun Dec. 15 in the region of an NVA-dominated hill 25 miles northwest of Tam Ky, Fayette Canyon killed 327 enemy soldiers--173 NVA killed and 65 found dead, and 84 VC killed and five found dead. Two Americal soldiers were killed.

Destroyed in the operation were 535 bunkers and 421 huts, while 70 weapons, including 14 crew-served, were captured.

Action in the 196th area yesterday was a repeat of the previous two days for Co. A, 1-46 Inf. which killed two NVA and four VC in five encounters 17-1/2-20-1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky. Co. A killed seven VC Thursday and six Friday.

Other 196th units killed three NVA and 11 VC, found the VC body, and captured three weapons yesterday.

An observation post of 2-1 Inf. called artillery on a large VC group 22-1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky to kill eight. In separate incidents, Co. A, 2-1 Inf. killed an NVA and captured an M-2 carbine and Co. B, 2-1 took an AK-47 rifle, and an M-1 carbine 18 and 18-1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

A UH-1 helicopter of the 26th Engr. Bn. was successful in only its second reported major contact with enemy forces in two months. The chopper killed two NVA 17 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Co. D, 4-31 Inf. killed two VC 24 miles west of Tam Ky, and the 4-31 recon unit killed a VC 1-1/2 miles nearer Tam Ky.

Operation Hardin Falls, designed to clear and take control of six hamlets in Thang Binh district after four years of VC domination, killed 78 VC, detained 17 VC suspects, and captured six weapons. One American was killed.

Hardin Falls, which began Dec. 2, involved troops of the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav.; Co. A, 1-46 Inf.; and Co. B, 26th Engr. Bn.

In the 1-1 area yesterday, "Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed 11 VC in five incidents. The largest encounter occurred between 1415 and 1450 hours as F Trp., worked with a Popular Force assault team 17 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky and killed eight VC in three actions.

The other three VC were killed six miles north and seven miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Two VC were found killed by an overnight air strike, and three weapons were captured as action slowed considerably in the 198th Inf. Bde. area.

After a prolonged firefight late Friday afternoon and an all-night vigil near the Song Tra Khuc 7-1/2 miles west of Quang Ngai City, Co. C, 4-3 Inf. and Co. B, 5-46 Inf. lost contact with an unknown-size enemy force at daybreak.

A sweep of the area by the two companies turned up the two VC bodies, and Co. C found a BAR and two M-72 LAW rockets in two places within the general area. Co. B also found a B-40 rocket, 10 shotgun shells, 30 AK-47 rounds, a Chicom grenade, two NVA packs, and an NVA helmet and canteen.

Nine miles south of Chu Lai, Co. B, 1-6 Inf. located at an apparent ambush site two claymore mines and a 40-pound shaped charged embedded in the ground near several M-16 rounds wired with det cord.

Seven air strikes in the 198th area destroyed 16 structures and 12 bunkers, damaged two structures, and caused two secondary explosions and four secondary fires.

Thirteen Americal Division soldiers were killed, and 44 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

In the week ending at midnight, the first seven days of the enemy offensive, 197 NVA and 371 VC were killed in the Americal area. In that time, 37 Americal soldiers were killed. Seventy-two weapons, 11 crew-served, were captured.

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AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Americal Division forces met the enemy in 17 contacts, including five in each brigade area, as the enemy offensive ground through its eighth day in southern I Corps.

Americal units reported killing two NVA and 19 VC, finding one VC body, and capturing one individual weapon in light action.

Three elements of the 3-1 Inf. accounted for seven of nine killed and the lone weapon captured in the 11th Inf. Bde. area.

A UH-1 helicopter, working with the 3-1 Inf., found the bodies of three VC killed by 4.2 mortar fire from Co. E, 3-1 Inf. 12-1/2 miles southwest of Quang Ngai and, at 0145 hours, the 3-1 recon unit killed two VC outside its perimeter 14 miles southwest of Quang Ngai.

In a delayed report of action at 2345 Saturday, Co. C, 3-1 Inf. engaged three VC and killed two a mile northwest of Duc Pho.

Co. B, 4-21 Inf., working nine miles south-southwest of Quang Ngai, killed an NVA and captured his AK-47 rifle, while the 4-21 recon unit killed two VC 2-1/2 miles nearer Quang Ngai.

Eight miles south of Duc Pho, Co. A, 1-20 Inf. detained three VC suspects with wounds apparently inflicted by artillery fire.

A gunship of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. crashed and was destroyed 14-1/2 miles northwest of Duc Pho. No ground fire had been received prior to the crash. All four crew members were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment.

One NVA and three VC were killed, and a VC body was found in the 198th Bde. area.

Co. D, 1-52 Inf. killed two VC 9-1/2 miles and 10 miles west of Tam Ky, and Co. A, 1-52 Inf. killed a VC a mile further southwest.

Eight miles west of Quang Ngai, Co. C, 4-3 Inf. killed a VC and found the two-day-old body of a VC killed by small arms fire.

In a delayed report, the first platoon of Co. C, 1-6 Inf. fired on an unidentified object floating near a bridge 4-1/2 miles southeast of Tam Ky and caused a large underwater explosion.

Three of five VC killed by the 196th Inf. Bde. area went to three elements of the 4-31 unit.

A UH-1 helicopter, working with the 4-31 Inf., killed a VC as did Cos. C and D. The incidents occurred 19, 22 and 24 miles west of Tam Ky, respectively.

Co. D, 2-1 Inf. called artillery on three VC to kill one 19-1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky, and Co. C, 1-46 Inf. killed one of two VC engaged a half-mile further northwest.

"Blue Ghosts" of F. Trp., 8th Cav. killed single VC 8-1/2 miles and 10 miles northwest of Tam Ky in the only action in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area.

Three Americal Division soldiers were killed and 19 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

MIRACLE SAFETY REPORT

The oil and brush lay unused
So the grime and the barrel had fused.
When Charlie loomed bigger,
Joe tugged at the trigger,
And, sadly, heavenward cruised.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)-Sporadic enemy attacks against LZ's and night defensive positions continued yesterday as Americal Division units met the enemy 17 times on the ninth day of his offensive in southern I Corps.

Americal forces reported killing nine NVA and 26 VC, and capturing six weapons, one crew-served.

Five NVA and 11 VC were killed in the 11th Inf. Bde. area where two VC suspects were detained and the crew-served weapon taken.

At 1205 hours, a patrol of Co. B, 1-20 Inf. ran into heavy contact with a well-camouflaged NVA force in a wooded area three miles northwest of Duc Pho. In quick order, the rest of Co. B moved into the area.

Then came E Trp., 1st Cav.; Co. B, 3-1 Inf.; "Shark" gunships of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co.; a pounding by batteries of the 6-11 and 1-82 Arty.; and six air strikes directed by 11th Bde. Forward Air Control pilots.

When contact was finally broken at 1840, Co. B, 1-20 Inf. had killed two NVA, one as he tried to drag away his companion's body, and captured a loaded RPG launcher. Further sweeps at daybreak may locate more enemy bodies.

At 1000 in the same area, Co. B, 1-20 Inf. had found four VC killed by a 6-11 Arty. barrage during the night and, a half-mile away, Co. C, 3-1 Inf. killed two VC at 0905.

Co. C, 1-20 Inf. moved into the contested area late in the day and found fresh trails and foxholes, an NVA pack, Chicom grenades, 30 AK-47, two RPG rounds, and three enemy suspects wounded by artillery fire.

The only other contact in the 11th Bde. area came at 1520 when Co. D, 3-1 Inf. killed a party of five rice-carrying VC 15 miles southwest of Quang Ngai.

Three elements of the 1-46 Inf. killed an NVA and eight VC in the 196th Inf. Bde. area where other units killed two NVA and two VC. Two weapons were also captured.

Co. A, 1-46 Inf. killed five VC in three incidents 15-1/2 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky between 1045 and 1330 hours, and the 1-46 recon unit killed two VC in separate actions 1-1/2 miles farther away.

At 1045, Co. C, 1-46 Inf. killed one of three VC engaged and, at 1519, killed one of three NVA engaged and took a .45 cal pistol. Co. C, 4-31 Inf. killed two NVA and captured a carbine 22 miles west of Tam Ky.

The other VC were killed by a UH-1 helicopter working with the 4-31 Inf. 22 miles west of Tam Ky, and by Co. A, 3-21 Inf. 11-1/2 miles west of Tam Ky.

One NVA and five VC were killed in the 198th Inf. Bde. area. Three weapons were taken in one incident.

In a delayed report of action at 2045 Sunday, Co. D, 1-6 Inf. directed artillery fire on an unknown-size VC force to kill four 6-1/2 miles west of Chu Lai.

At 1630, Co. C, 1-52 Inf. engaged three VC in spider holes and killed one, then captured AK-47 and K44 rifles and an RPD light machinegun 12 miles south-west of Tam Ky. In the same place at 1810, Co. A, 1-52 Inf. killed an NVA.

Eight Americal Division soldiers were killed, and 24 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action was light in the southern I Corps area again yesterday, as Americal units reported killing 21 VC and two NVA, in 16 contacts, and capturing 20 weapons, one crew-served.

The 11th Inf. Bde. killed nine VC and found one body in a shallow grave.

Co. C, 3-1 Inf. killed two VC in a night ambush, 10-1/2 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Two VC were killed by E Trp., 1st Cav. in an area eight miles southeast of Duc Pho.

"Shark" helicopter gunships of the 174th Avn. Bn. killed one VC, two miles to the northeast.

At 1125 hours, during a sweep of an area 2-1/2 miles southwest of Duc Pho, Co. A, 4-21 Inf. discovered the grave of a VC that had been killed by artillery four to five days earlier.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. reported six VC killed in its area of operation north of Tam Ky.

In four contacts, ranging from 17 to 12 miles north of Tam Ky, units of A Trp., 1st Cav. killed five VC.

F Trp., 8th Cav. gunships accounted for another, when they killed one VC 16-1/2 miles north of Tam Ky.

A weapons cache as well as five enemy kills were the 196th Inf. Bde.'s totals from an area where twenty-seven bunkers were discovered the day before.

At 1730 hours, Co. A, 3-21 Inf. found a weapons cache, in which were four AK-47 rifles, a shotgun, and a RPG-7 rocket launcher. Co. A had earlier killed three VC, wearing green uniforms, and capturing three AK-47 rifles, in the same area.

1-52 Inf. working with Regional Forces, discovered 18 60mm mortar rounds which the RF kept, 12 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Co. C, 3-21 Inf. killed one NVA and captured an AK-47 rifle, 13-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Co. A, 1-46 Inf. engaged three NVA killing one, in a rough, hilly area 12-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

In the 198th Inf. Bde., the recon unit of the 1-6 Inf. killed one VC, nine miles southeast of Tam Ky. Later in the day they spotted an unknown size VC force moving through the same area and called in B Btry., 1-14 Arty. which killed one of the enemy.

Co. A, 4-3 Inf. reported two Vietnamese children told them where a "Bouncing Betty" antipersonnel mine was buried near Quang Ngai. The Vietnamese received a reward for their actions.

One Americal soldier was killed and seven wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3. No. 75 Sunday March 16, 1969

MIRACLE SAFETY REMINDER

There once was a soldier named Mat
Who lit cigarettes on guard as he sat
Well Charlie took aim
Blew out more than Mats flame
Hey man - groove on that (U)

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--After three days of light action, parts of the southern I Corps had heavy activity yesterday with the heaviest being in the 11th Inf. Bde.'s area around Duc Pho, where a total of 40 enemy were killed in all day fighting.

Americal Division units made 19 contacts with the enemy and reported killing 33 NVA and 26 VC, finding the bodies of three NVA and one VC, capturing 16 weapons, one crew-served, and discovering 15 bunkers.

The 11th Inf. Bde.'s Co. C, 3-1 Inf was on a combat assault mission, three miles north of Duc Pho, when it made contact with a large, well-equipped NVA force at 1040 hours.

The fighting was so intense, in and around hootches and hedgerows along Highway 1, that extra support was needed.

Co.'s A and B, 3-1 Inf. were called into the area, as well as Co. D, 1-20 Inf. E Trp., 1st Cav., and the 6-11th Arty.

When contact was broken at dark, 33 NVA had been killed, nine AK-478 rifles, one M-16 rifle, two machineguns, one LAW (Light Antitank Weapon), and a RPG-7 rocket launcher had been captured.

The 1-20 Inf.'s Recon unit intercepted six VC, riding bicycles toward Duc Pho at 0600, killing two. At 1930 hours, the Recon unit killed two more VC, in the same area.

A Ranger patrol of Co. G, 75th Inf. engaged an unknown size enemy force, in rice fields 10 miles southwest of Duc Pho, and killed two VC.

This brings the 11th Inf. Bde.'s total kills for the past week to 91 VC and 74 NVA, and 15 individual and seven crew-served weapons captured.

The 198th Inf. Bde. reported 16 VC killed, three enemy suspects detained, and two weapons captured, in heavy action around Quang Ngai.

Co. D, 4-3 Inf. engaged an enemy force, estimated between 30 to 40 VC, and called in artillery support which resulted in six VC killed, in an area of hills and high grass 10 miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

One mile east, Co. C, 4-3 Inf. received fire and called in artillery, they killed two more VC in the same area.

Co. A, 4-3 Inf., in a sweep six miles east of Quang Ngai, detained two enemy suspects, wearing black pajamas, and captured an AR-15 rifle and a submachinegun.

A mile east of Tam Ky, Co. C, 1-6 Inf. found the body of a VC, below a bridge on the Song Tam Ky. The enemy was thought to have been killed by small arms fire, two days ago.

Totals for the 198th Inf. Bde. last week were 55 VC and eight NVA killed, and six weapons, two crew-served, captured.

The 196th Inf. Bde.'s Co. B, 3-21 Inf., during a sweep 11 miles southwest of Tam Ky, discovered and destroyed 15 enemy bunkers, five feet by four feet with an overhead covering of logs, which were connected by small tunnels that also ran back into the hills to spider holes. Inside one of the bunkers the bodies of three NVA were found along with a M-1 rifle.

Co. C, 2-1 Inf. killed one VC, in a sweep of the hillside 20 miles west northwest of Tam Ky.

Forty-two NVA and 22 VC were killed and eight weapons, one crew-served captured last week in the 196th Inf. Bde. area.

B Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. killed three VC, during a sweep in the 1st Cav. area 5 1/2 miles west of Tam Ky.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. had 19 VC killed in its area the past week.

Five Americal Division soldiers were killed, and 28 wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

In the past week 109 NVA and 172 VC were killed in the Americal Division's area. In that time 36 Americal soldiers were killed.

Vol. 3 No. 77 Tuesday March 18, 1969

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--WO1 Thomas R. Shagen (Columbus, Ga.) turned a test flight into the real thing yesterday when he broke his flight pattern to rescue two engineers injured when their bulldozer detonated a pressure mine.

Flying for the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co., WO1 Shagen was cruising above Highway 1 a half-mile north of Duc Pho when his crew chief, SP5 Jim Swinson (Houston, Tex.), spotted a cloud of smoke rising along the highway. The chopper dropped to investigate.

"From 500 feet, I couldn't tell what had happened," said WO1 Shagen. "I broke our pattern and flew low. Then I could see the bulldozer overturned after hitting the mine.

"I also saw two men lying in the roadway and went in to pick them up."

Landing on the highway, the chopper loaded the men and whisked them to a nearby LZ for medical treatment. The heavy bulldozer was a total loss, but its bulk prevented serious injury to the two engineers.

Combat action in southern I Corps was light as Americal Division forces reported killing three NVA and 14 VC, detaining five enemy suspects and a Hoi Chanh, and capturing three individual weapons.

Most active among Americal elements were "Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. which killed eight VC in seven contacts and destroyed 29 sampans and one bunker 7-16 miles west, north and northwest of Tam Ky in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area.

Five units killed two NVA and three VC and found and destroyed 850 pounds of rice and salt in the 196th Inf. Bde. area.

Co. A, 3-21 Inf. killed an NVA in the morning and a VC in the afternoon 8-9 miles southwest of Tam Ky, and Co. C, 3-21 Inf. killed a VC and captured miscellaneous documents in the same area.

Working with the 4-31 Inf., F Trp., 17th Cav. killed one of two VC engaged in a rice paddy 18 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky. During a subsequent search of the area, a VC jumped out of the bushes, yelled "Chieu Hoi!" and claimed he was a labor leader in a nearby village.

Operating 13-1/2 miles south-southwest of Tam Ky, a recon patrol of the 1-46 Inf. adjusted artillery on 30-40 NVA with packs and weapons. One NVA was found killed.

Co. C, 1-52 Inf. discovered the rice and salt buried in two 55-gallon drums and six crocks beneath hootches 21-1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Cos. A and C, 1-6 Inf. killed an NVA and a VC and captured a pistol, while Co. A, 4-3 Inf. took two weapons in the 198th Inf. Bde. area. Two of three incidents were delayed reports.

At 0845 hours Saturday, Co. A, 4-3 Inf. found and evacuated an unidentified submachinegun and an M-16 rifle near Quang Ngai and, at 1030, Co. C, 1-6 Inf. found a VC killed by small arms fire within the previous 24 hours.

At 1955 yesterday, Co. A, 1-6 Inf. killed one of two NVA engaged and captured the pistol five miles west of Chu Lai.

In the 11th Inf. Bde. area, Co. D, 1-20 Inf. found a VC killed by artillery eight miles west of Duc Pho. In an incident reported two days late, Co. A, 3-1 Inf. killed a VC at 1115 Saturday.

On a sweep a mile north of Duc Pho yesterday, Co. A chased and caught six VC suspects, including one wounded in the contact. The wounded man had no ID card.

One Americal soldier was killed, and six were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 83 Monday March 24, 1969

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action was moderate in southern I Corps yesterday with Americal Division units reporting 31 NVA and 17 VC killed, nine suspects detained, 15 enemy bunkers destroyed, three NVA bodies found, and six weapons captured.

The 11th Inf. Bde. had the most action Sunday, after two days without enemy contact, when it reported 18 NVA and six VC killed, three NVA bodies discovered, six suspects detained, eight bunkers destroyed in its area of operation.

A Ranger Patrol of Co. G, 75 Inf. killed a VC while on a sweep through the jungle six miles southwest of Duc Pho. The patrol leader, SGT Ronald Olsen (Watertown, S.D.) said, When we were inserted into the area we knew there had been enemy activity there. We found a fresh garden and well used trails. We came into a 16 hootch complex, with water and food in some of the hootches. Two more complexes were found along the trail as well as two logs that were 15 feet long and had been hollowed out. They had been used for rocket launchers and were aimed toward LZ Bronco.

"As we moved along the trail," SGT Olsen continued, "we ran into a VC and killed him, soon afterwards, we engaged three more VC and found three blood trails leading away from the trail.

"When we started receiving heavy small arms fire we called for a helicopter, and were extracted at 1500 hours.

An air strike was called into the area which resulted in seven secondary explosions.

Three NVA bodies, killed within the last 48 hours, were found by Co. D, 3-1 Inf. They had been killed by small arms fire near the Tra Cau River, three miles north of Duc Pho. Eight bunkers, one booby-trapped, were destroyed in the same location. Co. D, 3-1 Inf. killed another NVA and found one VC a half-mile away from the bunker.

Gunships of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. killed four VC three of whom were killed 2-1/2 miles northwest of Duc Pho. One was killed 22 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Co. A, 4-21 Inf. killed two NVA in a rice paddy and captured an M-79 grenade launcher eight miles west of Quang Ngai.

Co. C, 1-20 Inf. detained five enemy suspects without proper I.D. cards 4-1/2 miles south of Duc Pho. Co. B, 4-21 Inf. also detained one suspect seven miles west of Quang Ngai.

In the 196th Inf. Bde. area 13 NVA and ten VC were killed, seven bunkers destroyed, and five weapons captured.

Co. D, 1-46 Inf. killed seven of the NVA and one VC, and captured three weapons. Two NVA and a VC were killed when the tunnel they were hiding in was blown up. The tunnel was 25 feet long and an SKS rifle was found in it after it had been destroyed 10-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky. Earlier Co. D, 1-46 Inf. killed two NVA, capturing an AK-47 rifle and an SKS rifle in the same location. Later, at 1930 hours, Co. D, 1-46 Inf. engaged and killed three more NVA in the same area.

Another Ranger Patrol of Co. G, 75 Inf. killed four VC after the patrol received small arms fire during a sweep through heavy jungle 11-1/2 miles west-southwest of Tam Ky.

"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav., working in the 196th Inf. Bde. area 13-1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky, killed three VC in three separate incidents within a mile of each other in the foot hills of that area.

Two NVA were killed and one SKS rifle captured in a rice paddy by Co. B, 3-21 Inf. eight miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Co. A, 2-1 Inf. found two NVA killed by artillery and seven bunkers which had been destroyed 10 miles southwest of Tam Ky. Co. C, 1-46 Inf. found another NVA and an AK-47 rifle none mile west.

Co. B, 2-1 Inf. killed one NVA in an incident five miles southeast of Tien Phouc.

Btry. A, 3-16 Arty. firing five miles north of Tam Ky accounted for two VC killed.

A "Blue Ghost" gunship of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed another VC Sunday, this time in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area 13-1/2 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky.

There were no enemy kills in the 198th Inf. Bde. area Sunday, but three enemy suspects were detained. Two were detained by Co. C, 1-6 Inf. five miles southwest of Chu Lai, in an area where Co. A, 1-6 Inf. found five rocket charge holes and aiming sticks. Co. A, 4-3 Inf. detained one suspect two miles east of Quang Ngai.

Three Americal soldiers were killed, and 24 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

MALARIA PLAYS NO FAVORITES. PROTECT YOURSELF, TAKE YOUR MALARIA PILLS DAILY. THE LIFE YOU SAVE MAY BE YOUR OWN.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action was moderate throughout the southern I Corps yesterday, with Americal Division units reporting 21 NVA and 21 VC killed, 17 enemy bunkers destroyed, and nine suspects detained.

Heaviest action was in the 11th Inf. Bde. area with 19 NVA and three VC killed and five suspects detained.

At 1525 hours, Co. A, 4-21 Inf. was on a search and clear mission in hills seven miles west of Quang Ngai, when it came under intense small arms, automatic weapons, and 82mm mortar fire from an unknown size NVA force in bunkers. Gunships from the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. were called in to help pin down the enemy.

Twenty minutes after contact, a Recon unit of 4-21 Inf. and armored personnel carriers of E Trp., 1st Cav. were called in to assist Co. A.

When contact was broken by the enemy at 1815 hours, five NVA had been killed.

In a delayed report C Btry., 3-18 Arty. killed 14 NVA Saturday, 8-1/2 miles south of Quang Ngai City.

Co.'s A, C, and D, 3-1 Inf. each killed a VC in scattered actions. Co. C, 3-1 Inf. engaged five VC killing one, 1-1/2 miles west-northwest of Duc Pho, and Co. A, 3-1 Inf. killed another in a rice paddy 1-1/2 miles northeast of Duc Pho. Co. D, 3-1 Inf. killed one VC and detained four enemy suspects nine miles southeast of Quang Ngai. Co. D, 3-1 Inf. earlier detained an enemy suspect one mile west.

In the 198th Inf. Bde. area 11 VC were killed in two incidents.

Ten VC were killed when A Btry., 3-18 Arty. engaged 100 enemy soldiers in a mountainous region 24 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai.

Co. B, 1-6 Inf. killed the other VC after receiving small arms, automatic weapons, and Chicom grenades fire in foothills five miles west of Chu Lai. Co. B, 1-6 Inf. detained four enemy suspects in the same vicinity.

Two NVA and six VC were reported killed, as well as 17 bunkers destroyed in the 196th Inf. Bde. area of operation.

Co. B, 1-46 Inf. was on a search and clear mission in hills 12 miles southwest of Tam Ky, when it discovered an NVA base camp, which had a perimeter 500 feet long. Co. B, 1-46 Inf. pulled back and called in air strikes.

After the air strikes, Co. B, 1-46 Inf. returned to the area and found two NVA killed by the air strikes. Seven cement bunkers and two cement substructures destroyed. Also found in the vicinity were 10 cement bunkers and 14 cement machinegun emplacements not damaged by air strikes, which Co. B, 1-46 Inf. destroyed.

Co. D, 1-52 Inf. spotted four VC in heavy jungle 19 miles northwest of Tam Ky, and called in artillery which killed three.

"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav., working in the 196th Inf. Bde. area for the second consecutive day, killed two VC 5-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Co. D, 3-21 Inf. killed one VC in the triple-canopy jungle nine miles southwest of Tam Ky.

DID YOU TAKE YOUR ORANGE PILL YESTERDAY

Peanuts by Schulz

Three Americal soldiers were killed, and 27 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action was light most of the day in the southern I Corps yesterday.

Americal Division units reported 16 VC killed, four NVA bodies discovered, five suspects detained, and ten weapons, two crew-served, captured.

In Operation Russell Beach Tuesday, the nearly 12,000 refugees who were evacuated during the early phases of the operation returned to the Batangan Peninsula.

The move began on March 14 when the first refugees departed the CHIC (Combined Holding and Interrogation Center) outside of Quang Ngai, in sampans, trucks and helicopters.

The village and hamlet sites on the peninsula were secured by two Regional Force companies as well as Americal Division soldiers from the 198th Inf. Bde.'s 5-46 Inf.

The people will be living in temporary lean-tos on new village sites prepared by Americal's 26th Engr. Bn. until they can build their new homes with the division's help.

The rebuilding in the vicinities of the old villages is part of the final phase of the operation.

The 196th Inf. Bde. found four NVA bodies and reported killing five VC in its area of operation.

Four NVA wearing green uniforms who were killed two days ago, were found 12 miles southwest of Tam Ky, in the vicinity of an NVA base camp found Monday. Two of the NVA had been killed by artillery and the other two had been killed by air strikes. A .30 caliber BAR (Browning Automatic Rifle) and an M-72 LAW (Light Antitank Weapon) was found in the same location.

Co. D, 4-31 Inf. killed four VC in the mountainous region 21 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

The point man of a Ranger Patrol of Co. G, 75 Inf. engaged and killed one VC only 10 minutes after the patrol had been inserted into the mountains 22-1/2 miles west-southwest of Tam Ky.

During a sweep of an area 8-1/2 miles west-southwest of Tam Ky, Co. B, 3-21 Inf. found a cache near some hootches which contained two carbines, an AK-47 rifle, and an SKS rifle.

Eight VC were killed and two weapons captured in the 11th Inf. Bde. area.

"Shark" gunships of the 174 Aslt. He. Co. killed three VC in a rice paddy five miles northwest of Duc Pho. Co. A, 3-1 Inf. detained two enemy suspects without I.D. cards, among some hootches a mile away.

Co. D, 3-1 Inf. killed two VC and captured an M-14 rifle 1-1/2 miles southeast of Duc Pho. Co. D, 3-1 Inf. later found another VC killed by small arms fire in a tunnel along with documents and a French pistol.

E Trp., 1st Cav. engaged and killed two VC by Lake Ankhe, 9-1/2 miles southeast of Duc Pho.
AMERICAL NEWS SHEET
Peanuts by Schulz

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav., reported three VC killed in this area of operation.

B Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav., working with A Btry., 3-16 Arty., in an area 5-1/2 miles west of Tam Ky, killed two VC.

A "Blue Ghost" gunship of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed one VC in the jungle 10-1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

The 198th Inf. Bde. reported no enemy kills, but Co. B, 1-6 Inf. detained three suspects five miles west of Chu Lai.

Two Americal soldiers were killed, and 12 were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 87 Friday March 28, 1969

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action was light in the southern I Corps yesterday. Americal Division units reported seven NVA and 26 VC killed, and seven weapons captured.

The seven NVA and six of the VC were killed in the 196th Inf. Bde. as well as six of the weapons captured.

Co. C, 1-46 Inf. killed three NVA and one VC in three contacts. At 1100 hours, the "Professionals" killed one NVA in the triple-canopy jungle nine miles southwest of Tam Ky. About the same time a mile further west, the company also engaged four enemy soldiers both NVA and VC, and killed one of each. Another VC was killed in the same location 1-1/2 hours later.

The command and control helicopter of the 1-46 Inf. engaged six VC, killing one a mile east.

In the high elephant grass eight miles southwest of Tam Ky, Co. D, 3-21 Inf. engaged four NVA killing three and captured three AK-47 rifles, an M-1 carbine and an M-16 rifle.

A half-mile west, Co. C, 3-21 Inf. killed one NVA and a VC who tried to avoid the company in the jungle. Shortly after, another VC was killed in the same area.

A Recon patrol of the 3-21 Inf. spotted and killed one VC 11 miles west of Tam Ky.

Co. D, 1-52 Inf. killed one VC and captured a carbine near the An Tan River two miles northwest of Chu Lai.

"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed 12 VC for the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav.'s only kills Thursday.

Eight VC were killed when the gunships engaged an unknown size enemy force in the rice paddies 2-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky. The other four were killed in four separate contacts along the coast of the South China Sea, from 13 miles northwest to 7-1/2 miles north of Tam Ky.

The 11th Inf. Bde. reported three VC were killed and one weapon captured in its area of operation.

A "Shark" gunship of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co., piloted by 1LT James H. Towle (Palo Alto, Calif.), engaged an unknown size enemy force of VC killing two among hootches near the coast 10 miles southeast of Duc Pho.

Another VC was killed by Co. C, 3-1 Inf. in a rice paddy 7-1/2 miles southeast of Quang Ngai.

Co. A, 3-1 Inf. found one Chicom carbine in a wooded area by the Tra Cau River 2-1/2 miles northeast of Duc Pho.

Three VC were killed in two contacts in the 198th Inf. Bde. area.

The C & C helicopter of the 5-46 Inf. killed two VC among hootches 10-1/2 miles northeast of Quang Ngai.

At 2300 hours Wednesday, movement was seen along Co. D, 1-6 Inf.'s perimeter and the alert guards set off a claymore mine. The next morning a VC body was found during a search of the area eight miles southeast of Tam Ky.

Five Americal soldiers were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 99 Wednesday April 9, 1969

MIRACLE SAFETY REMINDER

70% of all hospital admissions to US Military Hospitals in Vietnam are due to DISEASE NOT WOUNDS--
USE YOUR SMARTS. GOOD LUCK

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Americal Division units reported five NVA and six VC were killed, two VC bodies found, and six weapons captured in light action in southern I Corps yesterday.

FREDERICK HILL--The 196th Inf. Bde. reported four NVA and one VC killed, and three weapons captured in its area of operation.

Co. C, 4-31 Inf. killed one NVA and captured his AK-47 rifle during a search and clear mission 26-1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky. During the search of the mountainous region, the company found an NVA base camp which had been used recently. The camp consisted of two camouflaged hootches and two underground classrooms which were 15 by 10 by eight feet in size. Forty wooden practice Chicom grenades and vines used to simulate barbed wire were found as well as 10 pairs of wire cutters, eight NVA shovels and a pick, 15 AK-47 magazines and 1,500 rounds of ammo, 26 B-40 rockets and 31 B-40 rocket boosters, five 25 pound shape charges, 14 bangalore torpedoes, 250 pounds of rice, and five pounds of documents found during the search of the area.

Co. C, 1-52 Inf. killed one NVA in a mountainous region 23 miles northwest of Tam Ky. A small tunnel complex which an NVA killed recently by small arms fire, was also found.

Another NVA was killed when Co. A, 1-46 Inf. engaged two enemy soldiers in the jungle eight miles southwest of Tam Ky, a submachinegun and five Chicom grenades, were also captured.

Co. C, 3-21 Inf. engaged three VC killing one in foothills 10-1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky. Earlier the company had found an M-1 carbine without a stock, behind a hootch a mile away.

IRON MOUNTAIN--One NVA and two VC were killed, two bodies found, and three weapons captured in the 11th Inf. Bde. area Tuesday.

Co. A, 4-21 Inf. killed one NVA and captured his AK-47 rifle six miles southwest of Duc Pho.

A Ranger patrol of Co. G, 75 Inf. working with "Shark" gunships of the 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. 8-1/2 miles northwest of Duc Pho, killed one VC and found two SKS rifles which the "Sharks" had destroyed.

A recon patrol of the 3-1 Inf. found a VC killed by artillery near a stream in foothills 15 miles southwest of Quang Ngai.

Co. D, 4-21 Inf. found two VC buried in graves three to four days old among eight more graves in an area 5-1/2 miles southwest of Duc Pho. ****

GENEVA PARK-- Two VC were killed in the 198th Inf. Bde. area Tuesday.

A "Blue Ghost" gunship of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed one VC running towards a tree line four miles southwest of Chu Lai.

The other was killed by Co. D, 1-6 Inf. in a rice paddy nine miles northwest of Chu Lai.

Another "Blue Ghost" gunship of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed a lone VC in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area of Operation Frederick Hill, 16 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky.

Thirteen Americal soldiers were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 108 Friday April 18, 1969

MIRACLE SAFETY REMINDER

If you are feeling tired and run-down in the afternoon try a couple of salt tablets with your lunch.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action was moderate in southern I Corps yesterday, 32 NVA and 17 VC killed, and 12 weapons, two crew served, captured.

IRON MOUNTAIN--The 11th Inf. Bde. accounted for 24 NVA and one VC killed, and four weapons captured, two crew-served.

Soon after Co. C, 3-1 Inf. was combat assaulted into a valley 6-1/2 miles west of Duc Pho, CPT. John Blanks (Macon, Ga.), the commanding officer of the company, led it in a charge against enemy bunkers, killing six NVA and capturing two 50 caliber machineguns mounted on tripods.

CPT. John S. Walker, (Wakefield, R.I.), from the 3-1 Inf.'s S-2 section, said, "There were between 30 and 40 NVA in well dug in positions. They were thought to be the heavy weapons company of the 22nd NVA Regt. whose job it was to position themselves in the valley to secure the regiment's passing through it."

"Aero Scout" gunships of the 123rd Avn. Bn. engaged nine NVA killing seven a mile east, while flying in support of the company.

Co. D, 3-1 Inf. engaged an unknown size NVA force 3-1/2 miles west of Duc Pho, killing nine NVA, detaining a wounded enemy suspect, and capturing an SKS rifle. The company also found a VC in a tunnel who had been dead a week, in the same area.

Co. C, 4-21 Inf. killed two more NVA in the triple-canopy jungle 9-1/2 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Co. B, 1-20 Inf. found an unknown type weapon in a hootch 5-1/2 miles southeast of Duc Pho.

FREDERICK HILL--The 196th Inf. Bde. reported eight NVA and five VC killed, and four weapons captured in its area.

Co. A, 1-52 Inf. engaged and killed five NVA, and captured an AK-47 rifle, an SKS rifle, and a Vz-58P rifle, after a heavy contact in the mountainous region 23 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Co. D, 4-3 Inf. killed two NVA when it engaged five amid jungle covered foothills 20-1/2 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky, where the company had killed a VC after he refused to come out of a tunnel.

Another NVA was killed and his AK-47 rifle captured by F Trp., 17th Cav. working with P.F.'s in the mountains 23-1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Two VC were killed by Co. B, 2-1 Inf. in two separate contacts 18-1/2 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky, where the company found a ton of rice buried under a hootch.

One VC was killed by Co. D, 3-21 Inf. 11 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky, and the command and control helicopter of the 1-46 Inf. killed another VC 11-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed 10 VC in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area 17-1/2 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky, west of the Troung River.

GENEVA PARK and RUSSELL BEACH--One VC was killed and four weapons captured in the 198th Inf. Bde. areas of operation.

A "Minuteman" gunship of the 176th Aslt. Hel. Co. killed a lone VC in a rice paddy seven miles north of Quang Ngai.

Two AK-47 rifles and a M-14 rifle were captured after Co. C, 1-6 Inf. engaged four VC in foothills six miles west of Chu Lai.

In **Operation Russell Beach**, Co. A, 5-46 Inf. captured an M-2 carbine after engaging four VC 11 miles northeast of Quang Ngai.****

Seven Americal soldiers were killed and 24 wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 113 Wednesday April 23, 1969

MIRACLE SAFETY REMINDER

Protect your health; Take your pills; Clean your weapon.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Americal Division units reported 15 VC killed and 18 enemy suspects detained in southern I Corps yesterday. All the kills occurred in operation Frederick Hill.

In a delayed report, Co. D of the 196th Inf. Bde.'s 2-1 Inf. found over 13 tons of unpolished rice buried and camouflaged near a river 19 miles northwest of Tam Ky during a search and clear operation Monday.

FREDERICK HILL--"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed all but one of the 15 VC killed in the operation area.

In the 196th Inf. Bde. area eight VC were killed and four suspects detained.

F Trp. killed five VC in a rice paddy 11 miles west of Tam Ky. The gunships killed another VC in the triple-canopy jungle 14 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky, and one near the Chang River 18 miles west of Tam Ky.

Co. C, 4-31 Inf. killed one VC as she ran from a hootch in a mountain region 25-1/2 miles west of Tam Ky. The company also detained three VC suspects in the same area.

Co. D, 3-21 Inf. detained an enemy suspect 14-1/2 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area, "Blue Ghosts" of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed seven VC in five contacts on Barrier Island 9-1/2 miles north to 14 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky.

IRON MOUNTAIN--No enemy kills were reported in the 11th Inf. Bde. area but 10 suspects were detained.

E Trp., 1st Cav. detained seven enemy suspects in a rice paddy not far from where the troop found a mine three miles south of Duc Pho.

Co. A, 3-1 Inf. detained three more suspects a half mile away.

GENEVA PARK--Four enemy suspects were detained in the 198th Inf. Bde. area Tuesday.

Co. C, 1-6 Inf. detained two suspects while on a search and clear mission five miles west of Chu Lai.

Co. C, 1-52 Inf. detained two suspects a half mile west.

Three Americal soldiers were killed and four were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 114 Thursday April 24, 1969

MIRACLE SAFETY REMINDER

Blowin' pot/

Jungle hot

Bummer Joe/

VC know

While you are blowin' pot.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Action was light in southern I Corps yesterday, with Americal Division units reporting eight VC killed, one weapon captured, and 1,450 pounds of rice found.

FREDERICK HILL--The 196th Inf. Bde. accounted for five VC killed in its area.

Co. A, 3-21 Inf. working with PF's nine miles west of Tam Ky, came under small arms and M-79 fire from an unknown size enemy force and returned fire killing one VC. The company killed another VC after engaging three in triple-canopy jungle 12 miles west of Tam Ky.

F Trp., 8th Cav.'s "Blue Ghost" gunships killed two VC in a rice paddy 7-1/2 miles south of Tam Ky.

The recon patrol of the 1-46 Inf. engaged two VC in green uniforms killing one in foothills nine miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Co. D, 2-1 Inf. found 500 pounds of polished rice buried in jars 17 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

There were no major contacts or enemy kills in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav.

IRON MOUNTAIN--The 11th Inf. Bde. reported three VC killed and one weapon captured.

A Btry., 6-11 Arty engaged 10 VC who were spotted near a stream two miles east of Duc Pho, with artillery killing two of the enemy.

A VC killed by small arms fire and buried in a shallow grave over two weeks old was uncovered by Co. C, 1-20 Inf. 2-1/2 miles west of Duc Pho.

Co. A, 4-3 Inf. was on a search and clear mission when it came upon a small enemy encampment in the jungle covered foothills 8-1/2 miles west of Duc Pho. A search of the encampment resulted in a 12 gauge shotgun, 950 pounds of rice, medical supplies, and 37 cans of sardines found.

An enemy suspect without an I.D. card was detained by Co. D, 1-20 Inf. during a sweep of an area five miles northwest of Duc Pho.

GENEVA PARK--The 198th Inf. Bde. reported six bunkers and 900 pounds of potatoes destroyed, and one VC suspect detained.

LTC. Walter Renelt (Ft. Walton Beach, Fla.) directed air strikes which destroyed four bunkers while flying forward air control missions for the Americal Division six miles west of Chu Lai.

Co. C, 1-6 Inf. destroyed two more bunkers connected by a four foot wide trench 5-1/2 miles west-southwest of Chu Lai.

Co. B, 1-52 Inf. detained a VC suspect near where it found and destroyed 900 pounds of dried potatoes buried under a hootch 8-1/2 miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

Five Americal soldiers were killed, and nine wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 117 Sunday April 27, 1969

MIRACLE SAFETY REMINDER

There was a tanker named Jack
Who rode the front of the track.
The tracks front dipped down
Ran Jack into the ground,
And Jack went home in a sack.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Americal Division units encountered light action in southern I Corps yesterday, reporting three NVA and 15 VC killed, and two weapons captured.

GENEVA PARK--The 198th Inf. bde. accounted for seven VC killed and one weapon captured.

Co. B, 5-46 Inf. found five VC killed by small arms fire in an area nine miles northeast of Quang Ngai, where the company had engaged an unknown size enemy force Friday. Co. B also killed one VC in the same area.

Co. A, 5-46 Inf. found a Chicom carbine 8-1/2 miles northwest of Quang Ngai where it had killed a VC the day before.

Co. C, 1-6 Inf. found a VC who had been killed by air strikes several days ago six miles west of Chu Lai. Nearby in an open field the company found documents and two cans of rice.

IRON MOUNTAIN--Two NVA and four VC were killed, and one weapon captured in operations in the 11th Inf. Bde. area.

Co. A, 4-3 Inf. engaged five NVA killing two in an area 10 miles southwest of Duc Pho, where the company found an enemy base camp with 35 bombshelter type bunkers, a mess area for 50 to 60 men, and separate areas marked off for enlisted men and officers.

Co. B, 1-20 Inf. killed a lone VC and captured a 9mm pistol with a folding stock during a search and clear operation 6-1/2 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Another VC was killed by Co. D, 1-6 Inf. in a rice paddy two miles north of Duc Pho.

A half mile away the recon patrol of the 1-20 Inf. found a VC killed by air strikes within the last 24 hour.

Co. B, 3-1 Inf. killed a VC wearing black pajamas in a rocky area 4-1/2 miles southeast of Duc Pho.

FREDERICK HILL--The 196th Inf. Bde. reported one NVA and three VC were killed in its area of operation.

The NVA was killed when Co. A, 1-46 Inf. engaged two in the dense jungle 11-1/2 miles southwest of Tam Ky, also capturing a pack with document in it.

Co. C, 3-21 Inf. killed two VC in two separate contacts, the first VC was killed at 0645 hours and 12-1/2 miles west of Tam Ky, when the company engaged two. The other was killed when Co. C engaged two more VC in the jungle covered foothills a half mile away and a hour and a half later.

The recon patrol of the 1-46 Inf. engaged two VC killing one in the triple canopy jungle 14 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav.'s A Trp. killed a lone VC on Barrier Island 17-1/2 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky, for the only kill reported in the 1st Cav. area Saturday.

Eleven Americal soldiers were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 120 Wednesday April 30, 1969
MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST 1 May 69

Partly cloudy, ground fog in the morning, scattered showers in the afternoon, winds southeast 5 to 10 knots with gusts to 15.

High 93

Low 77

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Americal Division units reported one NVA and nine VC killed, as well as two weapons captured in light action in southern I Corps yesterday.

FREDERICK HILL--The 196th Inf. Bde. accounted for five VC killed and two weapons captured.

Co. D, 4-31 Inf. killed three VC in three separate contacts, one in the mountains 18 miles west of Tam Ky, where the company engaged two VC. Another VC was killed in a mountainous area 21 miles west of Tam Ky, and one was killed a half mile north.

The recon patrol from the 4-31 Inf. killed a VC after engaging two in the mountains 21 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

A half mile away the recon patrol from the 4-31 Inf. killed a lone VC while making a sweep of the mountainous region.

Co. A, 1-46 Inf. found an SKS rifle during a sweep of an area 14 miles southwest of Tam Ky, and an MAS rifle was found hidden in underbrush a half mile away by Co. C, 1-46 Inf.

The 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. reported three VC killed by "Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. Two were killed in a rice paddy 5-1/2 miles west of Tam Ky, and the other killed in another rice paddy eight miles west of Tam Ky, for the only kills in the area Tuesday.

IRON MOUNTAIN--One NVA and a VC were killed in the 11th Inf. Bde. area of operation.

Co. A, 1-20 Inf. was on a search and clear mission nine miles southwest of Duc Pho, when it spotted two NVA in a rice paddy and engaged them killing one in a brief skirmish.

Co. A also found a small enemy base camp 11 miles southwest of Duc Pho, which consisted of six hootches, 10 to 30 feet in size, and six bunkers. A search of the area turned up 16 targets with stands, two SKS bayonets, and five crossbows.

An "Aero Scout" gunship from the 123rd Avn. Bn. killed a lone VC in the foothills 11-1/2 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai.

Co. A, 3-1 Inf. detained seven enemy suspects while on a sweep of the coast 10 miles southwest of Duc Pho.

GENEVA PARK--There were no enemy kills reported in the 198th Inf. Bde. area Tuesday, but Co. B, 1-6 Inf. detained an enemy suspect without an I.D. card while on a search and clear mission six miles southwest of Chu Lai.

One Americal soldier was killed, and four were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment, according to an initial report.

Vol. 3 No. 134 Wednesday May 14 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST May 15

Fair to partly cloudy, winds blowing east-southeast 5 to 10 knots and gusting to 20 knots in afternoon. Probable thundershowers over mountains. Temperature: H 96 L 80

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Enemy activity decreased in the past 24 hours in the Americal Division. Units reported killing 47 NVA and 40 VC and 18 weapons, three crew-served, were captured.

IRON MOUNTAIN—"Jungle Warriors" of the 11th Inf. Bde. reported 40 NVA and 12 VC killed in southern Quang Ngai province yesterday. Six weapons, one crew-served, were captured.

Air strikes accounted for a large portion of the enemy kills in the bde.'s area.

Elements of the 1-4 ARVN Regt. and 4-3 Inf. reported 25 NVA killed by air strikes, 14 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

Co. C, 3-1 Inf. reported finding five NVA killed by air strikes and three more killed by air strikes and three more killed by small arms fire, five miles south of Duc Pho. At 1010 hours the same unit engaged and killed eight VC half a mile away.

After receiving RPGs and small arms fire, Co. B, 1-20 Inf. returned fire to kill four NVA, three miles west of Duc Pho.

Three VC were killed by Co. C, 1-20 Inf. who was on a search and clear mission with E Trp., 1st Cav. in fields five miles west of Duc Pho. Earlier the Cav. unit found one AK-47, one M-1 carbine and a M-14 rifle.

Thirteen miles northwest of Duc Pho Co. A, 4-3 Inf. found two NVA killed by air strikes and captured an AK-47 rifle. The unit later found one RPG launcher and seven rounds, two Chicom grenades and two green uniforms, all in the same vicinity.

A VC killed by 174th Aslt. Hel. Co. was found by the 19th Eng.'s seven miles southeast of Duc Pho. Also found was an AK-47.

Co. B, 3-1 Inf. killed one VC in a rice paddy six miles south of Duc Pho.

Five miles further south Co. D, 4-21 Inf. found a large well-built enemy base camp with 25 hootches, each with its own bunker. One kitchen 20 by 20 feet and a 20 by 60 feet mess hall was included. The unit uncovered 500 pounds of rice, 20 entrenching tools, and NVA poncho liners.

FREDERICK HILL - Action in the 196th Inf. Bde. areas showed 17 NVA and 7 VC killed and eight weapons, one crew-served captured.

In an area six miles southeast of Tam Ky. Cos. B and C, 3-21 Inf. killed nine VC and one NVA.

Elsewhere, near LZ Baldy gunships of the 176th Aslt. Hel. Co. killed four VC. In the same area the 2-1 Inf. accounted for one NVA killed.

Fourteen miles southwest of Tam Ky, Co. A, 1-46 Inf. engaged and killed one NVA and one VC, captured a SKS rifle and a AK-47 rifle.

Three hours later Co. A working with Recon, 1-46 Inf. killed four NVA and captured two AK-47 rifles and a SKS.

In the same area, Co. B, 2-1 Inf. found and M-72 LAW and one pistol.

Two VC were killed by Co. D, 4-31 Inf. while Co. B, 1-46 Inf. accounted for another one.

C Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. captured an AK-47 rifle and a RPG launcher.

GENEVA PARK -Units of the 198th Inf. Bde. killed 11 VC and captured four weapons, one crew-served.

Across open fields dotted with rice paddies the armored carriers of 3rd Plt. H Trp., 17th Cav. rolled.

The unit working with an element of 1-52 Inf. was on a search and clear mission 10 miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

Suddenly they received heavy automatic weapons fire from a woodline area. "We spotted the enemy trying to move up on the 1-52 so we came on line and made an assault," said 1LT George E. Palmer (Waterford, Pa.), track commander.

Routing the enemy, the Cav. found nine NVA killed and many weapons littered the area. Forced to rejoin the 1-52 to provide security, they encountered heavy action. Later going back to the woodline they found that all bodies and weapons had been removed.

H Trp. did capture one AK-47 and one Chicom machinegun.

In other action, Co. A, 5-46 Inf. engaged seven VC, killing one 10 miles northeast of Quang Ngai on the Batangan Peninsula.

Ten miles northeast of Chu Lai one VC was killed by Co. A, 1-6 Inf.

SGT. Louis Love (San Francisco, CA) found out that malfunctions with weapons sometimes are nice. Love a sergeant with the 1-52 Inf. was face-to-face with death at the hands of attacking VC at LZ Buff early Monday morning. A VC had the drop on Love with an AK-47. "He pulled the trigger three times and each time nothing happened," recalled Love. The VC was then shot by another 1-52 soldier.

Vol. 3 No. 138 Sunday May 18, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST May 19

Fair to partly cloudy, winds southeast 5-10 knots, gusting to 15 in the afternoon. Winds light and variable after sundown. Temperature: H 98 L 79 Humidity: H 90% L 50%

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Activity in the Americal Division's southern I Corps was the lowest in several days yesterday, as 10 NVA and 10 VC were killed and eight weapons, one crew-served were captured.

GENEVA PARK--The 198th Inf. Bde. recorded the most kills in the division yesterday.

Twenty-seven NVA were killed by artillery and gunship fire, 11 miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

Btry. D, 1-14 Arty. fired a mission and gunships of the 176th Aslt. Hel. Co. also fired in the area at enemy soldiers. The bodies were found by H Trp., 17th Cav.

Late Saturday afternoon, in the same area, Co. C, 1-52 Inf. received small arms fire and five unknown type mortars. They returned fire killing one NVA and capturing an AK-47 rifle.

At 0045 hours, elements of Co. C, 1-6 Inf. observed enemy activity outside their perimeter. A search by illumination, uncovered one RPG round, nine Chicom grenades and one AK magazine.

FREDERICK HILL -- Nine NVA and one VC were killed in the 196th Bde.'s area yesterday. Six weapons, one crew-served were captured.

In a rice basin, six miles southwest of Tam Ky, Co. A, 3-21 Inf. surprised an NVA platoon, killing seven and capturing a 7.62 machinegun.

After the point element engaged and killed one NVA, the company split and two squads made an assault, while the other two platoons flanked the enemy.

An NVA machinegunner was observed frantically trying to unwrap and prepare his gun for firing.

The gunner and his ammo man were both killed in the assault.

The flanking elements killed four more enemy as they tried to evade.

In addition to the machinegun, the unit found one AK-47, two carbines, and one M-79.

In the same area, Co. D, 3-21 Inf. engaged and killed two NVA and found one flamethrower.

One VC was killed by Co. B, 4-31 Inf., 19 miles west of Tam Ky.

IRON MOUNTAIN--The 11th Inf. Bde. reported two enemy killed in separate contacts, yesterday.

Fourteen miles west of Duc Pho, Co. B, 4-3 Inf. killed one VC and captured and M-1 rifle.

E Trp., 1st Cav. reported the other VC kill, seven miles south of Duc Pho.

Four VC suspects were detained by "Warlords" of the 123rd Avn. Bn., three miles west of Duc Pho.

The past week saw a definite increase in enemy activity within the southern I Corps area, as 374 NVA and 188 VC were killed, and captured 143 weapons, 22 crew-served.

The 196th Inf. Bde. accounted for the most action, killing 326 enemy and capturing 60 weapons.

On Monday morning enemy attacks at LZs Professional and Baldy were repelled by the "Chargers".

Air strikes and artillery fire did a demoralizing job upon enemy forces in the area throughout the week.

In Operation Iron Mountain the 11th Inf. Bde. had similar perimeter attacks achieving the same results, driving off the insurgents with heavy losses.

The 198th Inf. Bde. accounted for 57 enemy killed during the week.

Vol. 3 No. 141 Wednesday May 21, 1969
MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST May 22

Late afternoon thunder showers over the mountains with scattered showers along the coast. Fair to partly cloudy. Temperature: H 98 L 79

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—In eight contacts with enemy force yesterday, soldiers of the Americal Division accounted for five NVA and seven VC killed, and three weapons, one crew-served captured.

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FREDERICK HILL--Action slowed throughout the entire division yesterday including the 196th Inf. Bde. area. The "Chargers reported killing two NVA and three VC and capturing one weapon.

Co's A and C, 3-21 Inf. working in a sweep five miles southwest of Tam Ky, came under intense automatic weapons fire. The strikes silenced the enemy positions. A check of the area found two NVA killed.

"Blue Ghost gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. accounted for two VC killed in two separate contacts, 11 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

One VC was killed by the recon element of the 4-31 Inf., 23 miles west of Tam Ky. Found in the area was .38 caliber pistol and five Chicom grenades.

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GENEVA PARK--In the 198th Inf. Bde. area of operations three NVA and one VC were killed and two weapons, one crew-served captured.

After receiving sporadic sniper fire from NVA snipers on a hilltop, eight miles northwest of Quang Ngai, Co. C, 1-52 Inf. laid down a heavy barrage of small arms fire, then went up after the enemy.

The "Brave and Bold" soldiers captured the hill and put an end to the sniper business for three NVA.

A check of the hilltop area by the Americal soldiers netted one 82mm mortar with seven rounds, and one AK-47 rifle.

Co. A, 5-46 Inf. engaged and killed one VC, 11 1/2 miles northwest of Quang Ngai. They also detained one VC suspect in the area.

While working in an area, six miles west of Chu Lai, Co. D, 1-6 Inf. found five suspected rocket sites with aiming stakes.

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IRON MOUNTAIN--Three VC were killed in the 11th Inf. Bde. area yesterday.

Co. A, 3-1 Inf. while in a night perimeter position had trip flares around them ignite twice during the night.

In both cases VC trying to invade the perimeter set off the flares and both times the company was aided by the light silhouetting the enemy against the sky, resulting in three VC killed.

Two VC suspects were detained on the coast, six miles southeast of Chu Lai, by Co. B, 3-1 Inf.

Co. B, 4-21 Inf., four miles southeast of Duc Pho, found five rocket canisters and 20 feet of electrical wire with firing devices attached.

Vol. 3 No. 142 Thursday May 22, 1969
MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST May 23

Fair to partly cloudy, thunder showers over the mountains in late afternoon. Winds blowing east 5-12 knots gusts to 15 knots. Temperature: H 99 L 79

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Eleven NVA and 11 VC were killed and eight weapons, two crew-served, were captured in the Americal Division's southern I Corps yesterday.

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IRON MOUNTAIN—The 11th Inf. Bde. reported killing seven NVA and capturing six weapons in two separate contacts with enemy forces.

An NVA attack at a bridge, four and half miles north of Duc Pho was thwarted by Co. A, 1-20 Inf., as they accounted for six NVA killed and four weapons captured.

The bridge located between LZ Liz and Mo Duc was guarded by a squad of Co. A, when suddenly the still night air was cut with an enemy barrage of mortars.

The squad radioed to LZ Liz, one and half miles away, for aid as an NVA ground attack began.

As company reinforcements arrived by chopper, they were met with a hail of enemy small arms fire, but were able to coordinate a drive and push the NVA from the bridge, ruining enemy plans to close the bridge.

A search of the area found the six NVA killed in the battle and two AK-47 and two AK-50 rifles.

In other action Co. B, 4-3 Inf. killed one NVA and captured an AK-47 rifle, 22 miles west of Duc Pho.

The company also found and destroyed five huts, one bunker, a mess hall, an aid station, and a command bunker.

Other 11th Bde. units were busy uncovering small caches.

Co. D, 4-3 Inf. found one AK-47 rifle, along with 15 Chicom grenades, one M-26 grenade, three bangalore torpedoes, three RPG rounds, 20 each of hammocks, gas masks, and canteens.

Five hundred pounds of rice was found by the recon element 1-20 Inf., two miles north of Duc Pho. They also found two M-14 mine, 10 time fuses, three M-16 magazines, and assorted clothing.

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FREDERICK HILL—Nine VC were killed in the 196th Inf. Bde. OZ yesterday. Co. D, 4-31 Inf., while working in an area 14 1/2 miles west of Tam Ky engaged eight VC with small arms fire, killing five of the enemy.

F Trp., 8th Cav. engaged and killed two VC in separate contacts in an area 18 1/2 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky.

Other 196th Bde. units killed two more VC in yesterdays action.

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GENEVA PARK—In the 198th Inf. Bde. area of operations four NVA and two VC were killed and two crew-served weapons captured.

After receiving enemy fire, H Trp., 17th Cav. returned the fire against an unknown size enemy force. A sweep of the area after the fight revealed four NVA dead, and one Russian made machinegun and a 60mm mortar complete and eight rounds for the mortar. CONT'D ON PAGE 2

The action took place 10 miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

Air strikes in the same general area accounted for one VC killed as well as 10 bunkers and 22 structures destroyed, causing three secondary explosions and fires.

One other VC was killed in the Bde. OZ yesterday by Co. C, 1-6 Inf.

Vol. 3 No. 144 Saturday May 24, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST May 25

Partly cloudy and warm with a few scattered showers & thunder showers over the area. Winds will be southerly with gusts 5 to 10 knots. Temperature: H 100 L 80

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Fighting was light throughout the Americal Division's southern I Corps area yesterday, except in southern Quang Ngai Province, where "Jungle Warriors" of the 11th Inf. Bde. accounted for 17 of the 34 enemy killed and three of the four weapons captured.

IRON MOUNTAIN--After several days of only finding small caches, the "Jungle Warriors" yesterday found the enemy in nine contacts.

Along the coast, two miles northeast of Duc Pho, the recon element of 4-21 Inf. engaged and killed six VC and two NVA and captured an M-2 rifle.

Co. B, 4-3 Inf. near the Song De river, 14 miles west of Duc Pho, killed one VC hiding in a tunnel and captured a K-44 rifle.

Later the company discovered eight huts, 35 sleeping positions, one bunker and 700 pounds of rice.

An enemy medical relay station was closed down by Co. G, 75th Rangers, seven miles west of Duc Pho. The NVA station lost its license to operate when the rangers came upon the hootch while searching a stream bed.

"We went to search the hootch and found a bunker beneath with two surprised NVA inside," said SP4 Ralph Cole (St. Louis).

After giving the NVA occupants a taste of M-16 medicine, a search of the area was made, uncovering a large amount of medical supplies and one K-44 rifle.

Other action in the brigade area found artillery pounding away at enemy positions, accounting for four more VC killed.

GENEVA PARK--The 198th Inf. Bde. reported one NVA, five VC killed and one weapon captured.

At 0410 hours yesterday morning, Co. C, 1-6 Inf. suddenly was hit by an unknown size enemy force. They took 15 RPG rounds and small arms fire then called in artillery to silence the enemy forces.

As daylight broke, a search team found three VC killed and captured an AK-50.

F Trp., 8th Cav. working in an area eight to ten miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai, engaged and killed two VC, captured an NVA soldier, and detained four VC suspects.

Eight miles northwest of Quang Ngai H Trp., 17th Cav. found the body of one NVA killed the day before.

A PSYOP team of 1-52 Inf. was dropping Chieu Hoi leaflets, when suddenly a Vietnamese was seen waving one of the leaflets at the chopper. The Hoi Chanh wanted to rally and was picked up.

FREDERICK HILL--Three VC were killed in the 196th Inf. Bde. area of operations in one of the lightest days they have experienced for two weeks.

In rice paddies, 13 1/2 miles west of Tam Ky Co. D, 4-31 Inf. killed one VC trying to evade.

Near Hiep Duc, 24 miles west of Tam Ky Co. A, 4-31 Inf. accounted for the other two VC killed in the "Chargers" area yesterday.

Vol. 3 No. 146 Monday May 26, 1969*****

BRONZE STAR MEDAL WITH "V"

PFC Gerald O'Conner - 1-6 Inf.

Vol. 3 No. 147 Tuesday May 27, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST May 28

Partly to mostly cloudy with showers and thunder showers over mountains and isolated along the coast. Winds 5 to 12 knots. Temperature: H 97 L 80 Humidity: H 88% L 55%

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Yesterday was another day of light scattered action throughout the Americal Division's southern I Corps area.

Units reported nine NVA and eight VC killed and four weapons captured.

FREDERICK HILL--The 196th Inf. Bde. reported five NVA and four VC killed and two weapons captured in their area yesterday.

"We were so close to them that when I shot the first VC the round also hit another of them," said CPT John Whitticar (Salina, Kan.), describing action involving his company-D, 4-31 Inf., late Sunday night.

The company operating 21 miles northwest of Tam Ky found an isolated hootch while searching the area.

Moving cautiously forward, the unit observed four VC dart out from the hootch. "We were almost on top of them when they bolted out," said the CO.

The GI's fired at the fleeting dark figures killing three.

Early Monday morning, the company added one more VC killed and captured an M-1 Carbine, 17 miles west of Tam Ky.

Five NVA reported killed by artillery fire of Co. C, 3-21 Inf. were found by the 1-5 ARVN unit, six miles southwest of Tam Ky.

One other U.S. carbine was found by Co. A, 2-1 Inf. yesterday in the 196th OZ.

IRON MOUNTAIN--"Jungle Warriors" of the 11th Inf. Bde. accounted for four NVA and one VC killed and two weapons captured.

Co. C, 4-21 Inf. killed one NVA six miles southwest of Duc Pho.

Later in the day the same company found another NVA killed by air strikes.

At 1700 hours the unit captured an NVA soldier. According to SP4 Ronald M. Krieg (Plymouth, Mich.) of Bde. S-2, "Co. C, 4-21 Inf. found the NVA soldier hiding in a bunker, he was wounded by not seriously. They also captured some documents."

In separate contacts, Co. B, 4-21 Inf. accounted for two NVA killed and one AK-47 and one AK-50 rifles.

The contacts occurred two and half miles southwest and six miles southwest of Duc Pho.

At 1735 hours, Co. B, 3-1 Inf. killed one VC, seven miles southeast of Duc Pho.

GENEVA PARK--The 198th Inf. Bde. reported three VC killed in its area of operations yesterday.

The recon element of 1-52 Inf. observed seven VC moving along a trail, eight miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

Artillery was called in on the position. Btry. D, 1-14 Arty. responded by firing the mission.

Another artillery mission was called by Co. C, 1-52 Inf. who had observed three VC evading into a hootch, 10 miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

The search of the area revealed the hootch destroyed, blood trails and one NVA pack containing medical supplies.

Co. D, 5-46 Inf. received sniper fire from a village, eight miles northwest of Quang Ngai, the unit returned fire and swept through the village.

The VC had evaded, but the company found 20 tunnels 5 feet by 2 feet, which were destroyed.

One and half miles away, Co. A, 1-52 Inf. found a tunnel 35 meters long leading to a chamber with three to four leading to a chamber with three to four fighting positions. The complex was destroyed.

One VC suspect was detained by Co. C, 5-46 Inf. **while Co. D, 1-6 Inf. detained 12 Vietnamese.**

Vol. 3 No. 154 Tuesday June 3, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST June 4

Partly cloudy with showers in the afternoon. Winds will blow easterly 5-10 knots.

Temperature: H 95 L 78 Humidity: H 90% L 50%

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Multiple actions throughout southern I Corps netted Americal soldiers 13 NVA and 24 VC killed, three VC and eight weapons were captured.

LAMAR PLAIN--Units of the 1st Bde., 101st Airborne Division and 1-46 Inf., 198th Inf. Bde. accounted for 11 NVA and four VC killed. They captured one VC and five weapons.

The rifle platoon of B Trp., 2nd Sqdn., 17th Cav. while on a sweep, eight miles southwest of Tam Ky, came upon a bunker complex and promptly was greeted by heavy automatic weapons fire.

The platoon dropped back and employed gunships and air strikes on the target.

When the smoke cleared, a check of the rubble revealed six NVA killed by the air strikes and small arms fire. One AK-47 rifle was captured.

B Trp. earlier in the day accounted for one VC killed, a half mile away.

Nine miles southeast of Tien Phuoc, Co. A, 1-501 Inf. engaged five VC killing one, while in the same area units of Co.'s C and D, 1-501 Inf. found the bodies of two VC killed by artillery.

Earlier in the day, Co. B, 1-501 Inf. had captured one VC and an AK-47 one mile away.

At 1700 hours, Co. B, 1-501 Inf. received small arms fire. The unit returned fire killing two NVA and capturing three AK-47 rifles. The fight occurred eight miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Eleven miles southwest of Tam Ky, Co. B, 1-46 Inf. found the bodies of three NVA killed recently by artillery.

IRON MOUNTAIN--Two NVA and 10 VC were killed by units of the 11th Inf. Bde. yesterday. Three weapons were captured.

Five VC were killed and two captured by a unit of the 11th Inf. Bde., six miles south of Duc Pho.

Helicopters of the 123rd Avn., Bn. were flying over the area when they spotted seven VC trying to evade the ships.

The VC had taken cover in a spider hole nearby.

The 1st plt. of Co. D, 3-1 Inf., along with ARVN interpreters and National Police were rushed to the area by tracks of E Trp., 1st Cav.

"Several attempts were made by the interpreters and National Police to persuade the VC hidden in their holes to come out and surrender," said SP4 Francis Ryan (Brockton, Mass.), a rifleman with the company.

"When attempts to talk the VC from their holes failed, we provided a little encouragement by throwing some grenades down the hole," said Ryan.

The effects from the grenades were enough for two VC, who crawled out and surrendered.

"The others still resisted," said Ryan. "More grenades were thrown down the hole until there could be no further chance of resistance. When it was safe to do so, one of our men went down into the hole and uncovered five VC killed."

Shortly after midnight, Co. D, 4-3 Inf. sprung an ambush, 14 miles northwest of Duc Pho near the village of On Huong.

The "Old Guard" killed on NVA and captured an AK-47 rifle and pack.

Six VC were killed in two contacts by Co. D, 3-1 Inf., six miles south of Duc Pho.

Elsewhere, Co. D, 4-21 Inf. engaged six VC, seven miles southwest of Duc Pho with small arms fire. The Gimlets" killed two VC and captured three SKS rifles.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123rd Avn. Bn. killed two VC, four miles south of Duc Pho near the village of Xuan Thanh.

The unit also killed one NVA six miles south of Duc Pho late Sunday night.

(Continued)

(Continued) **Vol. 3 No. 154 Tuesday June 3, 1969**

FREDERICK HILL--Nine VC were killed in the 196th Inf. Bde. OZ yesterday.

Gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. continued their harassment of enemy troops in the area as they downed three VC in separate encounters, eight to ten miles north of Tam Ky.

The recon element of 4-31 Inf. killed three VC, 19 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky. Later in the day, they killed another VC, two miles to the west.

Co. A, 4-31 Inf. accounted for the other two VC killed in the brigade area. They were killed in separate contacts, 22 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

C Trp., 1st Sqdn. 1st Cav. killed one VC, seven miles west of Tam Ky.

GENEVA PARK--No enemy kills were reported in the 198th Inf. Bde. area yesterday.

Co. A, 1-52 Inf. found a tunnel complex, seven miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

Air strikes in the brigade area destroyed 14 structures and eight bunkers.

The 1st Bn., 6th Inf. welcomed a new commander yesterday. He is LTC Thomas J. Ambrose (Morristown, N.J.), formerly the 198th Bde. S-3 Operations Officer.

Leaving the position is LTC Albert J. Dombrowski (Douglaston, N.Y.), who will go to Headquarters, Americal Division as G-5 Civil Affairs Officer.

Vol. 3 No. 155 Wednesday June 4, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST June 5

Partly cloudy with showers over the mountains and isolated along the coast. Light and variable winds east-northeast 8 to 18 knots. Temperature: H 95 L 78 Humidity: H 95% L 50%

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Activity decreased slightly in southern I Corps yesterday as Americal Division units accounted for six NVA and 20 VC killed and captured six weapons, one crew-served.

FREDERICK HILL—In the 196th Inf. Bde. area yesterday, elements of the 4-31 Inf. tallied all the enemy kills as 16 VC fell at the hands of the "Polar Bears".

The 4-31 Inf., whose nickname represents a cold weather animal was anything but that yesterday as the "Polar Bears" put the heat on "Charlie".

A night patrol of Co. A, accounted for seven VC killed when they encountered 30 VC attending a barbecue in the heavily wooded mountain region 26 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

The VC were roasting a freshly slaughtered water buffalo when they were surprised by the 196 infantrymen.

"We heard voices and saw a flickering light, when we were still 300 meters away," said SGT Bruce Challis (Walla Walla, Wash.) the patrol's leader.

"We low-crawled to within 10 meters of them, but they were having such a good time they never knew we were there. We yelled at them to stop," he related, "and that is when they took off in every direction."

The Americal infantrymen opened fire on the fleeing VC killing seven.

A thorough search revealed numerous blood trails leading from the area, as well as packs containing rice and medical supplies.

The recon plt. and Co. D, 4-31 Inf. each accounted for four VC killed in contacts beginning late Monday night and continuing through yesterday.

Shortly after midnight, Co. C, 4-31 Inf. killed one VC, 25 miles west of Tam Ky.

IRON MOUNTAIN—"Jungle Warriors" of the 11th Inf. Bde. killed six NVA and one VC, and captured six weapons in brigade operations yesterday.

Co. D, 1-20 Inf., while on a search and clear mission, six miles northwest of Duc Pho, received sniper fire near the village of Phoc Loc.

The "Sykes Regulars" returned fire which resulted in six NVA killed, and the capture of 1 AK-47 and one SKS rifle.

Operating in conjunction with Co. D. was her sister company C, who uncovered a .30 caliber machinegun and three AK-47 rifles, near the village of Bich Chieu.

In the other contact, Co. B, 4-3 Inf. killed one VC, 14 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

GENEVA PARK—The 198th Inf. Bde. reported three VC killed yesterday.

Five VC were observed by Co. C, 1-52 Inf., seven miles west of Quang Ngai. Artillery was directed on the location resulting in one VC killed.

Another VC was killed, 11 miles northwest of Quang Ngai, by Co. A, 1-52 Inf.

Co. D., 1-6 Inf. found the body of one VC killed by recent air strikes, nine miles south of Tam Ky.

Co. B, 26th Engr. Bn. after having completed work on up-grading the road from Binh Son to Tra Bong, was returning in a convoy when they were ambushed by an unknown size enemy force.

According to PSG Edward Robinson (Bambridge, Ga.), "We were moving along the road slowly when we suddenly received eight or nine RPG rounds and sniper fire. We returned fire with a 165mm gun on our combat engineer vehicle and called for gunships."

"When the gunships arrived, they suppressed the sniper fire enough for us to get back on our vehicles and move out

of the area," said SSG Hoyt Ayles (Lima, Ohio).

The gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. and tracks from H Trp., 17th Cav. continued the engagement with the enemy force, however the results of the battle were not determined.

Vol. 3 No. 156 Thursday June 5, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST June 6

Partly cloudy with afternoon showers.

Winds along the coast will be easterly 8 to 10 knots, and gusting to 18 in afternoon.

Temperature: H 97 L 79 Humidity: H 90% L 50%

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Increased action resulted in 33 NVA and 37 VC killed and eight weapons, two crew-served captured.

IRON MOUNTAIN--The 11th Inf. Bde. accounted for 30 NVA and five VC killed and seven of the weapons captured.

In two delayed reports, Co. D, 4-3 Inf. and Co. C, 1-20 Inf. working in an area four miles northwest of Duc Pho, accounted for 13 NVA killed and captured a 57mm recoilless rifle and one M-16.

Shortly after 0900 hours, Co. C, 4-3 Inf. engaged and killed three NVA in the mountains 10 miles west of Duc Pho. Captured in the fight was one AK-47 and one AK-50 rifle.

The 2nd plt. of Co. D, 3-1 Inf. working with a platoon from E Trp., 17th Cav. engaged an unknown size enemy force shortly before noon.

Contact continued throughout the day as the Americal soldiers fought the NVA, entrenched in spider holes and bunkers along a hedgerow, seven miles southeast of Duc Pho.

Six NVA had thus far been reported killed in the battle as well as one RPG launcher and two AK-47 rifles captured.

Later in the day, other elements of Co. D, 3-1 Inf. accounted for four VC killed along the coast, eight miles southeast of Duc Pho near the village of Chi Trung.

"Warlords" of the 123rd Avn. Bn. accounted for six NVA killed in two contacts, six to seven miles southeast of Duc Pho.

Co. B, 4-3 Inf. accounted for two NVA and one VC, 11 miles west of Duc Pho.

FREDERICK HILL--Twenty-one VC were killed in the 196th Inf. Bde. area yesterday.

F Trp., 8th Cav. accounted for 16 of the VC killed in the day's action.

The "Blue Ghosts" dueled with and won engagements with the VC continually through the day, in an area eight to ten miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Another four VC were killed by Co. C, 3-21 Inf. in the same area.

Artillery accounted for the other VC killed, when a bunker was fired upon and destroyed, 10 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Two NVA were found, killed by small arms fire, by C Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav., six miles southeast of Tam Ky.

GENEVA PARK--The 198th Inf. Bde. tallied 11 VC killed in three encounters yesterday.

The 176th Aslt. Hel. Co. engaged 15 VC, killing six, 11 miles northwest of Quang Ngai, while one mile away they struck again and killed four VC.

The other kill was reported by Co. C, 1-6 Inf. at 0520 hours, when one VC was killed, six miles west of Chu Lai.

LAMAR PLAIN--One NVA was killed and an AK-47 rifle captured by Co. D, 1-501 Inf., 1st Bde., 101st Airborne Division yesterday, eight miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Vol. 3 No. 160 Monday June 9, 1969 (Copy provided by Chuck Seketa 1/20th Inf. Bn. Veteran)

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST - June 10

Increasing cloudiness late tomorrow, with scattered afternoon showers. Winds will be westerly 5-10 knots.
Temperature: H 95 L 78

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Two NVA sapper attacks aimed at two forward firebases were repelled by Americal troops early Sunday morning.

The results of the attacks found 21 of the 25 NVA killed in the division area.

Other scattered encounters added seven VC to the total, and in addition, the bodies of another 43 enemy soldiers were found.

IRON MOUNTAIN--Twenty-five NVA and 22 VC were accounted for with seven weapons, two crew-served captured, by units of the 11th Inf. Bde.

At LZ Liz, five miles northwest of Duc Pho, one of the early pre-dawn attacks was checked.

The would be sappers instead were trapped by Co. B, 1-20 Inf. soldiers pulling security at the firebase.

Fighting began on the south side of the perimeter when 12 NVA were observed by soldiers in a guard bunker.

"We had two men up and pulling guard on top the bunker. I was scanning the area with a starlight scope when I detected a reflection," commented PFC Walter Swain, (Philadelphia).

"Looking closer I counted 12 of them coming through the wire," said Swain. "The other s checked and confirmed what I saw. We called it in and opened up on them right away with machinegun, M-79 and automatic weapons fire."

SGT Larry Sopczwinski (Harbor Beach, Mich.) said, "We called for illumination and continued to fire on the NVA. They tried to get back out of the wire, but we kept picking them off.

At daybreak an NVA soldier was found hiding in the chapel at the firebase. Under interrogation he revealed himself to be a member of an 18 man sapper unit.

A morning search of the area revealed 12 NVA dead scattered along the wire, two RPG launchers, two AK-47s, one M-72 LAW, six RPG rounds, Bangalore torpedoes and over 100 Chicom grenades.

Co. C, 4-21 Inf. killed one NVA and captured an AK-47 rifle, nine miles southwest of Duc Pho.

Nine miles southeast of Duc Pho on the coast, Co. B, 3-1 Inf. found two VC and later 12 NVA killed by naval gunfire.

Twenty victims of a Brty. C, 3-18 Arty. fire mission were found six miles northwest of Duc Pho.

The Hawk Hill firebase of the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. was the scene of the other NVA assault early Sunday morning.

SP4 Edwin P. Corrales (Hanamaululu, Hawaii), on guard at the time said, "The men were just walking casually into the wire and then I opened up on them."

Corrales was aided by other A Trp. soldiers who blasted the NVA, killing nine of the enemy insurgents.

A morning patrol found one RPG launcher, an AK-47 rifle, one 7.62mm pistol and about 100 Chicom grenades.

LAMAR PLAIN --1st Bde., 101st Airborne Division soldiers accounted for three NVA and four VC killed and three weapons captured.

Co. A, 1-501 Inf. found one NVA killed by small arms fire. They also found an AK-47 rifle in the same area.

Later in the day, the unit killed one NVA and captured his AK-47, eight miles southwest of Tam Ky.

In the same area, Co. D, 1-501 Inf. tallied one kill of an NVA soldier.

Artillery was called in by B Trp., 2nd Sqdn., 17th Cav. on a hootch complex from where the Cav. unit had received fire.

Checking the area, they found four VC killed.

Co. D, 1-46 Inf. found one K-44 rifle, 11 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

FREDERICK HILL -- One NVA and 10 VC were killed in the 196th Inf. Bde. area of operations yesterday.

F Trp., 8th Cav. accounted for one NVA and two VC killed in three contacts over a wide-spread area.

To the west of Tam Ky, four units of the 196th Inf. Bde. zeroed in on targets to account for five of the VC killed.

Later, Co. B, 3-21 Inf. engaged eight VC, killing two, seven miles southwest of Tam Ky.

GENEVA PARK--One VC was accounted for in the 198th Inf. Bde. area.

While patrolling an area nine miles northwest of Quang Ngai, H Trp., 17th Cav. found the body of one VC.

Ten minutes later they found one 60mm mortar round and 50 pounds of explosives.

At 0800 hours, Co. C, 1-6 Inf. found seven 122mm rockets, five miles southwest of Chu Lai. They were hidden in bushes in the same location that an early morning rocket attack had been launched against the Chu Lai area.

Vol. 3 No. 164 Friday June 13, 1969

MIRACLE WEATHER FORECAST June 14

Partly cloudy with isolated showers over the mountains and along the coast. Winds from the southeast 10 to 15 knots. Temperature: H 91 L 70

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Americal Division units killed 21 NVA and 25 VC and captured four weapons yesterday. One crew-served weapon was destroyed.

FREDERICK HILL--The 196th Inf. Bde. reported killing one NVA and 14 VC and captured two weapons.

Co. B, 2-1 Inf. zapped seven VC in four meetings with "Charlie", 15 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Meanwhile "Gimlets" of the 3-21 Inf. contributed four VC to the cause, as well as capturing one M-16 and one French MAT-49 9mm submachinegun, in operations west of Tam Ky.

One NVA body was found by recon 3-21 Inf. 11 miles west of Tam Ky.

Twenty-four miles west of Tam Ky, Co. D, 4-31 Inf. killed two VC, while a sister company A blasted one other VC.

A trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. killed one VC and found the bodies of five more VC killed by air strikes, 16 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

C and D Trp. each added one VC killed in the days total.

IRON MOUNTAIN--Units of the 11th Inf. Bde. tallied 13 NVA and two VC killed and captured two weapons and destroyed one.

"Aero Scouts" of the 123rd Avn. Bn. shot down six NVA and two VC in three widespread encounters in southern Quang Ngai Province.

They also destroyed an 82mm mortar and its position.

Co. D, 3-1 Inf. killed five NVA and captured on AK-47 and one AK-50 in a battle with NVA forces five miles south of Duc Pho. NVA forces five miles south of Duc Pho.

Speaking of the action, SP4 Francis Ryan (Brockton, Mass) said, "Our company was combat assaulted into the area early in the morning. We began our routine combat sweep of the area when we spotted the NVA to our front. Engaging them, we killed five and captured two weapons."

At 1130 hours, Co. D, 4-3 Inf. engaged three NVA killing two, 12 mile south Duc Pho.

Co. A, 4-3 Inf. found an enemy basecamp, 10 miles south of Duc Pho.

The "Old Guard" found 300 pounds of rice in the camp, which was destroyed.

GENEVA PARK--No enemy kills were reported in the 198th Inf. Bde. area yesterday.

Co. B 1-6 Inf. found two 2.75 rockets, one booby trapped 60mm round and two tunnels two feet by two feet by six feet, 10 miles west of Chu Lai.

Less than an hour later, the unit found a structure with another tunnel all were destroyed.

Two infantrymen of the 198th Inf. Bde's 1-52 Inf. were presented the Silver Star by Americal Division assistant commander BG Wallace L. Clement in ceremonies at LZ Stinson, Thursday.

BG Clements awarded the nation's third highest decoration to SP4 Stanley C. Paige (Wilmette, Ill.) of Co. C and SGT Phillip G. Savoy (San Antonio) of Co. D.

SGT Savoy, son of a retired Army Chief Warrant Officer, took command of an infantry company after his commander was pinned down by a recent enemy assault.

Despite fragmentation wounds, Savoy continued to call in artillery and air strikes forcing the enemy to withdraw.

Paige was credited with laying down a heavy volume of fire after the patrol of which he was a member was caught out in the open enabling other members of the patrol to take cover.

Paige suffered fragmentation wounds in the initial encounter. He then rallied a force which routed the enemy from their positions, making it possible for helicopters to land and evacuate the wounded men.

LAMAR PLAIN- Co. C, 1-46 Inf. saw most of the action in the operational area shared with the 1st Bde., 101st Airborne Division.

A total of seven NVA and one VC met their fate in the encounters, centered about 10 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Co. C, 1-46 Inf. killed five NVA in three encounters, while the command and control helicopter of 1-46 killed one VC four miles further south.

Two NVA were added to the total by Co. C, 1-501 Inf.

Volume 3 No. 191 Americal Daily New Sheet Thursday July 10, 1969

CHU LAI AREA WEATHER FORECAST - July 11

Increasing cloudiness with scattered rain showers and isolated thunderstorms. Winds N to NE 5 to 10 knots with gusts to 18 knots.

Temperature H 94 L 82; Humidity H 95 L 60

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - "Legionnaires" of the 196th Inf. Bde.'s 2nd Bn., 1st Inf. dominated most of yesterday's action as the Americal Division unit killed three VC and found the body of another and captured one homemade 82mm mortar.

Once again, action was extremely light and scattered in southern I corps as elements of the Americal combined to kill 15 enemy soldiers, including three NVA, and capture eight individual weapons.

FREDERIK HILL - Bravo Company, 2-1, started the ball rolling at 0635 hours yesterday when they found the body of a VC while sweeping a mountainous region 18 miles northwest of Tam Ky. The VC had been killed by small arms fire.

One hour later, B Co. engaged and killed another VC in the same area.

While on a search and clear mission 20 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky, a sister element, C Co., engaged three VC, killing two and captured a VC homemade 82mm mortar.

196th Bde. artillery accounted for four VC when their "big guns" were directed on a jungle-covered area 20 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

"Gimlets" from C Co., 3-21, also managed to get in on the action when they found an AK-44 in the mountains 13 miles west of Tam Ky.

LAMAR PLAIN - A Co. of the 101st Abn. Div.'s 1-502, reported finding four VC who had been killed by artillery in the jungles 22 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Alpha Company also found one SKS rifle, an AK-47, and a shotgun in that same area.

"Professionals" from C Co., 1-46 engaged and killed one NVA soldier while operating in the mountains 12 miles south of Tam Ky.

IRON MOUNTAIN - A recon platoon from the 11th Inf. Bde.'s 3rd Bn., 1st Inf., found two NVA soldiers who had been killed by small arms fire and captured one AK-47 in a jungle-infested area four miles south of Duc Pho.

Elsewhere, C Co., 1-20 found one M-1 carbine, four miles north of Duc Pho, and D Co., 4-3, found one unknown type weapon 10 miles southwest of Duc Pho.

C CO. also detained 11 female VC suspects yesterday. The women, none of which had an ID, were between the ages of 16 and 20 years old.

One suspect said she belonged to the Women's VC Association. They were sent to LZ Bronco for further questioning.

GENEVA PARK - Infantrymen from B Co., 1-6, uncovered an abandoned battalion size enemy base, 15 miles west of Chu Lai yesterday.

The camp was found overlooking a 125-foot cliff and nestled in heavy underbrush.

"It was a pretty permanent set up, complete with running water, showers, and multi-story huts," said MAJ Theodore Kershaw (Carmel, Calif.), 1-6 operations officer.

Inside the area were several large hootches, one of which was a 15-75-foot three level structure with an underground bunker, sleeping space, and an attic for storage.

Another large hootch was determined to be a barracks type structure with three beds per room.

Intelligence officials have yet to determine whether the basecamp, which was believed to have housed 200 persons, belonged to the NVA or VC.

B Co. is one of three Americal companies of the 1-6 sweeping the rugged jungle area along with elements of the 6th ARVN Regiment.

198th Brigade FACS directed airstrikes which pounded heavily on an area 10 miles northwest of Quang Ngai City.

Destroyed were 25 structures and damaged were 13 others. The strikes caused one secondary explosion and one sustained secondary fire.

Volume 3 No. 193 Americal Daily New Sheet Saturday July 12, 1969

CHU LAI AREA WEATHER FORECAST - July 13

Mostly cloudy with scattered showers. Winds will be light and variable

Temperature H 95 L 79 Humidity H 93 L 55

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - A week of extremely light and scattered action ended yesterday in the same fashion as Americal Division soldiers killed four NVA and four VC while capturing four weapons, one crew-served.

FREDERICK HILL - "Chargers" from the 196th Inf. Bde., killed three NVA, two VC and captured two AK-50's in the Frederick Hill area yesterday.

While conducting a search and clear patrol 20 miles northwest of Tam Ky, C Co., 2-1, observed and engaged three NVA who were evading.

The Americal element killed the three NVA and captured two AK-50's.

A Co., 3-21, killed one VC while operating in the dense jungles 14 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

A sister company, B Co., killed another VC 16 miles west of Tam Ky.

IRON MOUNTAIN - At 1345 yesterday afternoon, C Co., 4-21 working in jungles six miles, south of Duc Pho, found a bunker type hootch.

When the "Gimlets" approached the hootch, four VC ran out. The company managed to bring down one of the enemy soldiers, but the other three escaped.

A Co., 1-20, accounted for the only other kill of the day in the 11th Bde. AO when they killed a lone VC, seven miles north northwest of Duc Pho.

SP4 Gerald Barling (Kennard, Ind.) and SP4 Thomas Dotegowski (Newark, N.J.), of B Co., 1-20, were manning a bunker west of Duc Pho, when a man approached their bunker with a poncho over his head.

Both men kept an eye on the stranger and noticed that he had some type of uniform on under the poncho. So, armed with M-16's they walked out to meet the intruder.

He had a Chieu Hoi pamphlet in his hand and was unarmed. However, he did have a rucksack on his back.

He told the Americal soldiers that he was from the 74th Co., 75th Bn., 5th Rgt. It was determined later that the Hoi Chanh was from the 7th Bn., 22nd Rgt.

The Hoi Chanh also said that he was an ammo bearer with his company and after seeing the lights on LZ Liz, walked away from his company and towards the fire base.

His pack contained an aiming sight and miscellaneous gear.

LAMAR PLAIN - Alpha Company of the 1st Bn., 502nd Inf., found the body of one NVA soldier who had been killed by airstrikes and a rocket propelled grenade launcher yesterday for the only action in the Lamar Plain area.

The enemy soldier and RPG were found in the dense jungles located 22 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

GENEVA PARK - B Co., of the 198th Inf. Bde.'s 1st Bn., 6th Inf., while searching a mountainous area 12 miles west of Chu Lai, found a World War I 8mm French rifle and an accessory case.

The case contained miscellaneous clothing, including four NVA uniforms and an NVA hat with a red star on it.

MG Lloyd B. Ramsey, Commanding

MAJ Paul B. Parham, IO

SGT Herb Hartley & PFC Harry Baumann Co-editors

Telephone: Chu Lai 3212

This New Sheet is published daily under the supervision of the IO, Americal Division, APO 96374, as an authorized Army publication. Views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army.

THE VIETNAMESE FLAG

The National Colors of the Republic of Vietnam consists of three horizontal red stripes on a saffron field. The red color or the stripes are the traditional symbol of Sino-Vietnamese happiness, and represent the three regions of the Republic. The saffron field, as precious as gold, is symbolic of Vietnamese ancestral earth.

Vol. 3. No. 207 Saturday July 26, 1969

CHU LAI AREA WEATHER FORECAST--July 27

Mostly cloudy to cloudy with a few rain showers expected, with variable winds from the NE at 3-5 knots, increasing to 3-10 knots.

High temp--92 Humidity--93

low--77 55

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)--Thirteen VC and four NVA were killed in southern I Corps yesterday as Americal Division soldiers experienced light and scattered action.

The Americal team also captured 10 individual weapons.

FREDERICK HILL--Two seemed to be the magic number for the "Polar Bears" of B Co., 4-31, as they killed two NVA and two VC and captured two AK-47's in the jungles 18 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky.

The first contact came at 1020 hours when B Co. engaged and killed one NVA and two VC.

An hour later, the company engaged three NVA, killing one of them.

While working in the coastal regions 18 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky, A Co. of the 26th Engr. Bn, engaged three VC. The "White Lions" of A Co. managed to kill one of the Communists.

The final action of the day in the 196th Bde, OZ was recorded by D Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav., while operating in the jungles 17 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

D Trp. killed two VC during the encounter.

IRON MOUNTAIN--The "Warlords" of B Co., 123rd Avn. Bn., spotted two VC trying to evade, 12 miles west of Duc Pho, at 1730 yesterday.

The VC were taken under fire and killed By B Co.

Elsewhere in the 11th Bde. area, "Sykes Regulars" from B Co., 1-20, captured five VC suspects five miles north of Duc Pho.

Four of the suspects were women and admitted belonging to the Women's VC Association.

At 1815 hours, B Co. captured four more female suspects, seven miles north of Duc Pho.

While in the process of transferring the suspects to LZ Bronco, B Co. spotted a male suspect walking towards the company.

When the female suspects spotted him, they yelled and he ran into a nearby bunker. The VC was killed while trying to evade.

In a delayed report of Thursday's action, D Co., 4-3, spotted six NVA walking down a trail.

Artillery was called on the force, and killed two enemy soldiers.

LAMAR PLAIN--While on a search and clear operation in the mountains 14 miles southwest of Tam Ky, B Co., 1-46, engaged five NVA soldiers.

The NVA quickly dispersed, but the "Professionals" soon found what they were after--a small weapons cache containing seven SKS rifles.

Alpha Company, 1-502, found the graves of two VC who had been killed by airstrikes while searching an area eight miles southwest of Tam Ky.

The final action in the Lamar Plain area took place 10 miles south of Tam Ky when elements of C Co., 1-501, found a French sub-machinegun.

GENEVA PARK--The only contact in the 198th Bde. OZ occurred at 0820 hours when the recon element of the 1st Bn., 52nd Inf., observed two VC in the mountains 10 miles west-northwest of Quang Ngai City.

Artillery strikes were called in on the position and killed the two VC.

B Co., 1-52, while moving through an area four to 10 miles northwest of Duc Pho, found and estimated 8,145 pounds of rice.

The rice was hidden in 55-gallon drums and clay crocks.

B Co. also captured a VC suspect in the same area who was later determined to be a VC sympathizer.

The third platoon of D Co., 5-46, received small arms fire 11 miles northeast of Quang Ngai. The platoon returned fire and silenced the enemy activity.

A sweep of the area resulted in the detainment of a group of VC suspects, two of which were later classified as VC infrastructure.

B Co., 1-6, found an old helipad, six miles west of Chu Lai. A trip wire, attached to a B-40 rocket was stretched across the helipad and rigged so that the down-draft of a landing helicopter would detonate the rocket. B Co. blew the rocket in place.

A Trp., 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav., killed an evading VC while sweeping a mountainous region four miles south of Tam Ky.

"Musket" gunships from the 176th AHC destroyed 12 structures while flying in support of the 5th Bn., 46th In., 12 miles south of Chu Lai. The gunships were commanded by CW2 Robert J. Davies (Lincoln, R.I.), WO1 Gary Williams (Phoenix, Ariz.), WO1 Thomas G. Melin (Clyde Park, Mont.), and WO1 Richard T. Hulsey (Smyrna, Ga.).

Vol. 3 No. 245 Americal Daily New Sheet Tuesday Sept. 2, 1969

These issues were obtained by James B. Simms and Mike Crutcher from Carlisle Barracks, PA.)

CHU LAI AREA WEATHER FORECAST - September 3

Cloudy to mostly cloudy with rain showers over the mountains. Winds will be south to southeast at 8 to 15 knots.

Temperature H 89 L 79

Humidity H 96 L 50

CHU LAI (AMERICAL) - Action was extremely light and widespread in the Americal area Monday as soldiers of the Division were credited with killing 10 VC and one NVA.

IRON MOUNTAIN - Shortly after dawn, troopers of D Troop, 1-1 Cav. ran into an estimated platoon size force of VC five miles southeast of Duc Pho. Contact was broken after a few minutes, but not before six of the enemy had been killed.

Elsewhere, a lone VC was spotted by the "Old Guard" of Delta Co. 4-3 Inf. crawling into a spider hole four miles southeast of Duc Pho. After several attempts at talking the enemy out of his hiding place had failed, a grenade was thrown into the hole. A search later revealed the VC had been killed.

At 1450 the "Always First" of Bravo co. 3-1 Inf. found a basecamp, built within a rock formation big enough to sleep a company of men. Fresh food and miscellaneous gear indicate that the camp had been occupied a short time earlier. A search of the area turned up the VC suspect.

FREDERICK HILL—Two contacts marked the day's action in the 196th Bde.'s operational zone Monday.

At 0635, the "Gimlets" of Alpha Co. 3-21 Inf. engaged and killed a VC while on a patrol 13 miles west of Tam Ky.

In the only other action of the day three VC were spotted 14 miles west of Tam Ky. A mortar element of the 3-21 Inf. engaged the trio, killing one.

GENEVA PARK—Contact was negative in the 198th Bde.'s operational zone yesterday.

The "Regulars" of Delta Co. 1-6 Inf. discovered an enemy basecamp 12 miles southwest of Chu Lai while on a patrol in the area. The camp consisted of several large structures and livestock pens. The Americal soldiers seized between 35-40 pigs, 50 chickens, 100 pounds of rice, 30 pounds of salt, 150 pounds of tobacco, and a few bottles of homemade liquor, a rifle and ammunition were also captured in the early afternoon incident.

D Co. 5-46 Inf. also got into the act when it found between 7 and 8 tons of salt yesterday on Sunday. on the first day, the "Professionals" found five tons of salt nine miles northeast of Quang Ngai. On Monday, about a half a mile to the southwest of the first find, they found another two to three tons.

The "ready Rifles" of Charlie Co. 1-52 Inf. found and destroyed an NVA anti-tank mine seven miles northwest of Quang Ngai. The mine weighed 10 pounds and was made in North Vietnam.

Just 300 yards north, the company found a tunnel which was destroyed after a search proved negative.

A 198th Bde. forward air controller Air Force Captain Vernon D. Nutter (Syracuse, N.Y.) directed airstrikes which destroyed 17 structures and two bunkers. The airstrikes also damaged an additional seven structures and caused a secondary fire.

In a delayed report of action Sunday, C Co. 1-52 Inf. engaged a 10-12 man group of VC seven miles northwest of Quang Ngai. One of the enemy was captured, along with five Chicom grenades and 2,010 pounds of rice.

PRAISE FOR THE AMERICAL

On August 30, 1970, gunships of the Americal Division twice engaged enemy forces in an area east and southeast of FSB Gator. The aviators readily demonstrated their proficiency by aggressively engaging enemy forces resulting in 17 enemy killed. There were no friendly casualties.

Please extend to the outstanding men of the 176th Aviation Company my congratulations for their professional accomplishment. Well done!

LTG James W. Sutherland Jr.
Commanding General XXIV Corps

Entries from 30AUG70 related to 176th Aviation Company actions:

176 Avn. (en) BS646957 at 1720H. Obsr 3xsec explos, 1xfld pk radio, eng & dest w/rkts.

176 Avn. at 1745H. On spray msn, BS043954, 80K, 100', rec unk amt SAF, neg hits. 035961, rec unk amt SAF 500', 80K. G/S & arty eng both grids w/unk res.

At 1418H D/1-6 inserted at BS645967. At 1420H, **176 Avn** G/S obsr 1xVC w/pack at BS644967, eng w/rkts, rec SAF fr 2-3xVC. D/1-6 eng w/SAF. Res: 2xVC KIA & 1xMAF WIA CIA. At 1507H 2d plat C/1-6 was inserted at BS645963 to sweep fr south to D/1-6 contact. 1535H, **176 Avn** rept taking SAF fr BS645955, obsr what appeared to be radio & antennae in clump of rocks, obsr 3xgroups of 4-5xpersonnel, eng & joined by Stinger #83 (116th AHC). At 1600H, F/8 was diverted to this loc & assisted **176th** & Stinger #83. At 1610H, **176th** G/S rept eng 6xVC. Res: 6xVC KIA, 3xsecondary explo fr rkts, radio & antennae dest. At 1645H, picked up at BS654987 2d & 3d plat of D/1-6 & 2d plat of C/1-6. Inserted at BS645955 to sweep area G/S had worked over, fd 5xVC KIA by G/S. D/1-6 eng 1xVC, res: 1xVC KIA, 1xM-16 CIA, 1xM-1 rifle CIA, personal gear CIA. Further readout to follow. Items will be evac to LZ Dottie. At 1845H, **176 Avn** G/S rept rec SAF fr 1xVC at BS636966, eng. Res: 1xVC KIA, obsr approx 15xVC, res SAF, eng, res: 5xVC KIA. At 1915H, **176 Avn** broke station. Total res: 20xVC KIA, 1xMAF WIA CIA, 2xIWC, personal gear CIA. Dtn evac to 27th Surg. Units were on a VR msn.

.....In a third significant contact, D/1-6 Inf while conducting an Eagle Flight, teamed up with **176th Avn** G/S's. In several afternoon clashes, the combined forces accounted for 20 VC KIA & 2 IWC.

Vol. 3 No. 247 Americal Daily New Sheet Thursday Sept. 4, 1969

CHU LAI AREA WEATHER FORECAST - September 5

Cloudy becoming mostly cloudy with rain-showers in the Chu Lai area. Winds will be variable at 5 knots becoming northeasterly at 10 knots.

Temp.	Humidity
High-95	High-90
Low-78	Low-50

CHU LAI (AMERICAL) - Action in southern I Corps continued to be generally light Wednesday as Americal units were credited with killing 31 NVA and six VC. One crew-served and four individual weapons were captured in the day's fighting.

IRON MOUNTAIN - The heaviest fighting in the Americal area continued to center around the "Rice Bowl," six miles south of Duc Pho, where 13 more NVA soldiers and 17 additional bodies were found in the wake of fierce fighting that raged in the rice rich region Tuesday.

Elements of the 1-1 Cav. and C Co. 4-3 Inf. tangled off and on during the day with soldiers of the 3rd NVA Division's 2nd Regiment while on search and clear operations.

The day's heaviest contact was made at 1400 when D Trp. clashed with a group of seven NVA five miles southwest of Duc Pho. The cavalymen, with the aid of airstrikes, killed al seven in the fighting.

Americal soldiers have killed 52 of the enemy and captured 16 weapons, three crew-served, in the two days of fighting.

In other action in the 11th Bde.'s operational zone, the "Always First" of Bravo Co. 3-1 Inf. found the body of an NVA 16 miles northwest of Duc Pho. The enemy, dressed in a brown uniform, had been killed within the past 24 hours by artillery.

At 1400, three VC suspects were detained by the recon element of the 1-20 Inf. while working in an area four miles north of Duc Pho.

TAKE CARE OF YOUR WEAPON-IT'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU!

Frederick Hill-Cav. units accounted for four kills in as many contacts in the operational zone of the 196th Bde. Wednesday.

Gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. engaged and killed three VC in separate incidents in an area six miles west of Tam Ky.

At 1655, troopers of F Trp., 17th Cav. engaged a lone VC six miles northwest of Tam Ky. The enemy was killed as he tried to evade the Americal soldiers.

In the only other action of the day, Americal forces engaged three VC while working in an area four miles northwest of Tam Ky. One was killed in the mid-afternoon incident.

Major General Lloyd B. Ramsey, Division Commander, presented two Silver Stars for valor to officers of the 196th Bde. yesterday. The men receiving the awards were CPT. Alva R. King (Lexington, Ky.) of B Co. 1-46 and CPT. Jesse C. Sellers (Baltimore) of D Co. 1-46.

GENEVA PARK --- B Trp., 1-1 Cav. discovered a tunnel complex in an area 12 miles northwest of Quang Ngai. A preliminary search revealed freshly butchered beef. The troopers blew the complex, killing a VC who had been hiding in one of the tunnels.

Later in the morning, in the same area, B Trp. found and destroyed eight bunkers.

Elsewhere, the "Regulars" of Delta Co. 1-6 Inf. continued to find enemy base areas 12 miles southwest of Chu Lai. The 198th infantrymen found one Tuesday, as reported in the news sheet, and discovered another one yesterday. Nearly a ton of corn, 500 pounds of rice, medical supplies, ammunition, documents, and miscellaneous items were seized in the find. In the final action of the day, A Co. 5-46 Inf. detained six VC suspects 14 miles north-northeast of Quang Ngai. Three VC suspects were detained a mile from this location Tuesday.

Vol. 3 No. 252 Americal Daily New Sheet Tuesday Sept. 9, 1969

CHU LAI AREA WEATHER FORECAST - September 10

Continued cloudy with rain showers. Winds will be west-northwest from 5 to 15 knots.

Temperature H 83 L 75

Humidity H 95% L 70%

CHU LAI (AMERICAL) - Action was extremely light in southern I Corps Monday.

GENEVA PARK—Infantrymen of the Bde's B Co. 1-6 Inf. discovered three mines yesterday while sweeping an area six miles southwest of Chu Lai. Signs, written in Vietnamese, were posted near each of the mines warning people of the danger.

Captain Brian H. Chermol (Warminster, Pa.), assistant Brigade S-3, was presented the Silver Star by Major General Lloyd B. Ramsey, Americal Division commander, at LZ Bayonet recently.

CPT. Chermol, at the time of the action was the commanding officer of D Co. 1-52 Inf.

During the past week, Brigade Psychological Operations distributed more than 1,485,000 leaflets in 33 drops. Twenty-two hours of loudspeaker time, three of which were airborne, were also logged in.

IRON MOUNTAIN - A tunnel complex was discovered by soldiers of Charlie Co. 3-1 Inf. while they were working in an area 19 miles north of Duc Pho.

A search of the tunnels revealed a small arms cache.

CHU LAI AREA CLIMATIC SUMMARY—September

TEMPERATURE

September, at last, brings a significant decrease in temperature in this region. Throughout the rest of the country though, and also in the mountains of the AO, the decrease is very slight. Average daily maximum temperatures in the coastal regions drop from 95F, where they have persisted from June through August, to around 90F. Average daily minimum temperature decrease several degrees to 75-76. Temperatures for higher elevations can be approximated by decreasing the temperature 3°F for each 1,000 feet increase in elevation.

MG Lloyd B. Ramsey, Commanding

MAJ John T. Pauli, IO

SP5 Cliff Miyashiro, Editor

Telephone: Chu Lai 3212

This New Sheet is published daily under the supervision of the IO, Americal Division, APO 96374, as an authorized Army publication. Views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army.

Vol. 3 No. 256 Americal Daily New Sheet Saturday Sept. 13, 969

CHU LAI AREA WEATHER FORECAST - Sept. 14

Partly to mostly cloudy with winds from the west-northwest becoming northeast at 3 to 10 knots.

Temperature H 94 L 75

Humidity H 97 L 50

EXTRACT FROM EDITORIAL PAGE of the WASHINGTON STAR from 30 AUGUST 1969.

(Comments regarding the A 3/21 Inf. Bn. in regards to the widely reported refusal to fight incident.)

CHU LAI (AMERICAL) - Light and widespread action in the Americal Division area of operations Friday netted (****CONTINUED ON PAGE 2****) Division soldiers 11 North Vietnamese Army Regulars and nine Viet Cong.

Six weapons, one crew-served, were captured in the day's fighting.

FREDERICK HILL—The body of an NVA soldier was discovered early yesterday morning outside the perimeter of LZ Siberia, the scene of heavy fighting Thursday.

At 0915, the men of Delta Co., 3-21 Inf. observed and engaged three VC while working in an area 16 miles west of Tam Ky. one of the enemy was killed in the action.

Elsewhere in the Bde. operational zone, a group of 10 VC were spotted by infantrymen of Charlie Co., 2-1 Inf. as they swept an area seven miles west of Tam Ky. Bringing small arms fire on the communists the Americal company was able to kill four before the other broke contact and fled.

In the final action of the day, the soldiers of D Co., 2-1 Inf. saw an NVA evading into a spider hole seven miles northwest of Tam Ky. The enemy was killed in the brief exchange of small arms fire that followed. A search of the area turned up three B-40 rockets, five Chicom hand grenades and an AK-47 rifle.

GENEVA PARK—At 0800, A Co., 1-52 Inf. discovered an RPG-7 launcher and nine RPG rounds while sweeping an area 10 miles northwest of Quang Ngai. The Co. had been in contact in the area the night before.

A few minutes later, Charlie Co., 1-6 Inf. found an SKS rifle, a Chicom hand grenade and other miscellaneous items while sweeping an area eight miles southwest of Chu Lai.

Elsewhere, Delta Co., 1-52 Inf. found and destroyed 15 bunkers nine miles west of Quang Ngai. Over 350 pounds of peanuts were also seized in the area.

The infantrymen of D Co., 5-46 Inf., using mine detectors, uncovered two mines 10 miles northeast of Quang Ngai. The mines were blown in place.

Air strikes in the 198th Bde.'s operational zone Friday destroyed 25 structures and damaged eight others. The heaviest damage was reported in an area five miles northeast of Quang Ngai. Forward Air Controller 1LT Joe Holbrook (Bancroft, Idaho), directed two strikes there that destroyed 12 structures and 40 meters of bunker line.

IRON MOUNTAIN—A long range recon team from G Co., 75th Inf. started the day's action in the Bde. operational zone when they killed a VC and captured another west of Duc Pho.

At 0845, two VC were engaged and killed by the men of Alpha Co., 4-3 Inf. in an area ten miles west of Duc Pho. A rifle was captured in the incident.

An ambush element of C Co., 4-3 Inf. was left behind as the Co. moved from its night defensive position yesterday morning 13 miles west of Duc Pho. The men were rewarded for their patience when eight NVA walked into the ambush. Air strikes and small arms fire killed three of the Khaki-clad enemy in the fire fight that followed.

Twenty minutes later, a mile west, the Bn.'s B Co. engaged and killed a VC. The enemy was wearing black pajamas.

Charlie Co. was credited with two more kills when they engaged and killed two NVA soldiers near their ambush site.

Elsewhere, the "Warlords" of the 123rd Aviation Bn., killed two VC in two separate encounters in an area two miles northwest of Duc Pho. The 11th Bde. soldiers killed one of the enemy in the action.

Vol. 3 No. 258 Americal Daily New Sheet Monday Sept. 15, 1969

CHU LAI AREA WEATHER FORECAST - Sept. 16

Fair to partly cloudy with widely scattered showers inland and fog in the valley. Winds SW-NW at 3 to 10 knots. NNE 5 to 12 knots along the coast in the afternoon.

Temperature H 94 L 76

Humidity H 97 L 50

CHU LAI (AMERICAL) - Activity was mostly light in southern I Corps yesterday, with Americal Division units reporting 64 NVA killed and one weapon captured.

GENEVA PARK—"Musket gunships of the 176 Avn. Bn. and armored units from D Trp., 1st Sqdn. 1st Cav. *[Question? D Trp. is an aviation unit supporting the armored units?]* continued to support RF and PF soldiers against an unknown size NVA force around OP George, 13 1/2 miles northwest of Quang Ngai, for the third straight day. Saturday the "Muskets killed 48 NVA, bringing the total to 116 NVA killed in the mountainous region.

Co. C, 1-6 Inf. found 75 pounds of rice, miscellaneous documents in a small hooch 8 1/2 miles south of Chu Lai. Nearby another 25 pounds of rice found piled on the ground under a tree and covered by a poncho.

A "mine-dog" working with Co. D, 5-46th Inf. during a sweep 10 1/2 miles north east of Quang Ngai, found a mine four to six inches in diameter and buried two to three feet. The mine was blown in place.

Co. D, 1-52 Inf. found and destroyed a 15 bunker complex 8 1/2 miles northwest of Quang Ngai.

FREDERICK HILL - Co C, 3-21 Inf. was on a sweep of the triple canopy jungle 19 miles southwest of Tam Ky, with PF's from Nui Loc Son, when they engaged an unknown size NVA force with small arms and M-79 fire. The combined force killed six of the enemy and captured an AK-47 with two loaded AK magazines.

Soldiers from the 2-5 ARVN Regt. killed 27 NVA and managed to push the enemy out of the area near the Hiep Duc Refugee Center. They also captured 11 AK-47 rifles, three AK-50's, 16 Chicom grenades, and two B-40 rockets.

Vol. 3 No. 341 Americal Daily New Sheet Wed. December 10, 1969

ON THIS DAY – 1898

The Philippines, Guam and Puerto Rico were ceded to the United States by Spain for \$20 million, ending the Spanish American War.

CHU LAI (AMERICAL) - Action was extremely light in southern I corps yesterday with Americal soldiers accounting for four enemy soldiers killed.

* * * * *

FREDERICK HILL—At 1500 yesterday afternoon, Delta Company 3-21 Inf saw 3 NVA while operating 13 miles southwest of Tam Ky. Artillery was called in resulting in 3 NVA killed in action.

* * * * *

IRON MOUNTAIN—Delta Company 4-21 Inf was operating with popular force (PF) soldiers securing Xuan Thang 3 miles NE of Duc Pho. The allied soldiers received small arms fire from 5 or 6 VC soldiers. The enemy was engaged resulting in one VC killed and one AK47 captured.

While operating northwest of Duc Pho 1-4 ARVNs found 8 dead VC. The VC had been killed by "Shark" gunships of the 174th Aviation Company.

At 1240 hours yesterday, D Company 1-20 Inf. while operating in the flatlands 5 miles west of Duc Pho detained 1 VC suspect.

GENVA PARK—An early morning patrol 8 miles south of Chu Lai yielded 1 VC detained with an SKS and one Chieu Hoi for Alpha 1-6 Inf.

The men were taken to LZ Bayonet.

Recon platoon of 5-46 Inf detained 2 VC suspects with false ID's 6 miles SE of Chu Lai. The suspects were taken to LZ Bayonet.

Bravo Co., 1-6 found an 80mm booby trap with a pressure release trigger device while on a patrol 9 1/2 miles NW of Chu Lai. The mine was blown in place.

MALARIA IS DEADLY - TAKE THE PILL DAILY

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

MG Lloyd B. Ramsey, Commanding

MAJ John T. Pauli, IO

SP4 Harry Baumann, Editor

Telephone: Chu Lai 3212

This New Sheet is published daily under the supervision of the IO, Americal Division, APO 96374, as an authorized Army publication. Views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army.

Vol. 3 No. 344 Americal Daily New Sheet Sat. December 13, 1969

(These issues were obtained by James B. Simms and Mike Crutcher from Carlisle Barracks, PA.)

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Action was light and scattered in southern I Corps yesterday with the fighting men of the Americal accounting for six enemy kills.

IRON MOUNTAIN—At 2130 yesterday B Company 1-20 Inf was operating 4 miles northwest of Duc Pho, just off Highway 21 when they detained a VC inside their NDP.

A search around the area found a 40 pound shaped-charge and firing device. All were evaced to Duc Pho.

Charlie 1-20 Inf. was 6 miles west of Duc Pho when they found a VC hiding in a bunker. They called for him to come out, when he refused they threw in a hand grenade. The action resulted in 4 Viet Cong wounded and two more killed.

At noon yesterday, A Company 1-20 Inf. was operating along a road in the flatlands north of Duc Pho when they saw three VC suspects. The suspects were detained and evaced to Duc Pho for questioning.

While operating 6 miles southeast of Duc Pho yesterday morning, Charlie Company 4-21 Inf spotted 8 to 10 NVA evading east. They engaged the enemy with small arms fire killing one with a pack dressed in a green uniform.

GENEVA PARK—C Company 5-46 Inf. detained two VC suspects early yesterday, 6 miles south of Chu Lai. The two VC suspects had no Id's, and were evaced to LZ Bayonet for questioning.

The rear patrol of 1-6 Inf detained one VC suspect 2 1/2 mile south of Chu Lai early yesterday afternoon. The VC suspect was detained and taken to LZ Bayonet.

**REMEMBER ONLY 12 MORE DAYS
UNTIL CHRISTMAS**

MALARIA IS DEADLY — TAKE THE PILL!

Copy courtesy of former Civil Affairs officer of 3/1st Inf. Bn. David J. Eckberg August 2015.

Southern Cross emblem - AMERICAL DAILY NEWS SHEET

Vol. IV No. 255 Saturday September 12, 1970

page 1

Chu Lai (AMERICAL IO) - The dogged troopers of the Americal killed 18 enemy soldiers yesterday as light action continued to prevail in the southern part of the First Military Region.

IRON MOUNTAIN

While on a reconnaissance patrol Thursday evening along the coasts southeast of Duc Pho, Charlie Co. 4-21 Inf., uncovered 1000 pounds of unpolished rice.

Later, while operating in the same area, the "Gimlet" unit found an additional 1500 pounds of rice.

Yesterday afternoon, Bravo Co. 3-1 Inf., found 10 NVA bodies while on a mission near the Song Grana River northwest of Duc Pho. The NVA were believed to have been killed by gunships. The uniforms of two of the dead enemy soldiers are believed to be those of an officer and a medic. A medical kit was confiscated in the incident.

GENEVA PARK

While maneuvering in an area northwest of Quang Ngai yesterday, Delta Co. 1-6 Inf., observed five Viet Cong moving across a rice paddy. The "Regulars" engaged the enemy with small arms fire killing one.

Elsewhere, Charlie Co. 1-6 Inf., while operating in an area northwest of Quang Ngai, heard an explosion. Upon checking out the source of the blast, the infantrymen found one wounded Viet Cong who had injured himself in the process of trying to plant a booby trap on a road. The enemy soldier was evacuated to a Chu Lai hospital for treatment.

Meanwhile, Charlie Co., 1-52 Inf., while maneuvering in an area northwest of Quang Ngai early yesterday morning, came upon a body of an enemy soldier lying on a trail. The enemy kill was credited to 1-14 Artillery who had recently fired into the area.

In other action, Charlie Co. 1-52 Inf., found 1200 pounds of polished rice while on a sweep in an area where the infantrymen had experienced contact Thursday evening. The "ready Rifles" also found six kilos of tobacco, 24 cans of milk, one case of sardines, 10 NVA uniforms, six ponchos, eight hammocks, six helmets and other miscellaneous items.

FREDERICK HILL

"Charger 14" LOH of the 196th Brigade, observed one Viet Cong with weapon and pack evading towards a bunker in an area northwest of Tam Ky yesterday afternoon. An artillery strike was called in on the enemy, which resulted in his death. Charlie Battery, 3-82 was credited with the enemy kill.

In action Thursday evening, Alpha Co. 1-46 Inf., while on a sweep southwest of Tam Ky, destroyed one enemy shelter after extracting an AK-47 rifle.

Elsewhere, one Viet cong was killed when he walked into a night defensive position of Echo Recon 3-21., yesterday evening northwest of Tam Ky. One ruck sack was recovered in the action.

OPERATION AMNESTY

For the drug user who wants to break away from a vicious habit OPERATION AMNESTY is the answer. Under OPERATION AMNESTY the drug user may turn himself in, without penalty, to a military policeman, chaplain, doctor, medic or any other person in authority. The only stipulations are that the drug user voluntarily turns himself in, is not carrying drugs on his person when he turns himself in and that he is not currently under investigation or awaiting disciplinary action for previous drug offenses.

Copy courtesy of former Civil Affairs officer of 3/1st Inf. Bn. David J. Eckberg August 2015.

Southern Cross emblem - AMERICAL DAILY NEWS SHEET

Vol. IV No. 240 Friday August 28, 1970 page 1

Chu Lai (AMERICAL IO) - The soldiers of the Army's largest division killed 10 enemy soldiers yesterday as light action continued to prevail in the southern part of the first Military Region.

IRON MOUNTAIN

While working near a PF unit northwest of Duc Pho yesterday, "Shark" gunships of the 174th Aviation, engaged two NVA on the banks of the Song Tra Khuc River. A sweep of the area by the PF unit, revealed the enemy soldier killed by the gunships.

Working a short distance from the "Sharks", Helix 37 accounted for two VC killed by an airstrike.

In other action, Bravo Co. 3-1 Inf., discovered an enemy bunker complex while operating in the lowlands northwest of Duc Pho early yesterday morning. A search of the bunkers revealed one AK-47, one automatic rifle, four CHICOM grenades and one medical bag.

Elsewhere, while on a sweep and clear mission in the lowlands south of Duc Pho, Alpha Co. 4-21 Inf., uncovered a 300 pound rice cache. The rice was found in a wooden box inside a small hut. A short time later it became apparent that Alpha Co. had broke up a VC rice detail when 15 bags containing 100 lbs of rice each and eighteen 55 gallon drums of rice were found scattered about a short distance from the first cache. The estimated three and one-half tons of rice was evacuated to LZ Bronco.

Later in the afternoon, Alpha Co. discovered a tunnel entrance that was a 55 gallon drum with a false bottom. The tunnel led to a small room where a canteen of water was found. After the Kit Carson scout of Alpha Co. had questioned a few people in the area, it was discovered that six VC had only left the tunnel a short time before Alpha co. arrived.

GENEVA PARK

While on a routine patrol in the mountains west of Quang Ngai yesterday, Delta Co. 5-46 Inf., observed three VC hiding in a hooch. The "Professionals" fired on the enemy with automatic weapons, killing one and capturing another. Later, the infantrymen found several blood trails leading from the hooch into the undergrowth. A tracker team was then called in. The team followed one of the trails and found another VC body 10 meters from the hooch lying beneath thick vegetation.

Elsewhere, Alpha Co. 1-6 Inf., received from a Vietnamese child, one anti-personnel mine. The incident took place northeast of Quang Ngai.

Meanwhile, Charlie Co. 1-6 Inf., maneuvering in an area northeast of Quang Ngai, discovered a sign warning that there were booby traps in the area. The "Regulars" made a careful search of the area and found three booby traps. Each booby trap had a pressure release detonating device. The infantrymen blew the boobytraps in place.

Donated by Charles Phillipson a veteran of the 123rd Avn Bn. from 1970.

Southern Cross emblem - **AMERICAL DAILY NEWS SHEET**

Vol. IV No. 359 Friday December 25, 1970

Chu Lai (23d INF DIV IO)—Twenty-third Infantry Division troopers saw light action yesterday in the southern part of the First Military Region as they killed nine enemy soldiers.

FREDERICK HILL

A recon element of 2-1 Inf., operating southwest of Da Nang yesterday, spotted and engaged one Viet Cong. A sweep of the area produced one AK-47, 130 rounds of ammunition, medical supplies and one NVA ruck sack.

Delta Co. 2-1 Inf., operating southwest of Da Nang yesterday, discovered 28 82mm mortar rounds, one 122mm rocket and 600 rounds of AK-47 ammunition.

GENEVA PARK

On a patrol southeast of Chu Lai yesterday, Alpha Co. 1-6 Inf., found a total of 1,600 pounds of unpolished rice. The "Regulars" had the rice extracted to a nearby LZ.

Bravo Co. 1-52 Inf., operating south of Chu Lai yesterday, found one rifle hidden in a hedgerow. The rifle was extracted to a nearby landing zone.

CHANUKA CELEBRATION

A Chanukah celebration will be held at the Chu Lai USO on Saturday night, 26 December 1970, at 1930 hours. The celebration will include a brief ceremony, refreshments, and entertainment. Chaplain Kraus of XXIV Corps will preside.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

MG James L. Baldwin, Commanding	This News Sheet is published daily under
MAJ William F. Gabella, IO	the supervision of the IO, Americal
SP4 Steven Elschlager, Editor	Division, APO 96374 as an authorized
Telephone: Chu Lai 2414	Army publication. Views and opinions
	expressed are not necessarily those of
	the Department of the Army.

Copy provided by Wes Zanone August 2009. A Veteran of 1-52nd Infantry Bn.

Southern Cross emblem - **AMERICAL DAILY NEWS SHEET**

Vol. V No. 88 Monday March 29, 1971

Chu Lai (23rd INF. DIV IO) - Combat activity was moderate in the southern part of the First Military Region yesterday as the men of the 23rd Infantry Division accounted for 28 enemy soldiers killed.

FINNEY HILL

Operating in an area southeast of Quang Ngai City Saturday, an element from Delta Co., 1-20 Inf found the bodies of three enemy soldiers. It was determined that the enemy were killed earlier in the wee4k by Alpha Bat 3-16 Artillery.

Yesterday, while on patrol in an area southwest of Chu Lai, an element from Charlie Co., 1-52 Inf found a total of 12 enemy soldiers that had been killed by artillery from Delta Bat 1-14 Artillery. Later, in the same area, The "Ready Rifles" engaged and killed three NVA soldiers with small arms fire. Also in this action, four rucksacks, 400 pounds of salt, and miscellaneous clothing were captured. The salt was extracted to an LZ and the other items were destroyed.

Also in an area southwest of Chu Lai, Alpha Co., 1-6 Inf found 200 pounds of rice. The rice was extracted to a nearby LZ.

While operating south of Quang Ngai City yesterday, Alpha Co., 4-21 Inf engaged and killed the VC soldier and wounded another. The wounded enemy was extracted to a Chu Lai hospital for treatment. Later, the infantrymen found and destroyed four bunkers and three military structures.

MIDDLESEX PEAK

Bravo Co. 1-46 Inf while on a search and clear mission west of Chu Lai yesterday, engaged seven VC soldiers with small arms fire. As a result, one VC was killed and the others evaded.

During an early Sunday morning sapper attack on LZ Mary Ann, 12 NVA soldiers were killed by the "Professionals" 1-46 Infantry. *(Historian Note: This was a major event, the Americal Division commander was relieved of command after this incident.)*

CRIME DOES NOT PAY

PFC Ralph L. Snyder, Company B, 26th Engineer Battalion was tried and convicted by a special court-martial on 26 March 1971 of wrongfully possessing heroin in violation of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, Article 134. He was sentenced to a bad conduct discharge, forfeiture of \$90.00 per month for six months, reduction to the lowest enlisted pay grade and confinement at hard labor for three months. PFC Snyder is presently serving the sentence to confinement in the USARV Installation Stockade, Long Binh, Vietnam.

VEHICLE SECURITY RESPONSIBILITY

Once dispatched, security of a vehicle is the sole responsibility of the person to whom it is dispatched. Leaving an unattended vehicle near or within sight of a billet guard does not constitute adequate security and it does not relieve the responsible person of pecuniary liability in the event of theft. The primary mission of the guard is security of the billets and its occupants. He is not responsible for the security of vehicles parked nearby, so don't be caught short. Secure your vehicle every time you leave it.

SOUND OFF!

The Army Sounding Board welcomes suggestions from individual soldiers to improve combat clothing and the individual equipment. Do you have any ideas? No forms, formats or channels are required. Write directly, and your letter will be acknowledged within twenty-four hours of receipt. If any of your ideas are adopted, you will automatically be put in for a cash award under the Army Suggestion Program. So don't just complain about your equipment, do yourself and your buddies a favor and tell the Army how to improve it. Write the Army Sounding Board, Ft. Benning, Ga. 31905

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

MG James L. Baldwin, Commanding

MAJ Robert D. Bailey, IO

SP/4 Earl D. Tonkinson, Editor

Telephone: Chu Lai----2414/3212

Pacific Stars and Stripes

An authorized publication of the U.S. Armed forces in the far east.

Price 10 cents.

20June67- Tuesday Page 8

Army Unit

Getting Set

For Combat

WASHINGTON, June 19 (S&S)

The Army's 198th Inf Brigade, only a month old, is expected to be ready for Vietnam combat in October if it's needed, according to Army officials.

The brigade is the latest major unit to be formed since the 1965 Vietnam buildup.

Right now officers and enlisted men are involved in the unit training at Ft. Hood, Tex., following a rapid buildup that was possible through the transfer of trained men from the 1st and 2nd Armd Divs also at Ft. Hood. Both divisions are a part of the stateside strategic reserve, had been over-strength.

At the time the Pentagon announced activation of the 198th U.S. officials said it would probably head for Southeast Asia when it was ready, and of course, assuming there was a need at the time for additional troops.

Fourth Brigade

The 198th, with an authorized strength of 5,000 officers and enlisted men, has its principal elements from the **1st Bn, 6th Inf**; 1st Bn, 46th Inf; 1st Bn 52nd Inf, and the 1st Bn, 14th Arty.

It is the Army's fourth separate infantry brigade to be formed since the 1965 buildup. The first two brigades, the 196th and the 199th, are now in Vietnam and the 11th is in reserve at Scholfield Barracks, Hawaii.

Among the 302,000 Army troops in Vietnam are two brigades, the 173rd Airborne and the 1st Brigade of the 101st Airborne Div, as well as five divisions, the 1st Inf, 1st Cav (Airmobile, 4th, 9th and 25th.

[Historian Note: The 5/46th Inf. Bn. was not in the 198th Inf. Bde at this time]

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12Jun68-**When 'CO' Says Shave, You Shave**

CHU LAI, Vietnam (IO) - Capt. Max Bradley was proud of the luxurious growth on his upper lip.

Four months of hard work, waxing, curling, training and tender care had gone into its development.

It was a happy day for Bradley, executive officer of the 198th Inf. Brigade's 1st Bn., 6th Inf., when his R&R orders came in.

He went to Hawaii where his wife Annette was coming from Athens, Ga., to meet him.

Then came the moment.

The confrontation with his wife was near and Bradley twisted the long pointed tips of his mustache tighter as he strolled into the R&R Center.

There just as he had dreamed of her, stood Annette.

For a moment they stood looking at each other.

"Hello, I'm Mrs. Bradley, Who are you?" She asked, putting out her hand.

Dumbfounded, Bradley automatically shook hands with her - then jumped back as she jabbed a finger at the brush swirling from under his nose.

"That thing," The tone of her voice striking fear into the man who had faced countless fire fights in Vietnam- "has got to go!"

"I tried to tell her it was okay with the Army but you know women," Bradley laughed. "-I shaved it off."

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Date: ???68

VC Lose 'Pitching' Duel 17-0

CHU LAI, Vietnam (Special) -

A midnight grenade throwing contest in the mountains west of Tam Ky ended in a lopsided win for six 198th Inf. Brigade soldiers, as the score was 17 enemy dead to no U.S. casualties.

"We caught them in a draw beneath our bunkers," said Sgt. Phillip G. Martocci of **A Co., 1st Bn., 6th Inf.**, in relating how the six men furiously lobbed grenades for 15 minutes.

The close-in fight started when the Americal Div. soldiers heard the enemy trying to get through the barbed wire surrounding their positions. When the sounds of moans followed the explosion of a grenade tossed into the wire, the battle was on.

More than four and a half cases of grenades were hurled down the slope in the next few minutes and an M79 grenadier fired almost 80 explosive rounds point blank into the attackers.

"Our platoon leader and sergeant rushed over with a machine gun and more grenades," Martocci said, "but by then it was almost over. The machine gun, however, got six as they tried to get away."

A combat patrol the next morning captured a Viet Cong who said many more dead and wounded had been carried away by a group he was in.

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??Nov68

Not a VC But Bad Enough

CHU LAI, Vietnam (Special)

-When a sentry starts seeing spots before his eyes he has usually been staring at that same old stump in front of his position for too long.

When Pfc. Michael L. Rogers, a mortarman with **D Co., 1st Bn., 6th Inf.**, saw spots he had a good reason. The spots were on a 95 pound female leopard that was walking straight at him.

"I had about 15 minutes of guard left when I saw something crawling under the wire," recalled Rogers. "It was awfully low in the wire and I realized it was some kind of large cat. It was pretty dark and I really couldn't tell what kind of a cat it was, but it was definitely large.

"Once she got through the wire she started walking straight for me.

"When she was about eight feet away I finally got it in my mind it really was a leopard walking at me. I raised my M-16 and aimed for the heart," said Rogers. "When I fired she jumped about three feet and started running. I fired a couple of more shots and started yelling because she ran into the perimeter.

"We searched the perimeter and found a blood trail leading back out through the wire. The next morning we followed the blood trail about 50 feet past the wire and found the leopard." The body was taken to a fire support base where a skinner went to work, making what will eventually be a prized trophy.

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01Feb69- Americal Div. Unit Wins Valor Award

CHU LAI, Vietnam (Special) - "For extraordinary heroism while engaged in military operations" the **1st Bn., 6th Inf., 198th Inf. Brigade** received the U.S. Army Valorous Unit Award.

The battalion - the first unit in the Americal Division to win this award - at the time of the action was comprised of Headquarters and Headquarters Co., and Companies A, B, C, and E (Company D joined the unit later).

While conducting a search operation south of hamlet of Lo Giang (1) in Quang Nam Province last Feb. 7, C Co. was pinned down by a heavy attack from an enemy force of unknown size. A Co. moved from north of the hamlet to help out, but came under a barrage of small arms, rocket and mortar fire, causing several casualties and forcing them to withdraw.

The lead element held their ground to cover the withdrawing remainder of the company, and engaged the Viet Cong in savage hand-to-hand combat to halt a human wave attack that followed the barrage. Their inspired fighting temporarily repulsed the enemy, and enabled the rest of the company to regroup and launch a counterattack which drove the VC back into the hamlet.

At the same time B Co. arrived and waded in to help out the beleaguered C Co. in repelling the Communists.

The three companies then completely destroyed the Viet Cong force. They killed more than 250 that there was evidence that the VC had removed an additional 300 dead or wounded from the area.

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12Jul69- Find 'Posh' Enemy Camp

S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON - An abandoned, 200-man Communist base camp, nestled in heavy underbrush atop a 125-foot cliff, was discovered by Americal Div. troops Wednesday about 45 miles southeast of Da Nang.

Among numerous large structures in the camp was a 15-by-75 foot, three-level building with an underground bunker, sleeping space and an attic.

One hut was divided into cubicles with three beds in each. Dotting the area were animal pens and a chicken coop.

"It was a pretty elaborate setup, complete with running water, showers and multi-story huts," said Maj. Theodore Cershaw, operations officer of the 6th Inf.'s 1st Bn.

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25Jul69-Canine Flushes VC Into CO's Doghouse

LZ BAYONET, Vietnam (Special) - An Americal Div. scout dog apparently put a group of Viet Cong in their superior's doghouse recently and helped find a booty of 23 mortar rounds in the process.

It began when "Dix", a 90 pound German Shepherd, sensed something strange while he and his handler, Pfc. Roger M. Collins, of the 57th Inf. Platoon (Scoutdog) were on a night ambush patrol with **the 1st Bn., 6th Inf.** near LZ Bayonet.

"We were heading toward our first checkpoint when the dog started to lead us off to the side," recalled patrol leader Spec. 4 Rudy Lopez.

The dog led them to the edge of a sand berm where they saw nineteen 82mm mortar rounds scattered on the ground around two freshly dug holes. An additional four mortar rounds and an assortment of fuses were later found in the holes.

"I guess we interrupted someone from digging up these rounds and using them," said Collins.

But the communists who were interrupted continued to lurk nearby and it was Dix again who sensed something awry.

"This time he told us there were people around," the canine's handler said. They took cover at the base of the sand berm.

"We were in a bad position to move forward since "Charlie" was on high ground and we hardly had any cover," Lopez recalled.

But the men - many of whom work as cooks, carpenters and clerks at the battalion basecamp - held their position and the Viet Cong moved from the area.

"The dog sure was a big help," Lopez said. "We probably wouldn't have found the mortars without him."

Headquarters Co. commander, Capt. Tom Cameron, agreed:

"We've been using the dogs for about a week and it's working out very well. I've seen the dogs work before and I'm a firm believer in them."

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01Dec69-Average Guy Calley Found Niche in Army

By JULES LOH - Associated Press Writer

William L. Calley came home from the war with medals on his chest and a cloud over his name. To old friends, there was little in Calley's makeup to suggest he was the sort who would merit either.

He was the neighborhood kid they knew as "Rusty... the boy who played the drum in the high school band ... the lackluster junior college student who flunked four courses . . . the railroad conductor who tied up traffic for 55 minutes at a downtown crossing ... the polite bellhop ... the dishwasher...the salesman ... and finally, the young man who drifted away from home to seek his niche.

Now, William Calley, the "average guy" as so who knew him describe him, has been charged Nov. 24 by the Army with the premeditated murder of 109 South Vietnamese men, women and children at My Lai on March 16, 1968, and Saturday with the murder of an unidentified adult man more than a month earlier.

The My Lai incident is alleged to have occurred six months after Calley reported to Vietnam as a platoon leader with C Co., 1st Bn., 20th Inf. of the Americal Div.

Six months later he was home in Florida on leave before returning, voluntarily, to serve again in Vietnam for 11 more months. During that visit he talked about the memories he brought back with him.

He told his sister, Mrs. Marian Keesling of Gainesville, Fla., of seeing naked and starving children in the streets" and that had upset him, she said. "He said so many of them seemed retarded."

In a letter from Vietnam, Mrs. Keesling said, her brother, told how he had undertaken the care of a little Vietnamese girl. "He sort of adopted her and kept her fed," she said. "But one day he came back from several days of maneuvers and she was gone. He was broken up about that."

Mrs. Keesling did not say whether the letter was written during her brother's first or second tour of duty in Vietnam.

While home, Calley also attended a Christmas party with some old chums from Miami, where he grew up. They were taken, too, by his concern for the ragged, hungry children of Vietnam.

"He had compassion for other people," said Chuck Queen, a schoolmate, with whom Calley later shared a room.

Recalling their conversation, Queen said:

"Rusty said a lot of things went on in Vietnam that would very much upset the average person. I mean it would really upset you-some of the things that he saw. Some of the things hat his platoon saw. Some of the things he and his men had to do. Not murder. But you know, the children starving and things like that.

"I don't think," said Queen, "that unless somebody was putting a gun to his head he would stand and murder anyone or anything.

William Laws Calley was born in Miami on June 8, 1943, the second of four children and the only boy. He was an active youngster, "up early and always cheerful," his sister recalled.

This was the assessment of a friend. But some of the soldiers who served with Calley said the lieutenant ordered them to kill large numbers of civilians, and participated in the killings himself.

In an interview broadcast over the Columbia Broadcasting System's radio network, Paul Meadlo of Terre Haute, Ind., said Calley twice ordered him to fire on groups of people rounded up by GIs in My Lai. Meadlo said he went into the village as a member of Calley's platoon.

At one point, Meadlo said, he was guarding a group of men, women and children, when Calley came up to him and asked why he hadn't killed them.

Then Calley "stepped back about 10, 15 feet and he started shooting them. And he told me to start shooting," Meadlo said.

James R. Bergthold, 22, of Niagara Falls, N.Y., who said he was also in Calley's outfit, said that on another occasion Calley shot an old man for no clear reason.

"I brought the guy in," Bergthold said,"He was standing in a field all by himself and the lieutenant questioned him and then threw him in a well and shot him in the head. He never did say why he did it."

(Continued)

(Continued 01Dec69-Average Guy Calley Found Niche in Army)

Charles Gruver of Tulsa, Okla., who also said he served in Calley's outfit, said the lieutenant was intensely disliked by his men, because he "did a few unnecessary things." Gruver refused to say anything more about Calley.

The family, Mrs. Keesling said, "were all brought up on Bible teachings. It wasn't overdone-we didn't sit down and read it every day-but it was an important part of our life."

Rusty Calley seems to have pursued the normal interests of a boy in Miami, he played baseball and football, learned to water ski, joined the Boy Scouts. According to an associate he still gets a kick out of water skiing.

He attended Georgia Military academy for a time, then Miami Edison High School. William Thomas, the dean of boys at Miami Edison, recalls Calley as "a well-mannered, average student with no behavior problems."

A schoolmate and neighbor of those days, Douglas Stanley, says Calley "was never rowdy and never looked for trouble. He was kind of searching for something. He never influenced people in high school. He was quiet and went along with the group and I think he was a little lonely.

"He was pretty straight," Stanley said, "not outstanding in anything. He was always cool, never irrational. I never saw him lose his temper."

When Calley was about 10 his father, a salesman of construction equipment, bought a summer home in the lush green hills of the Smokies in Waynesville, N.C., and when young Calley was 21 the family moved there to live.

Calley never knew Waynesville as home, though. He went off to Palm Beach Junior College where he eventually flunked out - scholastic records show two Cs, a D and four Fs-- and moved back to Miami where he shared an apartment with Chuck Queen.

He got a job in 1964 with the Florida East Coast Railroad and soon became a conductor.

"He was just about the youngest conductor we ever had," recalled Robert F. Stack, the railway's terminal superintendent. "He was real small-not over 130 pounds-but a hard worker. I'd like to have him back."

Calley is still a small man. He stands about five feet three, still weighs about 130, though he dropped down to about 120 while in Vietnam. He has sandy blond hair and keeps it cut short at the sides.

Eventually Calley left Miami. "Rusty was always looking for something," said Douglas Stanley. He went to Palm Beach where he had attended school and took a job as a bellhop, later went to Lake Worth and washed dishes in a restaurant. Then he drifted westward. He became a salesman, an appraiser for an insurance company in New Orleans, still essentially rootless.

On July 26, 1966, Calley enlisted in the Army at an induction center in Albuquerque, N.M. That same year, his mother died.

Calley applied for officer candidate school and on March 26, 1967, began the course in class No. 51 at Ft. Benning, Ga. He was commissioned a second lieutenant in a class of 162 men on Sept. 7. "There was nothing unusual about him," said a fellow member of the class, Capt. Barry J. Gardner. "He was just another student."

Fresh out of OCS, Calley shipped over to Vietnam with the Americal Division. He did not write home much, but in one letter to his sister told of staying out "50" days in the heat, mud and grass with only K-rations to eat." He asked her to send him something tasty, some sardines and cheese.

In July 1968, four months after the alleged massacre at My Lai, Calley was transferred to headquarters company of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, 198th Brigade, the outfit he was with when he came home on leave.

"When Rusty showed up at that Christmas party," said Rick Smith the host of the party and an old chum, "I told him we all thought he was dead. Everybody went crazy." Smith hadn't heard from Rusty in years.

A number of Calley's former friends-Smith, Queen, Stanley--said they had the notion that Calley "was always looking for his niche," as Queen put it, and "found his niche in the Army," as Stanley opined.

(Continued)

(Continued 01Dec69-Average Guy Calley Found Niche in Army)

"I don't think he was emotionally caught up in the war," said Stanley, "but felt rather he was a soldier doing his duty. He half-heartedly believed in the war but never mentioned the Vietnamese people in our talks. He mentioned that there were some aspects of the war that he didn't particularly care for but never anything specific."

When Calley went back to Vietnam he joined Company G of the Americal Division's 75th Infantry Ranger Battalion. On the day before he was to be discharged from the outfit, and the Army, he was accused in the alleged My Lai massacre.

His record shows that Calley did not serve without distinction. He was wounded, awarded the Purple Heart, and won two Bronze Star medals.

He was sent back to Ft. Benning and given a job -- or, more precisely, "made available" - in the office of the deputy post commander, Col. Talton W. Long.

He sits at a desk in Building 35 in Long's outer office. Only a secretary and the colonel's driver share the room.

"Lt. Calley was made available to assist me in such ways as he could," Long said. "Most things are done on a project basis." One project involves helping to assemble an Infantry museum at the post; another involved working up a new parking arrangement for Building 35.

Col. Long seems rather fond of Calley.

"I would say, based on my experience with Lt. Calley and the nature of the office and the things he's doing for me," said Long, "that he is intelligent, bright, a thoroughly capable young officer."

"He is mature in his judgment. He's certainly no extrovert or hyperegoist. Nor is he, on the other hand, a phlegmatic introvert. A normal young man - a man that knows what he's about. He's well aware of the world about him."

Calley lives at the Bachelor Officers Quarters across the street. He enjoys reading, music, dancing, chess. He keeps in shape by jogging.

About three weeks ago Calley asked for a week's leave. Long approved, and Calley drove his red Volkswagen home to Miami. He found his father and younger sister Dawn, living in a mobile home near Hialeah. His father was ill with diabetes.

"He felt he had to get home and talk to his father," Col. Long said. "To reassure him".

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04May70-**Voices in the Night**

Reds Get Message: 'Come On Over'

LZ BAYONET, Vietnam (Special)- Viet Cong and NVA soldiers in the 198th Inf. Brigade area keep hearing little voices in the dark urging them to switch sides under the Chieu Hoi Program. Those bad dreams are staged for them almost nightly by the Psychological Operations (PSYOPS) sections of the Americal Div.

The sections set up these night operations by mounting a pair of speaker racks on a standard UH-1H helicopter and flying low over a suspected area, beaming a message toward the ground below. The microphone is handled by Kit Carson scouts or interpreters.

One of these recent night broadcast flights was directed by the brigade PSYOPS Officer 1st Lt. Vern Christopherson and the Civil Affairs Officer of the **1st Bn., 6th Inf.**, 1st Lt. Skip Palmer. Because the ship broadcasts from a low altitude night makes an ideal cloak to hide it from small arms fire, but there are other reasons for flying at that time.

"At night," explained Palmer, "The people gather in groups in their hamlets and they are easier to reach. The VC are up and maneuvering at night - so we can get the message across to them more easily."

These broadcasts do produce tangible results, but generally, the PSYOPS team does not get to see the immediate results of their efforts.

"We try for long-range results," continued Palmer. "Some of the Hoi Chanh (ralliers) have said they have heard our broadcasts. We like to think we give them additional information on how to rally and influence their decision."

Night broadcasts are used for other purposes besides Chieu Hoi information. Instruction on the Voluntary Informant Program pay off when the Vietnamese bring in arms and ammunition to soldiers operating in the field. The civilians also point out the locations of mines and booby traps.

"Our instructions on how to rally," said Palmer, "Are all based on solid intelligence. If we get a rallier out of a certain area, we go back there armed with the facts he provides us with, such as the names of comrades, indications of unit morale or adequacy of food supplies. We also conduct instruction on the VIP program in support of our troops on the ground. Occasionally, we even drop leaflets on these themes during the night."

And so each night somewhere in the Americal Div., the best of PSYOPS goes on. If for no other reason, the VC and NVA may start to rally because a lack of sleep.

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26May70-**GI Happy That He's A Tank'**

VAN THIEN, Vietnam (Special) -

When a tank hits a booby trap, it usually rolls on unharmed. But when a man steps on one, he usually isn't so lucky - unless he happens to be a "human tank." This is what happened recently to Spec. 4 David W. Tank an Americal Div. soldier on an operation 15 miles north of Quang Ngai.

"We were moving through an abandoned village on a sweep," said Tank, a radio-telephone operator with C Co. of the 198th Inf. Brigade's **1st Bn., 6th Inf.** Tank and other members of the company command group moved to the foundations of an old hooch and bunker to coordinate the sweep.

"There was an old well off to the side of the bunker and I went over to check it out," continued Tank. "Just as I got there I stepped on a three pronged pressure device and a mine went off. It was a "Bouncing Betty," but all it did was lift my foot off the ground a bit. It blew the dirt away so you could see the mine."

A "Bouncing Betty" mine is meant to explode twice. On the first explosion, it pops into the air and then it is supposed to explode again and spray the immediate area with shrapnel.

"There I stood! Wow!" said Tank. "Everyone else seemed to be a lot more scared than I was."

Viets Kill 67 Reds in Cambodia

S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON - Vietnamese forces completed a five-day Cambodian operation Tuesday in which 67 enemy soldiers were killed, two suspects detained and an undisclosed quantity of munitions captured. Vietnamese military spokesmen reported Wednesday.

.....
In Vietnam, a Regional Force element killed four enemy soldiers in Quang Nam Province, Vietnamese military spokesmen said.

The U.S. Command reported no major ground contact involving American soldiers. In the only action announced, an element of the 1st Marine Div. killed six enemy soldiers 18 miles south of Da Nang. One Marine was killed and five wounded, a U.S. military spokesman said.

Six Americans were wounded in Quang Ngai Province when a booby trap exploded, the spokesman said. (Historian note: this incident involved D/1/6th Inf. Bn.).

Encounter Deadly for 2 NVA

By SGT. THOMAS F. BOEHLER

CHU LAI, Vietnam (Special) - After what seemed like a game of hide and seek and a couple of 15-yard dashes, 198th Brigade infantrymen killed two NVA soldiers and captured two enemy weapons and supplies on a recent mission west of Chu Lai.

The element from **C Co., 1st Bn., 6th Inf.**, was preparing to leave its night defensive position (NDP). The position was alongside a trail and one member of the element moved down the trail to retrieve the defenses he had set there.

He was in the process of dismantling the devices when he spotted one enemy soldier approaching along the trail and engaged him with small arms fire. The "Regulars" swept the area and found that the enemy had evaded but three rucksacks had been left behind. The packs each contained 80 pounds of rice.

As most of the element completed checking the area they heard firing on the other side of the NDP where a small observation post (OP) had been left. The infantrymen raced to the scene of the firing to find that the OP had spotted and engaged two more enemy; however, these enemy also evaded into thick vegetation.

"After we searched that area and found nothing I went down to where we had left another CP, just past where we found the rucksacks," said Spec. 4 David Stupski, the assistant machine gunner. "I had been there only about 15 minutes when I saw an NVA soldier emerge from the elephant grass. He spotted us and was about to fire when I dropped him with my M16."

Hearing the fire the "Regulars" ran back the 150 yards they had just covered. They arrived to find one dead NVA along with an AK50 rifle and a rucksack containing two Chicom hand grenades, 10 pounds of rice, tobacco, candy and assorted other foodstuffs.

"While they were searching the body I moved farther down the trail to a security position," said Spec. 4 Lee Gutierrez, the machine gunner. "I was there only a short while when I saw another enemy walking right down the middle of the trail. I fired on him with my machinegun and killed him."

The second enemy was carrying an AK47 and a rucksack containing two Chicom hand grenades, 12 cans of condensed milk and other supplies. The weapons and all supplies were extracted to a nearby landing zone.

Pacific Stars & Stripes
APO San Francisco 96503
Published daily: \$3.00 per month.
Second-class postage paid at San Francisco, Calif.
2 November, 1971 Page 6

Standdowns Cut 2,890 Spaces

S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON - Eight Army units including six from the 23rd Inf. Div. (Americal), began standdown Sunday, the U.S. command said, creating 2890 space reductions.

The Americal units are Hq and Hq. Co. (175 spaces); **1st Bn., 6th Inf. (920 spaces)**; 723rd Ord. Bn. (555 spaces); 523rd Sign Bn. (520 spaces) and the 23rd Supply and Transportation Bn (385 spaces); and Hq., and Hq. Co., 23rd Div. Support Command, whose composition was not listed separately.

That unit, the 335th Transportation Co.; and the 54th Medical Det. (Medevac Helicopter) had an aggregate of 355 spaces.

Four Americal battalions are still operating in Vietnam under the 196th Inf. Brigade, Army spokesmen said.

VOL. 1, NO. 1 / LZ BAYONET, VIETNAM / 11 May 1969

1/6 turns canvas to tin

By SP4 Jeff Sever **1st Bn., 6th Inf.**

LZ BAYONET---Converting an infantry battalion basecamp enclave into an enlarged, permanent wood and tin rear area can be more than a minor chore in a combat zone where rear area personnel are at a premium and carpentry seems to be an "on the job" learned expertise.

In spite of the problems, however, the men of the **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry** found a solution recently. And today their rear area here is not the same as it was a month ago.

The canvas is gone. There are 48 permanent wood and tin structures where once tents stood. Wood floors and walls and corrugated tin roofs have replaced the weatherworn faded green tarpaulins.

The job was done by the men themselves--infantrymen, cooks, jeep drivers, medics and supervisory personnel. Working around operational commitments, they raised the building in one month, with no outside help.

Whenever they had a few free minutes, or a day back in basecamp from the field, they sawed a board here and nailed a plank there," said Major Theodore G. Kershaw (Carmel, Calif.), Battalion Executive Officer.

Old Hands Advise

Some old hands circulated around the project; advising someone how to make an angle cut, where to put in a crosspiece for a brace, how large to make the door jamb, where to string the electrical wiring, and a thousand other details.

Nails were driven, thumbs pounded, sawdust flew, and shouts filled the air. Then the project was completed. It looked good. And the men had done it themselves.

"Sure, it was a lot of hard work," said SGT Don Buck (Pritchard, Ala.), a field veteran now in the rear area. "But I was tired of canvas. So when we got the wood and nails it was no problem getting it done."

Some persons have even called it a luxury--medic SP5 John Kephart (Burlington, Iowa) remarked: "Just got the roads paved the roads paved and some shade trees planted, and this place will be an R&R center before you know it."

VOL. 1, NO. 2 / LZ BAYONET, VIETNAM / 18 May 1969

name's the same

By SP4 Jeff Sever 1st Bn., 6th Inf.

LZ BAYONET—A 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry soldier mentioned an interesting coincidence in a letter to his father, which produced both interesting and unexpected results recently.

Specialist Four Ralph G. Cooksey Jr. (St. Petersburg, Fla.) of Company B noted in a letter home to his father that one of the Americal Assistant Division Commanders had the same last name as their family.

Unknown to the 1/6 soldier, his father began investigating the family tree, which revealed that SP4 Cooksey and Brigadier General Howard H. Cooksey were in fact second cousins.

Ralph's father immediately wrote to BG Cooksey, relating the relationship. The general answered the elder Cooksey's letter, adding that he would arrange a meeting with Ralph Jr.

The two newly-found cousins did meet and talk at the battalion's Forward Fire Base Fat city, north of Chu Lai. Sp4 Cooksey was later asked how he felt, having a general as a cousin. He replied, "I really don't feel any different than before," and pointed out that "our conversation was centered around other members of the family."

Each now has gone his own way, however. BG Cooksey has moved to Long Binh to be Deputy Chief of Staff for Plans and Operations at Headquarters USARV, and SP4 Cooksey remains with his company at LZ Bayonet.

VOL. 1, NO. 2 / LZ BAYONET, VIETNAM / 18 May 1969

ringo trips and mulroney skips.

LZ BAYONET- Luck was with PFC Thomas Mulroney (Newport, Ky.) when his scout dog Ringo tripped the wire to a Viet Cong booby trapped hand grenade recently.

the 20-year-old soldier with the 198th Brigade's 57th Infantry Platoon (Scout Dog) and his dog were walking point for Company B, **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry** seven miles west of Chu Lai when the incident occurred.

"I heard the wire snap and the spoon fly off the grenade," said Mulroney.. The shotgun man behind me heard it too, and we both started running with Ringo close behind.

The scrambling dog handler got about 10 feet and hit the ground when the grenade exploded. No one was hurt in the blast.

"That one was just a little too close for comfort," the infantryman commented later.

VOL. 1, NO. 3 / LZ BAYONET, VIETNAM / 26 May 1969

1st Bn. 6th Inf. has 50,000th medcap

LZ FAT CITY—Medics of the 1/6th recently completed the unit's 50,000th MEDCAP in the Ky Sanh village area northwest of Chu Lai.

1LT Jim Porter (Washington, Mo.), the Battalion Civil Affairs Officer, said a medic and civil affairs official take to the field in the rice-rich area four days out of the week, attending to medical needs of the villagers and conducting psychological operations.

"In the past six months we've treated at least 25,000 people," 1LT Porter said, "and the number is double that since the unit's arrival in Vietnam."

The "Brave and Bold" soldiers recently went by Vietnamese sampan up the An Tan River north of Chu Lai about two miles inland to two tiny hamlets. We treated 103 persons at the hamlet of Da Phu and another 133 at Trunh Than, which is right in the middle of a large

rice-growing area," 1Lt Porter said. SP4 Carl J. Aikens (Day City, Mich.), a medic working with the civil affairs office since February, has handled most of the MEDCAPs since his arrival in the 1st Bn., 6th Inf.

"We're treating a lot of people," he said, "and at the same time we have a chance to do some 'face-to-face' PSYOPS work."

VOL. 1, NO. 4 / LZ BAYONET, VIETNAM / 1 June 1969

1/6th presents awards to ten 'regulars'

LZ BAYONET—In an awards ceremony here recently, 1st Bn., 6th Inf. Commander LTC Albert J. Dombrowski (Douglaston, N.Y.) presented medals to ten infantrymen of the "Regulars."

Nine of the awards were Army Commendation Medals, while a Purple Heart was awarded to SP4 Tony Bradalucco (N.Y. City) of HHC for wounds received in a sapper attack on Bayonet in February.

Awarded the ACMS for meritorious service were 1SG Rodney Washburn (Warminster, Pa.) and SP4 Mel Vogt (Grundy Center, Ia.) of Co. D.

Others receiving the medals were: SFC David Cox (Clarksville, Tenn.), Co. E; SP4 Bobby Mellena (Shepherd, Mich.), Co. B; Sp4 Harvey Wittrock (Ward, S.D.), HHC; and SP4s Kenneth Shock (Newcastle, Wy.), Edward Sukals (Ashland, Wis.), Charles Isenberg (Fullerton, Calif.), and Arthur Buxton (Wilmington, Mass.), all of Co. C.

VOL. 1, NO. 4 / LZ BAYONET, VIETNAM / 1 June 1969

regulars stage "luau" farewell for outgoing co

LZ BAYONET—Men of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry bid a fond farewell to their commander, LTC Albert J. Dombrowski (Douglaston, N.Y.), who will leave June 4th for his new post at Headquarters, Americal Division as G-5 Civil Affairs Officer.

The new battalion commander will be LTC Thomas Ambrose (Morristown, N.J.), the present 198th Brigade S-3 Operations Officer.

LTC Ambrose will assume command of the battalion Monday in Change of command ceremonies at the 1/6 area.

The officers and men of the 1/6 presented an engraved, disarmed "Chicom" hand grenade to their departing commander as a token of their appreciation.

Highlighting the farewell at the battalion's basecamp was a luau of roast pig prepared by SFC Joe ("da Pineapple") Ko (Moiliili, Hawaii), the "Regulars" medical platoon sergeant.

VOL. 1, NO. 5 / LZ BAYONET, VIETNAM / 8 June 1969

psyops takes to river

CHU LAI— The winding river systems north and south of Chu Lai are providing a new and speedy means of getting the government's message to the isolated hamlets along their banks.

And the psychological operations (PSYOPS) section of the 198th Brigade, with the help of a small and mobile "ski barge", recently began to use these arteries to their advantage.

At least twice a week the PSYOPS team and a battalion civil affairs officer comb many hidden coves, stopping at any village along the way.

The messages they bring vary with every mission. One time a Vietnamese interpreter working for the brigade PSYOPS section may use the 1,000-watt amplifier to announce information about upcoming elections. Another time he may talk about the Voluntary Informants Program, urging villagers to turn in information about the enemy in exchange for a monetary sum.

More often than not the joint American-Vietnamese team does not even leave its small boat--- a speedy ski barge equipped with two 85 h.p. engines and the amplification system. Instead they send their message from several hundred feet out in the river, anchoring amidst the native sampans or cruising steadily along the waterways.

When their message is completed, the boat then scoots up river or around another cove where more villages are nestled.

"We recently tried the small boat and found it quite effective," said 1LT Jim Porter (Washington, Mo.), the civil affairs officer of the **1st Bn., 6th Inf.** "By using the boat, for instance, we can cover three, maybe four villages during the time it used to take us to walk to one."

So far the small boat, which can race along at speeds up to 70 m.p.h. in open river, has traveled up the Tra Bong River south of Chu Lai as far inland as Binh Son. To the north, the PSYOPS men have traversed the huge Truong Giang River system.

"Although we recently talked extensively about elections, for example, we always find somebody out there who doesn't know a thing about them," explained Lt. Porter.

The PSYOPS team, equipped with a public address system and a converted ski barge, has begun the process of education.

VOL. 1, NO. 5 / LZ BAYONET, VIETNAM / 8 June 1969

198th men are top two in leadership at division school

CHU LAI—Two 198th Infantry Brigade soldiers ranked first and second in a class of 43 persons recently graduated from the 12-day Combat Leaders Course at the Americal Division Combat Center.

SP5 Michael D. Coleman (Alexandria, Va.), B Company, 1st Bn., 52nd Inf. was the top graduate while SGT Craig R. Singer (Kersey, Pa.) A Company, 1st Bn., 6th Inf., was second.

Both men were promoted to E-5 upon graduation.

Other 198th men completing the course were: SP4 Clifford M. Bridges, SP4 George H. Eckhardt both of the 5/46th; SP4 John T. Dryman. SP4 Jessie M. Rendon, 1/52; PFC David O. Seiben, SP4 Elvis R. Weatherly, SP4 James L. Weathers, 1/6 SP4 Wayland W. Rupp, 1/46; and SP4 Pete A. Whet III, H Troop, 17th Cavalry.

These men will return to their units to serve as squad leaders.

VOL. 1, NO. 5 / LZ BAYONET, VIETNAM / 8 June 1969

vietnamese honor major kershaw

QUANG NGAI—Major Theodore G. Kershaw Jr., executive officer of the 1st Bn., 6th Inf., recently received the Vietnamese Honor Medal, First Class at a ceremony here.

Brigadier General Nguyen Van Toan, 2nd ARVN Infantry Division commander, presented the award to Maj. Kershaw for his close work with the ARVN division.

VOL. 1, NO. 6 / LZ BAYONET, VIETNAM / 15 June 1969 1/6th

captures rockets

FAT CITY—"We saw the backblast not more than 700 meters away," explained SP4 McKinlyn Turner (Yazoo City, Miss.), the squad leader of a roving night ambush element which was operating in the "rocket pocket" five miles west of the Americal division basecamp at Chu Lai.

The 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry patrol immediately moved toward the light flash.

The enemy fled before the patrol arrived, leaving behind five rocket launchers aimed at the division basecamp and seven 122mm rockets in the bush nearby.

The flash which the "Regulars" of Turner's squad had seen were five rockets being fired toward the division enclave. One of the rockets slammed into the hospital, killing an American nurse and a Vietnamese civilian and injuring 24 other Vietnamese civilians. Only nine of the 34 civilians in the hospital's Vietnamese ward were uninjured. The other four rockets landed in the sea or in open areas.

"I guess we stopped them from firing any more rockets," one of the infantrymen said. "But I wish we could have found them before they fired those first five."

The men of Charlie Company were conducting roving ambushes throughout the night and were in their last ambush site when they saw the rocket flashes amidst heavy underbrush about 700 meters away, according to 1st Sgt. George K. Reed (DeRidder, La.) of the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. company.

[Historian note: This incident which killed Sharon Lane a nurse at the 312th Evac. Hosp. occurred on 8 June 69]

The nose knows

LZ BAYONET—A 198th Brigade scout dog apparently put a group of Viet Cong in their superiors' dog house recently and helped to find a booty of 23 mortar rounds in the process.

It began when a 90-pound German Shepherd named "Dix" sensed something strange while he and his handler, PFC Roger M. Collins (Mt. Airy, N.C.) of the 57th Inf. Pltn. (Scout Dog) were on a night ambush patrol with **the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. near LZ Bayonet.**

"We were heading toward our first check point when the dog started to lead us off to the side," recalled SP4 Rudy Lopez (La Puente, Calif.), the patrol leader of the HHC squad.

The dog led the squad to the edge of a sand berm, where they saw 19 82mm mortar rounds scattered around two freshly dug holes. An additional four rounds were later found in the holes.

"I guess we interrupted someone from digging up these rounds and using them," said Collins.

But the communists which the "Regulars" element had interrupted continued to lurk nearby and it was "Dix" who again sensed something awry.

"This time he's telling us there are people around," his handler advised the patrol, and the men took what cover there was at the base of the sand berm.

"We were in a bad position to move forward, since 'Charlie' was on the high ground and we hardly had any cover," Lopez said.

But the men held their position and the Viet Cong moved from the area.

"The dog sure was a big help," Lopez added. "We probably wouldn't have found these mortar rounds without him."

regulars find nva basecamp

By PFC Bill Eftink 198th Brigade PIO

LZ FAT CITY—Sp4 William Carsons (Detroit) took a long look at the steep cliff-like slopes of Hill 1362.

It was this mountain which Co. B of the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. walked, slid and slipped down recently to uncover a battalion-sized NVA basecamp nestled on its slope.

"It was harder coming down that hill than it is going up. It's so steep you have to hang onto something every step of the way or you just start crashing down-hill," Carsons said as he glanced up the hill through dense foliage.

On the hill was the basecamp which Capt. Richard Jessop (Knightstown, Ind.), Bravo Co. commander, knew was "somewhere in the area."

Four days after finding the encampment, the "Regulars" began to blast a primitive landing area, for the first time making it accessible by helicopter. Before the LZ was established the only way to get into the area was on foot through rugged terrain or from chopper by being lowered on a rope through the jungle's triple canopy.

The NVA amp was first spotted by LRPs. Two of them then went with Bravo Co. when it was airlifted to the top of Hill 1362, about 15 miles west of Chu Lai.

As Bravo moved down the hill, Alpha and Charlie companies, along with elements of the 6th ARVN Regt., searched other portions of the thick jungle-long a sanctuary for the communists.

On the second day the company's forward element came across the horseshoe shaped camp. They closed in carefully.

"We didn't receive any fire while approaching the camp," said PFC Tom Matog (Hammond, Ind.). The NVA had vacated, "Apparently they had moved out at least a week before."

But what the communists had left behind was a well hidden, highly strategic encampment comprised of numerous hooches-the largest of which was a three-level 15-by-75 foot structure—storage areas and stock pens. Woven mats laid on top of closely placed poles served as flooring for the upper stories of the largest building. Mats were also used to divide the dark, musty interior into five-by-six foot rooms. Ten feet to the side of the structure a length of bamboo acted as a water pipe, spurting forth clear mountain water from a nearby pool for both drinking and showering.

"The camp was a pretty permanent one, and I think there are probably two or three other basecamps in the area just like it," said Capt. Jessop.

So the 198th Brigade men continued to comb the jungle, encountering little enemy resistance but searching for other base camps like the one on the slope of Hill 1362.

VOL. 1, NO. 11 / LZ BAYONET, VIETNAM / 1 August 1969

awards & decorations

BRONZE STARS (V)

1/52 Inf: Capt. A. L. Jamieson Hall;
SP4 Herbert L. Messer

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDALS (V)

1/52 Inf: Sgt. Hans G. Deutschmann
SP4 Robert W. Green

BRONZE STARS (M)

5/46 Inf: 1st Lt. Thomas B. Donnelly;
SFC Charles F. Groff Jr.; SP5 Robert A. Peterson; SP4 Kenneth L. Collins; SP4 Walter P. Ford; SP4 Leonard W. Frye; SP4 Jimmy R. Goins; SP4 Tim D. Hess
1/52 Inf; SP4 William T. Young Jr.
HHC 198th: Maj. Kenneth S. Mink (1st OLC); Capt. Ruben D. Quinones; SFC James R. Martin; SSgt. Andrew J. Edmondson

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDALS (M)

5/46 Inf (all 1st OLC): SP4 Earnest D. Biscamp; SP4 David W. Bloom; SP4 Robert Castillo; SP4 Hector Rodriguez; SP4 Ray Tullos
1/14 Arty: SP5 Michael A. Yates
B/26 Engr: 1st Lt. Richard S. Arvai??
SP4 Michael E. Benda; SP4 Glen A. Gursl??

PROMOTIONS

1/14 Arty: SFC Jerry McCreight; Sgt.

Jack R. Carpenter

To MSgt.

B/26 Engr: PSG Edward Robinson; SSgt. Elijah Brock; SP5 Thomas Giguee

To SSGT.

1/6th Inf: John W. Medek; Joe C. Taylor
B/26 Engr: Robert H. Ragg

B/26 Engr: Cushman P. Abild; Gary O. Annis; Hilarian N. Casillas Jr.; Bobby R. Davis; Robert E. Dyas; Robert H. Finch; Larry P. Fisher; David W. Kauff; Edwin E. Rivera; William E. Rose; Patrick M. Shannahan; Don P. Sullivan; Victor M. Vazquez

To Sgt.

1/6 Inf: Teddy I Corpenning; Frank O. Ehrmantraut; Edward Gully; David A. Keefe; Allan D. Koyon; Lawrence J. Lennen; David T. Lyons; Charles G. Nelson; Donald R. Peterson; Jerome W. Rathmanner; Thomas J. Rizzo; Loy D. Roper; William L. Sharp; Morris Thomas; Elvie R. Weatherly; Barry L. Wright

5/46 Inf: Tim D. Ness

1/52 Inf: Donald D. Beals Jr.

REENLISTMENTS

1/6 Inf: PFC Joseph Elie; PFC James T. Flanagan; PFC Gary L. Martin; PFC William J. Morris; PFC Gary L. Rosso; PFC Dennis F. Smith

5/46 Inf: SFC James L. Jones; PFC Gregory L. Arent

To SP5

1/6 Inf: Jefferson D. Baker; Gregory E. Chynoweth; Curtis Finley; John B. Watson

1/52 Inf: SP4 Jack K. Napier II; PFC Orvel L. Bailey; PFC Albert Brown Jr.; PFC Perry L. Dorsey; PFC Daniel L. Elleon; PFC George M. Guerrette; PFC William P. Hass; PFC Joseph B. Mafnas; PFC Charles W. Mann; PFC Paul E. Mitchell; PFC Danny L. Pipkin; PFC Gerald D. Roach; PFC William W. Rogerson; PFC Wayne A. Smith

To SP4

HHC 198th: Peter C. Beer; Emil E. Benth Jr.; Daniel B. Grochola; Thomas A. Harmon; Larry C. Hill; James E. Papp; John R. St. Croix

H/17 Cav: 1st Sgt. Donald Stoddard.

VOL. 1, NO. 12 / LZ BAYONET, VIETNAM / 18 August 1969

hamlets watch flicks By Sgt. Alfred Anthony Jr. 198th Brigade PIO

KUONG MY—One time the show was so exciting a Montagnard shot an arrow through the movie screen.

Things were more routine in the small village of Kuong My four miles west of Chu Lai recently when the Americal Division's mobile audio visual team, working with the 198th Brigade, was showing its nightly movie.

But for candles and a kerosene lantern the village was dark. The children filled in and out of a somber cement home buying sodas and rice animal crackers from a girl they called Susie.

Capt. William D. Hyde (Merced, Calif.) and 1st Lt. James Porter (Washington, Mo.), **1st Bn., 6th Inf.** civil affairs officers, had brought the team to this small hamlet, as they do 20-to-29 days out of the month to one isolated location or another.

"The purpose is to bring information on recent government changes," said Capt. Hyde. "The people in most of the villages in the brigade's OZ have now means of keeping informed—they don't get newspapers."

"During the election," added Lt. Porter, "we showed films where the candidates spoke their views directly to the people - it was a big help."

For many villagers, the American movie team is their only link with the outside.

The backbone of the 7th PSYOPS Bn.'s Det. 3 team is an ingenious three-quarter-ton truck with its familiar "Snoopy on his doghouse" painted along the sides. The audio-visual container on the back houses its own generator, portable screen, projector and film library.

In Kuong My, during the reel changes the Americans get shouts of "Batman! Superman!" from the children swarming around the truck, while the village elders sat raptly in front of the screen, interested current news features about their country.

"These movies are all in Vietnamese," said 1st Lt. Homer T. Hodge (Paramount, Calif.), team leader. "But a lot of times we show westerns, and as long as they've got good action we've got a good audience."

"Part of our job here is just to provide entertainment," Capt. Hyde interjected. "It's not propaganda - we just show the films and hope they enjoy them. Everywhere we've been we've found enthusiastic audiences."

"In the mountains in a Montagnard village we found the most enthusiasm ever," said Lt. Porter. "We were showing a cowboy and Indian flick, and the tribesmen actually thought the movie was real. They got so caught up in it that in a scene where the Indians were charging toward the audience two men got up and put crossbow arrows through the screen."

But when the sheets over the village square takes on an atmosphere strangely reminiscent of an old, familiar movie house. The crowd thins out and files between the dark houses to the outer reaches of the village, and Kuong My goes to bed-a little better informed.

VOL. 1, NO. 13 / LZ BAYONET, VIETNAM / 22 August 1969

Enemy Shatters Lull (Related story on page 6)

LZ BAYONET - The lull in fighting was shattered last week as all but one of the 198th Brigade's firebases was hit by enemy mortars, sappers or small arms fire.

Only LZ Fat City, forward control center for the **1st Bn., 6th Inf.**, escaped some kind of action.

At LZ Dottie, a US-ARVN artillery base that fires support of the brigade's infantrymen, 20 Viet Cong were killed and two captured in a middle of the night attack from three sides by an estimated two companies of Communists. "We threw everything at them that we had and they took a beating," said 1SG Homer A. Roberts (Manitou Springs, Colo.) of Delta Btry., 1st Bn., 82nd Arty. "We fired first trajectories with all our guns," he said, referring to the eight-inch guns and 105mm and 155mm howitzers of his battery and those of elements of both the 1st Bn., 14th Arty. and an ARVN artillery battery.

Some 75 mortar rounds fell on Dottie that night while another 23 hit LZ Bayonet, headquarters for the 198th. At Bayonet four sappers penetrated the wire. One was killed while attempting an exit. There was minor damage inflicted on the LZ.

"We reacted quickly and had our reserve force out on the double," said CPT Charles H. Katayama (Captain Cook, Hawaii), base defense officer. "They (the sappers) were inside the wire less than 15 minutes and didn't get a chance to hit what they wanted."

The enemy didn't get inside the wire at the other fire firebases, although one Viet Cong sapper was killed near the perimeter of LZ Gator. At LZ Minuteman Echo, mortarmen of the 5th Bn., 46th Inf. received small arms fire, as did LZ Gator, while an estimated dozen mortar rounds rained on LZ Stinson, forward firebase for the 1st Bn., 52nd Inf.

At Dottie quick reaction and heavy firepower stopped the enemy before they could move within the wire.

"We had everyone out in the bunkers putting out the maximum within about three minutes of the first incoming," said 1LT Dennis A. Pyzna (Chicago, executive officer of the 1/82 battery).

The Americans had high praise for a platoon of infantrymen from the 6th ARVN Regt. which manned the perimeter near the camp's main gate.

"We had two big guns and the 'Quad .50' firing to support them (the ARVNs) and they really got up and fought," Roberts said. "Everyone was very pleased with them."

ky hoa: showcase for future

By Sgt. Alfred Anthony Jr. 198th Brigade PIO

KY HOA ISLAND—Heavy triangular sails pull the fishermen and their families of this island out in the South China Sea each morning and bring them back at dusk. Ky Hoa is a refuge of peace, rare in Vietnam.

As the 6th Bn., 56th Arty. departs the Americal div. for the United States, it turns over civil affairs responsibility for this island to the 198th Brigade's **1st Bn., 6th Inf.**

"There are no Viet Cong on Ky Hoa Island," said CPT Michael D. Foncellino (Patchogue, N.Y.), departing civil affairs officer for the artillery battalion, as he draws an informal picture of the island and its people for CPT William D. Hyde (Merced, Calif.), civil affairs officer for the 1/6.

The two men met here recently to discuss the turnover with Vietnamese island officials.

Situated just north of Chu Lai, across the Truong Giang River, Ky Hoa from the air looks remarkably propeller shaped. At sea level it is a south sea island paradise—tall, strong coconut palms stretch themselves out from the beach's edge. Vegetables are planted in small gardens dotted throughout the few villages at the corners of the island.

For the 6,400 inhabitants, fishing is their chief means of income and one can always see fishing nets hanging on four foot poles along the island's magnificent shore. For years the artillery's Hawk Missiles sat poised atop the only hill on Ky Hoa. But now these Americans are leaving and the children cling to the pant legs of the departing artillerymen who were their friends for a year.

"One of our first projects is to find new jobs for the 200 villagers who worked on the missile compound," said CPT Hyde. "We are planning to pave the one road which **The 1st Bn., 6th Inf.** arranged nine MEDCAPS in which 810 persons were treated - including 15 dental patients in a DENTCAP - and distributed 260 pounds of food and 10 pounds of clothing.

The 1st Bn., 52nd Inf. was active in two MEDCAPs, and distributed 40 pounds of food, 15 pounds of soap, five sewing kits and three dental kits. In addition, the men of the battalion voluntarily contributed 37,200 piasters (\$338) to their un-officially adopted Binh Son Orphanage.

During the same week three self-help projects were completed in the 198th OZ, as construction was finished on a maternity hospital in the 1/6 area, and both the installation of 3,000 meters of fence and a People's Self-Defense Force rifle range were completed in the 5/46 area.

PSYOIPS teams continued their important efforts throughout the week. Although hampered by fewer aircraft available because of periodic maintenance, they accomplished the distribution of 2,900,000 leaflets in 48 missions. The nearly three million leaflets emphasized various projects, but dealt mainly with the Voluntary Informants Program (VIP), the Chieu Hoi Plan and the urging of the people to support the Vietnamese Government. The PSYOPS men also managed to squeeze in more than eight hours of talking to the people by means of their airborne loudspeaker system.

VOL. 1, NO. 15 / LZ BAYONET, VIETNAM / 21 September 1969 mountains disclose enemy base areas

By PFC Bill Eftink 198th Brigade PIO

LZ FAT CITY—Searching an area 12 to 15 miles southwest of Chu Lai, men of the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. uncovered a series of enemy basecamps, hospital facilities and resupply stations.

Delta Co. was first helicoptered into the rugged mountain area after Echo Co.'s Recon Plat. reported suspected sites in the general vicinity of Hill 1362, where the "Regulars" had found a battalion-sized NVA basecamp only two months before.

After three days of climbing up and sliding down the steep mountains that make up the area, pointmen of the 3rd Plat. spotted two elevated bamboo aquaducts carrying water from a mountain stream into the nearby jungle.

"The first aquaduct ran about 550 yards to a large 20-by-50 foot bamboo and thatch structure used as a hospital, with another hootch close by serving as living quarters. The second aquaduct continued on into the jungle for about another quarter-miles to another similar setup," said the platoon leader, 1LT Charles J. Gantner (Piscataway, N.J.).

In addition to the structures making up the hospital complex, there were several livestock pens holding 50 pigs and 45 to 50 chickens.

"It was pretty well developed. They had large storage areas under each of the hootches, with medical supplies and other living materials, and they had just enough time to get most of it out before we got there," added 1LT Peter Yatesaviteh (Cornish, N.H.).

Searching in the same area the next day the company's point squad discovered a well stocked supply station. A concealed hut was found to contain a ton of corn, 500 pounds of salt, 20 pounds of tobacco, cooking utensils, homemade torches, over 400 rounds of small arms ammunition, NVA uniforms and articles of civilian clothing.

Delta Co.'s commander, CPT Dale Collie (Benton, Ky.), said, "Our Kit Carson Scout estimated that this probably served as a resupply stop for up to 300 men at a time on their way down south." Looking around the area, he added, "Of course, there weren't nearly that many here when we walked up on it. They probably left five or six men to guard the place, and when they saw us coming they took off.

In an area about four miles away the echo Recon Platoon uncovered yet another enemy complex containing a large structure, bunkers and numerous livestock pens.

Although enemy content has been scarce 1/6 officials express satisfaction with the results of the mountain operations.

"Anything we can do to destroy the enemy's existing facilities and disrupt his resupply activities forces him to devote precious man-hours to rebuilding them, thus weakening his ability to fight," explains MAJ. W. L. Lee (De Ridder, La.), battalion S-3.

Another official was quick to point out that perhaps even more important is the psychological effect of penetrating and destroying what the Viet Cong and NVA once considered safe hiding places.

VOL. 1, NO. 15 / LZ BAYONET, VIETNAM / 21 September 1969 farmer turns in hidden vc rocket

By SGT Alfred Anthony Jr. 198th Brigade PIO

KY SANH - 198th Brigade psychological operations (PSYOPS) inspired an elderly Vietnamese farmer to turn in to **1st Bn., 6th Inf.** troops a deadly 122mm rocket apparently planned for use against Americal Div. Hq at Chu Lai, five miles east of here.

Brigade PSYOPS men have concentrated their Voluntary Informant Program (VIP) efforts to undermine Viet Cong strength in this susceptible village, a hamlet of which was recently the scene of a VC terrorist bombing which killed 8 civilians, critically wounded 18 and caused injuries to more than 80 others.

"There had been three different leaflet drops dealing specifically with rockets just before this one was turned in," said CPT William D. Hyde (Merced, Calif.) **1/6** civil affairs officer.

The farmer, having read one of the PSYOPS leaflets, told the village PF group of the find, who in turn notified the battalion. Located in a cluster of bushes, the missile was in good condition and had its warhead and rocket motor attached.

"It is inevitable that the rocket would have been used against us if the man hadn't turned it in," Hyde said. "This area is known as the 'Rocket Pocket' because it's a major launching location."

The farmer was paid a reward of 10,000 piasters for the rocket from the unit VIP fund. "I also threw in 50 pounds of corn and a pouch of tobacco," the captain said. "And I bought him a beer."

Following the turn-in, a brigade PSYOPS loudspeaker team led by SGT Duane R. Leake (Rochester, N.Y.) returned to applaud and encourage the villagers. "Our ARVN interpreter, SSG Lan, also reminded the people that it is the VC who cause most of their suffering, and that turning in enemy weapons helps to alleviate that suffering," Leake said.

"We also dropped some leaflets further explaining the VIP plan."

Battalion S-5 men gave Ky Sanh a supply of captured enemy foodstuffs; including 2,000 pounds of corn. They also distributed 500 lbs of rice, 100 pounds of salt and 40 pounds of tobacco to the people.

The same day SSG Wane Radabaugh (Grantsville, W. Va.) a **1/6** "Regulars" medic treated well over 100 villagers in a MEDCAP.

"We're seeing good results here," said Team Leader Leake. "It takes a lot of courage to do what that farmer did—he knows the risk he's taking in the face of the VC. He's a brave man."

In this village it took only one man to prove the success of the brigade's VIP and PSYOPS programs. "We offer the people our help," Leake said, "and in showing that they are willing to help us, they in turn help themselves".

GRAPHIC ART: Drawing of Vietnamese Farmer carrying rocket on his back.

VOL. 1, NO. 16 / LZ BAYONET, VIETNAM / 05 October 1969
decorations & promotions

DECORATIONS

SILVER STAR

5/46: SP4 Walter G. Yeargin

BRONZE STAR (V)

1/6: SGT Hayward Neace

5/46: SP4 Walter G. Yeargin;
SP4 Wayne R. Otto

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL (V)

1/6: SGT Hayward D. Neace;
SGT Carl T. Bechard; SGT Cedric C. Barnes; SP4 Ronald G. Sorey

PURPLE HEART (3 OLC)

HHC 198: PFC Wallace E. Pil-
and _____

PROMOTIONS

TO CPT

1/6: David A. Trujillo
T. Bechard; Norman A. Milnes;
Thomas F. Flanigan; John A.
Siatkowski; David L. Handl;
Richard A. Chapman; William L.
Privett; Randy R. Stratton

TO SSG

1/6: John W. Medek; Gary L.
Sholten; John T. Barry
1/52: James H. Beheler

TO SGT

1/6: Craig K. Decker, Tom E.
Buyze; Dominick Maugerl; Ray-
mond W. Morgan; Michael W.
Wells; Lawrence S. Dyson; Lou-
is E. Hutson; Victor B. Haw-
thorne Jr.; Timothy J. Still-
well; John W. Vanlandingham;
Terry L. Andreesen; Charles M.
Holder; Cedric C. Barnes; Carl

TO SP5

1/6: Jimmie E. Lovings; Jo-
seph S. Major; Allen G. Foster;
Robert G. Selby

TO SP4

1/6: Ernest Fletcher; War-
ren D. Malm; Alan G. Wade;
Gonzalo Mendez-Rivera; John A.
Victor

1/6 stops the presses

LZ BAYONET-Bravo Co. soldiers of the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. halted the press and closed down a Communist propaganda office hidden in thick undergrowth six miles south of Tam Ky.

Leaflets discovered in the area headquarters for propaganda indicated heavy use by the enemy of U.S. war dissent in its PSYOPS efforts.

The Communist propaganda plant, with "offices" in two hooches and a tunnel complex, used a crude printing process. A rubber roller was inked and rolled across a "plate" which had lettering cut into it. When a sheet of blank paper was pressed against it, the material was printed. The "plate" consisted of lettering cut on the back side of a sheet of marble, the headstone from the grave of a catholic priest, that the enemy had stolen.

Also found were mimeograph materials and a number of the latest propaganda leaflets aimed at Americans. Some of the papers and pamphlets, all printed in broken English, were dated just two weeks previously, according to 1/6 battalion civil affairs officer, CPT William D. Hyde (Merced, Calif.).

One series of leaflets, printed on both sides of three-by-five-inch slips of paper, was titled (exactly) "LET US UNITE! LET US ORGANIZE FOR AN END TO THE WAR" and began "More and more American GIs at home and in the field are saving it and acting in that direction" (again quoting exactly).

It referred to a demonstration last Easter in New York's Central Park and a "GI, s teach in at Provo Park, Berkley, Canlyfornia" in which "a GI from FT Wadsworth Newyork" and a man who had been in the "101th air born division" urged unity against the war. A Marine was quoted as saying, "Join together with brothers in each of the branches of service, form a union, organize." The leaflet went on: "At the same teach in an unidentified GI also had this to say "You are only an individual. Don't fight them as an individual. Organize, fight them as many people.

"The GIs in the field are more and more united in their struggle. Mass unit war actions have been taking place evei where. During the five days of April alone more than 300 GI at the American Base in Binh duc, Mytho province, Mekong delta, rebelled The GIs ignored combat orders and demanded immediate homecoming."

Another leaflet "quoted" a former prisoner, "One of three u.s. p.o.w.s released by the Front last January 1th." as saying, "The S.V.N.F.F.L's doctor saves my life by operating on my head wound. I say thank you for saving my life and giving me a very medical treatment."

The man died less than three weeks after his release because of both the head wound and a bungled operation on it, in spite of concentrated efforts by U.S. doctors at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C.

A third leaflet issue outlined the Communists' alleged fair treatment of prisoners. Among its claims were: "POWs are allowed to communicate news and write to their families and friends." This is in direct contradiction to statements by Communist negotiators in Paris.

MAJ Juris Lapins (Trenton, N.J.), 198th civil affairs officer, said B 1/6 apparently interrupted a political meeting when they came in by chopper almost directly on top of the propaganda "office."

"It has been known that they held political meetings in the area before," he said. "evidently our operation disrupted them." He added that the enemy apparently fled only moments before Bravo Co. arrived, as the infantry found rice still cooking there.

"This find is significant," Lapins said, "and its impact will be felt on the enemy's propaganda effort around here.

VOL. 1, NO. 20 / LZ BAYONET, VIETNAM / 03 November 1969

1/6 dedicates unique chapel

LZ BAYONET—Who ever heard of playing pool in a church? Or listening to stereo rock music there? Or watching television?

The men of the **1st Bn., 6th Inf.** have, and their new chapel will enable them to do all these things and more.

Before you get the wrong idea, they don't plan to do all these things during worship services. Rather, the unique furnishings of the chapel allow it to be converted to a day room for the six days that services are not held.

Naturally enough, the idea for this conversion feature came from the Bn. Chaplain, (CPT) Robert W. Duguid (Jacksonville, Fla.).

"It doesn't seem right that this building should go unused for six days a week," said Chap. Duguid.

Everything is designed to be removed to convert the chapel to a day room and fellowship hall where the men of the battalion can watch TV, write letters, read and listen to music."

The **1/6** has ordered a television set, and will provide furniture. Also on the way are two three-quarter-size pool tables.

"I'm contributing my stereo tape recorder for the music," the chaplain said. He uses the same recorder on Sundays for religious music in chapel services.

The dedication of this unique facility drew several chaplains from other units.

Guests of honor at the ceremony included BG Howard H. Cooksey, acting Division commander; COL Jere O. Whittington, brigade commander, LTC Thomas J. Ambrose, commander of the **1/6**; and several other unit commanders.

VOL. 1, NO. 21 / LZ BAYONET, VIETNAM / 10 November 1969

ARVNs decorate 13 198th infantrymen

QUANG NGAI—Thirteen men of the 198th Inf. Bde. were presented the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry in recent ceremonies at 2nd ARVN Div. headquarters here.

BG Nguyen Van Toan, division commander, presented the awards to the Americans "as a sign of the Vietnamese people's appreciation for the military skills, technical advice and personal sacrifice given the people of South Vietnam in their war against Communist aggression."

The Cross of Gallantry with Bronze Palm was presented to COL Jere O. Whittington (McLean, Va.) 198th Bde. Commander, and LTC Thomas J. Ambrose (Morristown, N.J.) and LTC Julian F. Wagner (Green Cove Springs, Fla.), commanders of the **1st Bn., 6th Inf.** and 5th Bn., 46th Inf., received the Cross of Gallantry with Silver Star.

Ten members of the "Brave and Bold" were presented the Cross of Gallantry with Gold Star.

Three from brigade headquarters receiving the award were MAJ Charles T. Borg (Pateros, Wash.), S-3, and CPT Banta M. York (Sumter, S.C.), PSYOPS.

CPT William D. Hyde (Merced, Calif.), **1/6** S-5; 5/46th Bn. Chap. (CPT) Charles V. Adams (Springfield, No.), and SSG James R. Watford (Orange Park, Fla.), 57th Inf. Plat. (Scout Dog) platoon sergeant, were also presented the Cross of Gallantry.

Men of the 1/52 awarded the Vietnamese decoration were CPT Allan M. Tashiro (Capt. Cook, Hawaii), S-2; CPT Claude G. Smith (Donora, Pa.), Alpha Co. CO; 1LT Michael Anderson (Kingston, N.Y.), Alpha Co. Liaison Officer; SGT Melvin C. Gillenwater (Mt. Vernon, Ind.), Bravo Co. Commo Chief; and CPT James A. Fivian (Ottawa, Kan.), Delta Co. CO.

interpreters bridge language gap

By PFC Bill Eftink 198th Brigade PIO

LZ BAYONET—Their services have been described as “invaluable” and “essential” to the operation of the entire 198th Bde. Yet few of us think of these dedicated men until we are in need of their special talents. They are the elite band of ARVN soldiers serving as interpreters at basecamps, forward firebases and in the field throughout the brigade area.

Their backgrounds are as varied as the men themselves, with their most common characteristic being the feeling of both the challenge and satisfaction in doing an important and many-faceted job.

The average interpreter is in his late twenties. He has won the honor of becoming an interpreter by scoring high in written and spoken English tests before gaining entrance to the Vietnamese-American Assistance School in Saigon. There he attended six weeks of grammar courses under Vietnamese instructors, and classes taught by an American in spoken English and its pronunciation.

After graduation, the interpreter may be given a choice of which of the four corps zones he wants to be assigned to for duty.

SSG Nguyen Dinh Thieu of the 198th Bde. PSYOPS section requested I Corps, so that he could be nearer his home and family. The 26-year-old former school teacher was assigned to the Americal Div. as soon as it was formed, and has been with the 198th Bde. since that time.

Thieu explains that often the easiest part of being an interpreter is just relaying back and forth what each party is saying to the other. “The hardest part,” he says, “is learning your job well enough to be able to spot the little things, the subtle ‘hints’ that may be important. You also have to learn what things the officer-in-charge would like stressed.

“One of my main duties,” he continues, “is translating PSYOPS messages into Vietnamese. Frequently, because of my knowledge of Vietnamese customs and culture, I am able to suggest a better way of saying the same thing to the people. When I can do this I feel very happy because I know I am really helping to accomplish our goal.”

CPT Banta M. York (Sumter, S.C.), brigade SPSYOPS officer, pointed out the importance of the interpreters to his section.

“Our entire operation is dependent upon good communications with the Vietnamese civilians as well as the enemy soldiers, and without our interpreters we would be paralyzed.”

Just as important - and often more immediately crucial - than the duties performed by the basecamp interpreters are those of the men traveling with companies in the field.

SGT Nguyen Duyh Khue was formerly an assistant leader and liaison man for American students of the International Voluntary Services Organization. Nineteen months ago he volunteered for duty as an ARVN interpreter. Originally assigned to the 11th Bde. as a field interpreter, he now works with the **1st Bn., 6th Inf.** of the 198th Bde.

Khue has mixed emotions about being in the field. “When I am out with a company, I know the CO and the men are depending on me. It makes me feel very good to know that I may have saved the lives of some of the men in my company by finding out about enemy mines or ambushes.”

To Khue, being in the field presents unique problems. “Often I get very tired,” the small 30-year-old soldier says. “The Americans are very strong and can spend much time in the field before they wear down. I know I must save all my energy so that I can keep up.

“Sometimes the loneliness is worse than the walking,” he adds. “Usually there are no other Vietnamese with the company, and my English is not too good, so it is hard for me to have close friends to talk to.”

To the men Khue works with, he is one of the most important members of the unit. “He has really helped get us out of some tight spots, and I feel a lot better when he is along,” says an RTO, echoing the feelings of all the men in the company.

Few have higher praise for their interpreters than 2LT Thomas W. Wheeler (Atlanta), who has six hard-working interpreters in his brigade MID. “It isn’t always so easy for these men. They have to study a lot during their extra time to keep improving their English, and be ready to go anytime wherever they are needed.”

After serving more than a year as an infantryman in the Mekong Delta, 32-year-old SSG Nguyen That Bao became an interpreter and was assigned to the brigade MID. Bao now has an intense pride in the position of trust he has filled for two years.

In doing his job, he has been an integral part of many of the brigade’s operations. He spent over 45 days in the field in Operation Russell Beach, and was just recently caught in an ambush while working in another operation.

Although much of his time has been in the field, Bao considers LZ Bayonet home. “Because I speak English, I have made many American friends and watched them go home 12 months later. I have tried to help them understand my country better, and by living with them I think I have learned much about America.

“It is very difficult to travel much when your country is at war, but when it is over, I would like to travel around the world and see what America really looks like,” he says.

Regardless of their goals after peace comes, the men of this small group of professionals continue their daily routines of keeping information flowing between U.S. and Vietnamese forces - a routine vital to both allies.

special advance issue

brigade changes commanders

LZ BAYONET—At 10 o'clock this morning COL Jere O. Whittington relinquished command of the 198th Inf. Bde. to COL Joseph G. Clemons in a change of command ceremony here, as MG Lloyd B. Ramsey, Americal Div. commander, passed the brigade colors from the old commander to the new.

MG Ramsey praised COL Whittington's efforts as commander of the 198th, and noted the brigade's achievements since May when Whittington assumed command.

Joining the division band for the ceremonies were the commanders and troops from the **1st Bn., 6th Inf.;** 5th Bn., 46th Inf.; 1st Inf.; 52nd Inf.;

H Troop, 17th Cav.; HHC, 198th; and 57th Inf. Plat. (Scout Dog) elements.

With his departure, COL Whittington was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Bronze Star and the Air Medal with 3rd through 10th OLCs. Whittington will fly to Long Binh shortly to assume the duties of commander of Long Binh Post.

COL Clemons comes to the brigade from two previous positions within the Americal Div. He has served as commander of Supt. Comd., and more recently as Div. Chief of Staff.

COOK SCORCHES NVA

By 1LT A. J. Tolentino

1st Bn., 6th Inf.

KHUONG THO - One advantage of being an Army cook in Vietnam is that you have a dry bed to get into at the end of the day during the monsoon season. However, a 198th coo, PVT Reno Lamania (Fremont, Calif.) of the **1st Bn., 6th Inf.**, often spends the night wrapped in a wet poncho lines [sic, liner?], far from his billet at LZ Bayonet, home of the battalion.

When his unit began a pacification program in a village 5 miles west of Chu Lai, Lamania volunteered to go along. Field duty was nothing new to the 22-year-old cook, having previously served as RTO for the battalion's Operations Section on numerous occasions.

For this operation he was attached to Delta Co., whose mission was to aid in the completion of hamlet projects in the day and provide security at night. Becoming interested in the work of the Vietnamese National Police in the village, he was soon accompanying them on their patrols.

He was with them one morning when they were conducting a search for hidden arms and propaganda, when he became suspicious of something. The police had gathered the people outside while the search was going on, but Lamania heard noises coming from the rear of one of the supposedly empty houses.

Stepping inside to check, he saw a young woman hastily handing what appeared to be leaflets to a boy. As soon as he saw Lamania, the boy tore aside a large woven straw mat serving as a wall and plunged outside. Lamania immediately followed, but the boy had quickly dodged out of sight. The commotion brought the police, who rapidly surveyed the situation and took the woman into custody.

Although the boy had disappeared, Lamania had noted the direction in which he had run. Taking two policemen with him, he began a search. Looking around the area carefully, he spotted a man and a woman in the far, dark corner of a nearby house apparently reading something.

Approaching the house from the rear, he peered in through a gap between the wall mats and his suspicions were confirmed. Using the boy's technique, he pulled aside one of the mats and rushed into the house to detain the couple with the leaflets still clutched in their hands. They joined the woman in custody, and all three suspects were turned over to Vietnamese civil authorities. Questioning confirmed their identities as members of the Viet Cong Infrastructure.

In addition to catching the three VC in a week and a half with the with the pacification team Lamania had discovered four homemade Chinese type hand grenades, hidden explosives, small arms ammunition, NVA and VC clothing and written propaganda, and aided in the capture of two VC sympathizers.

When not working with the police, he helped the villagers rebuild two houses and repair several fences.

"It's not just finding all this stuff that's so great," Lamania says, "It's being out there helping those people - helping them get over both their fear of the VC and their uneasiness around the unfamiliar Americans. And I like working with the police. I work with them, eat with them and sleep with them. I like the people here, and they like me.

"I really feel that we're doing something worthwhile for these people. Besides that it gave me a chance to show the guys in the rear care [sic, area] about what's going on out here.

For Lamania, the cook, the current recipe for satisfaction is: one part helping other people, to one part getting to know them, to one part care; blend in one part enthusiasm, and enjoy.

Division Operations Locating Weapons

By PFC MIKE KELSEY

Staff Writer

CHU LAI - Americal Division soldiers, working in dogged pursuit and tedious clearing operations, have been routing the enemy from long-established "homes" and denying vital weapons and ammunition resupply in steady action throughout the division's area of operations.

As soldiers of the 11th Inf. Bde. were closing out Operation "Norfolk Victory" in the southern part of the division area with the largest weapons cache they have ever discovered, infantrymen of the 198th Inf. Bde. kicked off Operation "Burlington Trail," still in progress, by moving into areas that the enemy has held undisputed control of for years.

"Norfolk Victory" closed April 19 with a final tally of 45 Viet Cong killed and 120 individual and 12 crew-served weapons captured for the "Jungle Warriors."

The fighting soldiers of the division's newest brigade were also credited with the destruction of a large enemy base camp during the two-week operation.

"Burlington Trail," which has as its objective the opening of a road between Tam Ky west to Thien Phuoc, a

For more stories and pictures of recent Americal operations, turn to page 6.

Special Forces base and district headquarters in Quang Tin Province, was started in mid-April.

South Vietnamese convoys had made the ground journey by May 8, though more engineering and mopping up activities were expected to continue for several days.

"We started Burlington Trail with combat assaults into the area and then conducted reconnaissance in force mission," said Lt. Col. William D. Kelley, commander of the 198th forces in the operation.

In addition to Kelley's 1st Bn., 6th Inf., soldiers from Co.'s B and D of the 1st Bn., 46th Inf. are participating in the action.

In the first few days of the operation two large enemy ammunition and weapons caches were captured in the Viet Cong-infested valley northwest of Chu Lai.

"What we uncovered in those first few days would be enough to equip an enemy regiment for at least a month," said battalion intelligence officer Capt. Francis X. Brennan.

The caches included 21,000 AK-47 rifle rounds, 10,000 rounds for 50 cal. machineguns, 6,000 rounds of 7.62 mm ammunition and 224 rounds for 60 mm mortars.

Totals for the operation as of May 8 were 303 Viet Cong and eight North Vietnamese soldiers killed and 70 individual and 26 crew-served weapons captured.

198th Drops In 'Cold' LZ Turns 'Hot'

By SFC SNOW L. WILSON

198th Inf Bde.

CHU LAI- Thanh Phuoc (4) was a quiet little place until Co. A of the 1st Bn., 46th Inf. dropped in unannounced for lunch. Four hours later 27 enemy were dead and what remained of a main force Viet Cong company was dragging its wounded into the jungle.

But the battle was a surprise for both sides, as the reported "cold" landing zone turned "hot" when Lt. Col. William D. Kelley flew in low to mark it with smoke.

With Co. A's first lift of five helicopters coming in fast, there was no time to call in artillery or request machinegun fire as the infantry air-assaulted down.

SSgt. Gene Roper's second platoon leaped from its five aircraft into a rice paddy waist-deep in water to lead the attack. Close behind was his company commander, 1Lt. Bobby Thompson.

Thompson's company, "loaned" to Kelley's **1st Bn., 6th Inf.** for Operation Burlington Trail, was supposed to have been a blocking force.

"As soon as I hit the ground I knew I had to change my plans," Thompson commented.

The new plan was simple- "Charge!"

Roper led the charge straight into the fire of the automatic weapons on a small hill.

The sergeant, of Kennewick, Wash., had just returned from R&R in Hawaii.

"All of a sudden the VC was right there in front of me, with camouflage all over him," he said.

"We must have seen each other at the same time, but I was quicker."

With the strong point eliminated, the rest of the aircraft moved in and soon all elements of Co. A were on the ground.

The sudden assault caught the enemy completely unaware. As they rushed back to their huts for weapons, the 198th Inf. Bde. soldiers were right behind them.

"It was a 'hootch' to 'hootch' battle," said 1Lt. Raymond J. Karnasiewicz.

"The choppers dropped us just right. Any further out and we never would have made it out of the paddy."

Going over the battlefield, the infantrymen discovered that the enemy dead ranged from 13 to 50 years old.

"Every one of them was loaded down with ammo, weapons and web gear," said PFC Bill Lehman, of Akron, Ohio.

Photo Caption - Sp4 William Brennan squeezes out of a tunnel discovered by 198th Inf. Bde. troops participating in Operation Burlington Trail. (Photo by Sp4 Steve Marvin, 198th Inf. Bde.)

'Regulars' Score in Fierce Battle

By SFC SNOW WILSON

198th Inf. Bde.

LZ BALDY-In a ferocious four-hour battle just south of Hoi An, the "Regulars" of the 198th Inf. Bde.'s **1st Bn., 6th Inf.** scored again in the type of action they are becoming noted for.

Fighting at close quarters of less than 10 feet, two platoons of infantry and cavalrymen killed 118 North Vietnamese and Viet Cong main force soldiers dug into reinforced concrete and timber bunkers in the tiny village of Ap Bon.

Not one American soldier was killed in the battle that netted more than 20 crew-served and scores of individual weapons.

Less than three months ago the "Regulars" killed 266 North Vietnamese regulars in a six-hour battle of the same intensity near Da Nang.

The battalion was operating under control of the 198th Inf. Bde. in the northern portion of the Americal area when the Ap Bon action occurred.

Catching the communists setting a trap for his two platoons, Lt. Col. William J. Baxley- who is now the Americal Div. operations officer - turned the tables and hit the enemy from the rear with his infantry and cavalry teams while another battalion force pinned down the enemy from the front.

Moving in a bamboo shrouded area, less than the size of a football field, three man teams of infantry destroyed the enemy with grenades and small arms fire.

Men became separated in the thick bamboo clumps and one, PFC Martin L. Caussex, stalked along through the enemy positions pitching hand grenades into bunker after bunker and dropping communists with his M-16 rifle as they popped up.

Others took command of small groups as they found them.

Another soldier wounded when he charged forward to drop a grenade into a bunker, lay half in the hole with a dead enemy soldier in his lap and swatted enemy hand grenades to one side as they were thrown at him.

Vol. 1, No. 2 CHU LAI, VIETNAM June, 1968

SOLDIERS STOP ENEMY FORCE

LZ CENTER-- Quick reactions and tiger aggressiveness were the key factors when a 198th Inf. Bde. platoon surprised and routed a North Vietnamese unit northwest of Chu Lai.

"We had started down a mountain trail," recalled 1LT Ernie I. Carrier, of Benton, La.

"Suddenly, there was Charlie. My point element reacted first and laid down a heavy base of fire. The enemy soldiers who weren't killed were confused and tried to run.

"I contacted a helicopter that was in the area and it got ahead of them. When the enemy hid in the heavy underbrush, we stuck our noses in and kept more pressure on him than he could handle," said the platoon leader **with Co. C of the 1st Bn., 6th Inf.**

Some 17 North Vietnamese regulars were killed that day and not one American required hospitalization.

Vol. 1, No. 2 CHU LAI, VIETNAM June, 1968

VC TURNPIKE YIELDS RICE

LZ CENTER-Soldiers of 198th Inf. Bde. recently uncovered a tunnel system that "looked like a turnpike" and contained enough hidden rice to feed all the citizens of a nearby hamlet complex.

The find was made by members of Co. C of the brigades **1st Bn., 6th Inf.** operating about 20 miles west of Tam Ky as a part of the Americal Div. Operation Wheeler/Wallowa.

The food was evacuated through four miles of enemy territory through a joint American-Vietnamese effort.

Halted For Lunch

Company commander CPT Carl A. Gruggel, of Pittsburgh, Pa., had just halted his men for lunch when the discovery was made.

"One of the men sat down on what he thought was a soft spot in the grass, and it turned out to be the tunnel entrance," Gruggel said.

"Compared to most tunnels we've found, this one looked like a turnpike. "There was a room at the end of the tunnel that contained 132 bags of polished rice. The bags were too heavy to carry, so we used buckets to move the rice out," he said.

2 Tons Total

MAJ Frederick W. Tonsing, brigade civic action officer, said the tunnel contained a total of two tons of rice.

There was enough to give each resident of a three-hamlet complex in the Ni Lac Son area, near where the rice was found. two pounds.

A "convoy" made up of two squads of the **1/6 Inf.** company, a platoon of Popular Force soldiers and about 600 of the villagers carried the rice back to the village with only minor resistance from the enemy.

198th Soldier Captures Gun With Mad Dash
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Combat In Review

198th Soldier Captures Gun With Mad Dash

LZ BAYONET--To the men of the 198th Inf. Bde. stationed here, it's simply "Gallion's Gun."

To SGT Richard L. Gallion, however, it was an obstacle that had to be removed, a mad dash forward, a hand grenade thrown on the run.

The huge Chinese-made 12.7 mm antiaircraft machinegun now stands silently in front of the brigade headquarters here.

When Gallion, with Co. B of the brigades **1st Bn., 6th Inf.**, first encountered it, however, it was not very quiet.

The men of the Anaheim, Calif., sergeant's company were making their way up the side of a hill some 15 miles west of Tam Ky when enemy fire suddenly cracked around them. they returned the fire and crawled slowly forward.

The first things we ran into were enemy spider holes and bunkers," recalled 1LT Melvin D. Carney, a "Regulars" platoon leader.

Then the North Vietnamese gun crew opened up on the soldiers.

It pinned them down. They could hear the gun, but could not see it.

To move meant almost certain death.

Gallion moved.

Spotting the heavy machine gun hidden in the elephant grass, the sergeant stormed forward, armed with only an M-16 rifle and four hand grenades.

Throwing his grenades on the run, Gallion charged straight into the fire. One of the gun's huge bullets tore the helmet from his head and creased his scalp. Another ripped through his arm.

Nothing could stop the determination to destroy the menace.

Bursting into the position, he finished off the gun crew before it could escape.

With the heavy weapon silenced, the rest of the company rushed up the slope to mop up the remaining enemy and to take the hill.

[Historian Note: Per phone conversation with Melvin D. Carney, the platoon leader, Sgt Gallion's charge distracted the enemy. This allowed two of his men to climb a tree up to the level of the bunker and fire a LAW into the enemy bunker. This resulted in the destruction of the bunker.]

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Regulars 'Lower Boom'

Hill 69--Six 198th Inf. Bde. soldiers "lowered the boom" on some unwelcome visitors trying to slip past their night defenses recently.

The six caught an enemy force in a draw underneath their bunkers and killed 17 in a furious 15 minutes of pitching grenades.

The **Co. A, 1st Bn., 6th Inf. "Regulars"** used more than 200 grenades to foil the enemy attempt to enter their perimeter. Their grenadier fired another 80 rounds into the attackers.

"Our platoon leader and sergeant rushed over with a machinegun and more grenades," said SGT Phillip G. Martocci, "but by then it was almost over. The machinegun, however, got six as they tried to get away."

A patrol the next morning captured a Viet Cong who said more dead and wounded had been carried away during the night.

**Sleep By Light,
Fight By Night**

LZ BAYONET--"Know the enemy so that you may beat him at his own game," is a proverb that has gained much credence lately with one unit of the 198th Inf. Bde.

Using the VC-NVA tactics of resting during daylight and moving at night, **the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. has** denied the enemy the use of a former stronghold in the division AO.

The Ky Sanh Valley, northwest of here, had often been the scene of extensive activity by Viet Cong rocket teams. By maintaining security during the day, companies saturated the "rocket pocket" with ambushes and night patrols.

"By using saturation patrols we have denied the VC their night activities," said LT Alphonso Ramieres, a platoon leader with Co. D of the "Regulars." "We've actually been able to seal off the valley."

These night operations have netted seven enemy killed, seven weapons captured, including a sniper rifle with scope, and nine VC have been captured, including a platoon leader, squad leader, and nurse with medical supplies.

"The VC know we're here, but we vary our routes and ambushes so much they can't keep track of us," PFC Lorne White, a Co. D machinegunner, said. "Once it gets dark the Viet Cong just don't know where we've moved."

**Recon Platoon
Routs Enemy**

LZ BAYONET--Ordinarily, the primary function of a reconnaissance platoon is to obtain information about enemy activities. When actual contact is made with enemy forces, however, more often than not the recon initiates it.

Although the informational aspect of the recon platoon's mission comes first, a chance to destroy the enemy is never passed up.

Such a time was Aug. 5 for 1LT Michael Cooper and his reconnaissance platoon of the **1st Bn., 6th Inf., 198th Inf. Bde.**

Chow, Then Action

The location was the southern Dragon Valley, approximately six miles northwest of Chu Lai. The lieutenant explained that the platoon had set up a defensive perimeter and were relaxing after chow.

The serenity was suddenly broken by the cracking of automatic weapons fire. Twenty-three-year-old SP4 Boyd Rader from Harrisburg, Pa., had spotted an NVA soldier and had "opened up" on him.

The NVA force, an estimated two platoons in strength, responded with automatic weapons fire and grenades from two directions. As the heavy fire continued, the NVA attempted to flank the platoon's position.

Artillery Support

LT Cooper made a hurried call for artillery support and helicopter gunships. In describing the ensuing battle, the platoon leader said, "The helicopter gunships came within 25 to 50 meters of our position, and that a hail of firepower in the form of grenades, rockets, and mini-gun rounds that proved too much for the enemy force. The NVA force withdrew, leaving behind three bodies.

Six hours later, the recon platoon was extracted from the area, a but unnerved, but otherwise unscathed.

198th Kills 17

In All-Day Fight

LZ BAYONET--"Regulars" of the 198th Inf. Bde. and supporting air power recently killed 17 NVA in the highland region, known as "Rocket Ridge," southwest of Chu Lai.

The battle began early in the morning when infantrymen of **Co. C, 1st Bn., 6th Inf.**, engaged a single NVA near a small clearing. As they moved forward they came under automatic weapons and machinegun fire from several concealed bunkers.

While the point element returned enemy fire, the remainder of the company attempted to flank the enemy positions. As the "Regulars" moved they were taken under fire by other enemy bunkers. Helicopter gunships and jet fighters were called in for support.

Pitched Battle

Under the cover of miniguns and 20mm cannon fire the men advanced. A pitched battle of grenades and small arms fire developed.

"We used fire and maneuver to work our way up to each bunker," LT Michael Myers, a C Co. platoon leader said.

As the battle developed, Co. D soldiers moved in to take the enemy-infested hilltop from the rear. The lead element spotted five NVA attempting to flee. Hand grenades and small arms fire killed three and drove the others back into the undergrowth.

Well-Concealed Bunkers

Air strikes were called within 200 meters of Co. D as they came under heavy automatic weapons fire from concealed bunkers. "Those bunkers were unbelievable," said SGT Peter Bedford, a Co. D squad leader. "You couldn't see them until you were almost standing on top of them."

With the arrival of darkness, artillery was brought in between Cos. C and D. which were only 600 meters apart.

With the exception of some light contact with snipers, the ridge was taken without incident the next day.

A thorough sweep of the area uncovered 17 enemy bodies, 21 fortified bunkers, 23 covered fighting positions, two automatic weapons positions, one 122 rocket, one AK-47, more than 500 rounds of AK-47 ammunition, ten 60mm mortar rounds, plus a large amount of NVA individual equipment and supplies.

Photo Captions-

- (1) **Brave and Bold' troops board chopper for extraction.** (Note helicopter has a minuteman painted on the tail, 176 on the door. One the nose is "075" and the words "THE INSERTER".
- (2) **198th soldier scans hut for VC.**
- (3) **Cavalry mortarmen support operation in 'Dragon Valley'**
- (4) **Medic treats burned Son Tra victim (small child).**
- (5) **Kit Carson scouts lead patrol.**
- (5) **MP 'River Rats' check junk for enemy contraband.**
- (6) **Engineers add final touch to brigade chapel.**

Not yet 18 months old, the 198th Inf. Bde. has gone from the practice field of Fort Hood, Tex., to the hills and jungles of Operations Burlington Trail and Wheeler/Wallowa and the rice paddies of Muscatine to prove itself equal to any combat demands, as the youngest "seasoned veterans" in Vietnam.

On The Move

Always mobile, the 198th units have operated from Duc Pho to just south of Da Nang in pursuit of the enemy. They have gone west of Chu Lai to areas either untouched before by American soldiers or unsearched for years.

Nearly 19-1 Kill Ratio

During its search and clear missions the "Brave and Bold" brigade has killed more than 1,200 enemy. The head-on battles have been few, but in three major battles the enemy losses were 499 compared to the 198th's 28, a ratio of nearly 19-1.

Units have uncovered huge weapons caches, thousands of rounds of ammunition tons of rice, medical supplies, and enemy buildings.

Fighting disease, more than 82,000 Vietnamese, or nearly 8,000 per month, have been treated during MEDCAPs by 198th civic action soldiers.

Aid To Education

Numerous repairs and construction of schools, wells, roads, and market places have been made. In addition more than 70 primary and secondary school scholarships were awarded to Vietnamese by 198th personnel during the last school term.

Consists of 4 Battalions

Commanded by COL Charles B. Thomas, the 198th consists of four infantry battalions: 1st Bn., 6th Inf.; 1st Bn., 46th Inf.; 1st Bn., 52nd Inf.; and 5th Bn., 46th Inf. Other brigade units are the 1st Bn., 14th Arty.; the support battalion; H Trp., 17th Cav.; Co. B, 26th Engr. Bn.; and the 57th Scout Dog Plt.

Story and Photos

By 198th Inf. Bde.

**100,000th Vietnamese
Treated By 198th Bde.**

Photo Caption - WITH SKILLED HANDS a 198th Inf. Bde. medic, SP5 Paul D. Kerr of the 1st Bn., 52nd Inf., swabs medication on the sores of a young Vietnamese boy during a medical visit northwest of Tam Ky. Each week more than 2,000 civilians are treated by the "Brave and Bold" MEDCAP program. (Photo by 1LT Robert F. Garrigan, 198th Inf. Bde.)

**By PFC WALTER JACKSON
198th Inf. Bde.**

LZ BAYONET--The 198th Inf. Bde's Medical Civic Action Program (MEDCAP) reached a milestone of service last month by treating its 100,000th Vietnamese patient since the brigade arrived here a year ago.

The impressive total was reached a week before the brigade's first anniversary in Vietnam when a young Vietnamese woman trained to give medical assistance by the **1st Bn., 6th Inf.** treated the 100,000th patient. The 198th joined the Americal at Chu Lai on Oct 23, 1967.

2,000 Treated A Week

About 2,000 civilians are treated each week as a result of the "Brave and Bold" brigade's MEDCAP program, which is designed to help raise the health standards of the local population.

"Treating injuries is only a small portion of our work," according to SSG Beauregard Lee of the 198th civil affairs office. "We are trying to get the people to practice good health habits. Preventive medicine and medical hygiene are stressed in our visits to the villages.

Starting Them Young

One of the brigade's recent projects directed toward this goal was a poster competition held among school children in the Binh Son district. Prizes were given for the best posters showing good health habits, such as brushing teeth, bathing and washing clothes.

Lee said the MEDCAP program is a continuing success. "One of the biggest problems we treat is skin disease," he said, "and these have shown a significant decrease in areas we've worked."

Sentry Sees Spots

Feline Felled

By SP4 BRIAN KATEN

198th Inf. Bde.

LZ BAYONET--When a sentry starts seeing spots before his eyes he has usually been staring at that same old stump in front of his position for too long.

When PFC Michael L. Rogers (Baltimore), a 198th Inf. Bde. mortarman with **Co. D, 1st Bn., 6th Inf.**, saw spots he had a good reason. The spots were on a 95-pound female leopard that was walking straight at him.

"I had about 15 minutes of guard left when I saw something crawling under the wire," recalled Rogers.

Large Caller

"It was awfully low in the wire and I realized it was some kind of large cat. It was pretty dark and I really couldn't tell what kind of a cat it was, but it was definitely large.

"Once she got through the wire she started walking straight for me. I really couldn't believe it was happening.

Well-Placed Shot

"When she was about eight feet away I finally got it in my mind it really was a leopard walking at me. I raised my M-16 and aimed for the heart. When I fired she jumped about three feet and started running. I fired a couple of shots and started yelling because she ran into the perimeter."

"I was in the bunker when Mike started yelling and shooting," recalled SP4 Tom McQuillan (Chicago).

"All I could hear was him yelling 'You guys better get out of here, there's a tiger in the perimeter.'"

"I was pretty excited," continued Rogers. "We searched the perimeter and found a blood trail leading back out through the wire.

"The next morning we followed a blood trail about 500 feet past the wire and found the leopard."

The carcass was evacuated to a fire support base where a skinner went to work making what will eventually become a prized trophy.

Photo Caption - Ejected, But Not Dejected

While writing a letter to your loved ones, it really does not matter where you are, as long as happy thoughts are flowing onto the paper. Case in point is PFC John A. Williams of Deepwater, Mo., who uses a discarded ejection seat from a jet plane as his place of inspiration. A recent graduate of the Americal Combat Center, Williams is assigned to **Co. C, 1st Bn., 6th Inf., 198th Inf. Bde.** (Photo by SP4 Bill Guarrant, Photo Editor)



Ejected, But Not Dejected

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3 Battalions Have New Commanders

Three Americal battalions have had changes of command recently.

LTC Sinclair L. Meiner has assumed command of the 196th Inf. Bde.'s 2nd Bn., 1st Inf.; LTC A.J. Dombrowsky takes command of the 198th Inf. Bde.'s 1st Bn., 6th Inf.; and LTC Richard M. Raunswinder will command the 11th Inf. Bde.'s 6th Spt. Bn.

LTC Meiner replaces LTC Robert B. Nelson; LTC Robert B. Nelson; LTC Dombrowsky replaces LTC William D. Kelley; and LTC Raunswinder replaces LTC Ralph R. Rusche.

**-Special Services Gathers Local Talent-
Holiday Show To Take 'Sound' To The Field**

A new concept in service entertainment will be displayed during the Christmas season under the guidance of SP4 Bill Hutchinson, director of the Americal Special Services entertainment branch.

"We're going to be the first unit in Vietnam to bring an all-local talent show to the fire support bases. Most of the entertainers, however, were professionals before entering the service," Hutchinson said.

The idea for the local talent show was fathered by LTC Bernard L.J. Callahan, the division adjutant general.

To Fill USO Gap

"We thought this might bring a note of holiday spirit to the field," the lieutenant colonel noted. "The shows we are getting from the USO and other Stateside sources are too infrequent.

"These outside shows cannot remain with us long enough to appear at all the fire support bases and landing zones."

Soul Singing Soldier

SP4 Cornell W. ("Mr. C-4") Yates, a soul music singer who wrote and recorded with the "Mel-Tones" the hit song "Come On over," is the featured vocalist. He is with the 3rd Bn., 1st Inf., 11th Inf. Bde.

Yates has appeared on the stage with such popular recording stars as the "Temptations," "The Four Tops," and "Shep and the Limelighters." He has appeared as a solo act at Harlem's famed Apollo Theater.

The singing soldier also recorded "Temptation Walk" and has written a number called "Merry Christmas GI" for the Special Services show.

'Aunt Willie's Band'

The featured rock-group "Aunt Willie's Memorial Band," has SP4 John B. Clapp III, **1st Bn., 6th Inf., 198th Inf. Bde.**, as lead guitarist; PFC Fisher de Zavelos, 1st Sqdn., 1st Armored Cav., on bass; Hutchinson, 1st Bn., 46th Inf., 198th Inf. Bde., on drums; and a former concert pianist, PFC Tom Cronon from the 23rd Admin. Co.

"We're presently auditioning horns to enable us to better play the latest sounds," Hutchinson said. "We're looking for a trombonist as well as a sax man.

"We expect to open at the Chu Lai amphitheater before 10,000 men about one week before Christmas and then go on tour until a week after.

"A surprise act is in rehearsal right now," he added, "and the addition of these American girls to our 90-minute show should really be a big thing."

Christmas '68 Brings Hope to 18,000 Troops

CHU LAI-- With a plane-load of pretty girls and a bagful of laughs, Bob Hope looking for all the world like Santa Claus brightened up the Chu Lai scene Christmas Eve.

Hope and his troupe entertained an estimated 18,000 Americal soldiers, Marines, Seabees, and sailors under almost perfect weather conditions in the Chu Lai Amphitheater.

"It's great to be here at this military ghetto," the GI's perennial overseas entertainer quipped as he came on stage.

From then on, Hope had the huge audience laughing, yelling, and even crying during the hour and 45 minutes of his colorful show.

Secret Arrival

The exact arrival date for the troupe and the show time were closely guarded secrets until 12 hours before the show, but rumors quickly filtered through the Chu Lai area days beforehand.

The day before Christmas Eve, a number of soldiers and Marines were already homesteading seats close to the front.

When asked why he was at the amphitheater so early, one soldier joked, "I just thought I'd sleep out here for a change."

Included in the audience were almost 700 troops from remote fire bases of the 11th and the 196th Inf. Bdes. and the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav., who were flown in by Chinook helicopters just to see the show.

Security Provided

The 5th Bn., 46th Inf., and **1st Bn., 6th Inf.**, both of the 198th Inf. Bde., provided security for the immediate Chu Lai area during the performance.

The mobile dental clinic from the 219th Med. Det. was on hand to take advantage of the early, large crowd, treating approximately 40 of the soldiers who were waiting. Hospital patients, some walking, some in wheelchairs, all in blue hospital gowns, were ushered into the stage front seats.

Surrounding them were men from all services who sat anywhere there was room--leaned against fences and posts, on top of trucks, on faraway buildings with binoculars.

A fleet of Marine Chinook helicopters was employed to ferry the troupe and technical crew from Da Nang to the Chu Lai Admin. pad.

Convoys of trucks and buses then transported the performers to the headquarters area, where they enjoyed their first real meal in several days, Hope commented.

The chow was prepared by the Americal consolidated mess.

This year's Christmas show featured 19 girls and two men, besides Hope.

Included in the cast were:

-Ann-Margret, beautiful and talented dancer-singer-actress, who openly admits to being "very proud of all the guys over here"

-Blonde singer Linda Bennett

-Miss World, Penelope Plummer

-The Honey, Ltd., four mini-skirted misses from Detroit, Mich.

-121 young beauties called the Gold-diggers

-Former football star Roosevelt (Rosey) Grier

-And Dick Albers, a world-renowned trampolinist

Music for the show was provided by Les Brown and his Band of Renown, who have traveled overseas with Hope every year except one since 1948.

This was Bob Hope's fifth visit to Vietnam, and his 27th year of providing entertainment for American servicemen both at home and abroad.

Photo Captions.....

198th PF TRAINING PROGRAM SUPPLEMENTS LOCAL SECURITY

LZ BAYONET-A program designed to raise the quality and level of Popular Forces (PF) participation in local security efforts has been initiated by the 19[8]th Inf. Bde.

The 1st Bn., 6th Inf. is conducting the training of PF platoons in three day cycles that emphasize modern weaponry, tactics, and leadership.

An important by-product of the training is an increased rapport that develops between Vietnamese and American soldiers.

The program calls for a platoon of PFs to be attached to a company of Americans for a three-day cycle, participating in ambushes and taking part in the battalion's patrol plan.

Instruction includes safety, assembly, and disassembly of the M-161 rifle, the M-79 grenade launcher, and the M-60 machinegun.

Photo Caption: UNDER THE GUIDANCE of a 1st Bn., 6th Inf. trooper, this Popular Forces soldier inspects the bore of an M-16 rifle. Both men were participating in a program to update the training of PFs near Chu Lai (Photo by SP4 Mike Sullivan, 198th Inf. Bde.)



UNDER THE GUIDANCE of a 1st Bn., 6th Inf. trooper, this Popular Forces soldier inspects the bore of an M-16 rifle. Both men were participating in a program to update the training of PFs near Chu Lai. (Photo by SP4 Mike Sullivan, 198th Inf. Bde.)

1/6 Receives

Valor Award

CHU LAI--"For extraordinary heroism while engaged in military operations," the **1st Bn., 6th Inf., 198th Inf. Bde. recently became the first unit in the division to win the U.S. Army Valorous Unit Award.**

While conducting a search operation south of the hamlet of Lo Giang in QuangNam Province on Feb. 7, 1968, C Co. was pinned down by a heavy attack from an enemy force of unknown size.

A Co. moved from north of the hamlet to help out, but came under a barrage of small arms, rocket, and mortar fire.

The lead element held their ground to cover the withdrawing remainder of the company, and engaged the Viet Cong in savage hand-to-hand combat to halt a human wave attack that followed the barrage.

Their inspired fighting temporarily repulsed the enemy, and enabled the rest of the company to regroup and launch a counterattack which drove the VC back into the hamlet.

At the same time, B Co. arrived and thrust in to help out the beleaguered C Co. in repelling the enemy.

The three companies then completely destroyed the Viet Cong force, killing more than 250.

Division Blunts Enemy's Post-TET Drive

Combat In Review

Launch Site

Uncovered

CHU LAI-The next best thing to stopping a rocket attack before it starts is quickly pinpointing the launch site and then catching suspected rocketeers before they get away.

Thanks to the fast reaction of the division radar personnel, observers in the field, and the 123rd Avn. Bn., that is just what happened in the Chu Lai area on morning during the post-TET offensive.

Detect Rocket Flash

Eleven 122mm rockets were fired into the Chu Lai Defense Command (CLDC) area at 6:25 a.m. on March 4, and shortly thereafter, a confirmed launch site had been located and five military-age males detained as enemy suspects.

Americal counter-mortar and counter-rocket radar spotted a probable launch site by zeroing in on the rocket flashes.

The site also was reported by a 198th Inf. Bde. observer for the **1st Bn., 6th Inf.** in the field, and gunships of the 123rd Avn. Bn. were scrambled from Chu Lai to check the site.

Nab Rocketeers

The choppers found a launch location five miles southwest of Chu Lai and detained the five suspects in the vicinity.

A half hour later, a recon unit of the **1/6 Inf.** reached the site and found 11 blast areas, 11 bipods, 11 shipping plugs, nine rocket caps, aiming stakes, and packing crates.

The rockets brought the total number to 86 expended on the CLDC (Chu Lai Defense Command) since the current enemy offensive began Feb. 23.

Photo Caption: 50,000th MEDCAP

SP4 Carl J. Aikens (Bay City, Mich.), a medic working with the **1st Bn., 6th Inf.** civil affairs section, removes a sliver from the foot of a bemused Vietnamese youngster. The recent MEDCAP visit was the 50,000th held by 1/6 in the Ky Sanh village area. (Photo by PFC Art Noel, 198th IO)



50,000th MEDCAP

SP4 Carl J. Aikens (Bay City, Mich.), a medic working with the **1st Bn., 6th Inf.** civil affairs section, removes a sliver from the foot of a bemused Vietnamese youngster. The recent MEDCAP visit was the 50,000th held by 1/6 in the Ky Sanh village area. (Photo by PFC Art Noel, 198th IO).

RINGO TRIPS IT

MULRONEY SKIPS

CHU LAI--Luck was with PFC Thomas Mulroney (Newport, Ky.) when his scout dog, Ringo, tripped a booby-trapped grenade recently.

Mulroney, 20, of the 57th Inf. Plt. (Scout Dog) and Ringo were walking point for **B Co., 1st Bn., 6th Inf.** seven miles west of here when the incident occurred.

"I heard the wire snap and the spoon fly off the grenade," said Mulroney.

The scrambling dog handler got about 10 feet and hit the ground when the grenade exploded. No one was hurt in the blast. (198th IO)

HEY, CUZ, THE NAMES

THE SAME

LZ BAYONET--An American mentioned an interesting coincidence in a letter to his father, which produced unexpected results.

SP4 Ralph G. Cooksey Jr. (St. Petersburg, Fla.), B Co.

1st Bn, 6th Inf. noted in a letter home that one of the Assistant Division Commanders had the same last name as their family.

Unknown to the 198th Bde. soldier, his father began investigating the family tree, which revealed SP4 Cooksey and BG Howard W. Cooksey were in fact second cousins.

Ralph's father immediately wrote BG Cooksey. The general answered the elder Cooksey's letter, adding that he would arrange a meeting with Ralph Jr.

The two newly-found cousins met and talked at the battalion's forward fire base Fat City, north of Chu Lai.

SP4 Cooksey later asked how it felt having a General as a cousin replied, "I really don't feel any different than before," and pointed out that "our conversation was centered around other members of the family."

Each has gone his own way again. BG Cooksey has moved to Long Binh to be Deputy Chief of Staff for Plans and Operations at Hqs. USARV, and SP4 Cooksey remains with his company at LZ Bayonet near Chu Lai.

(198th IO)

New COs

Join Units

CHU LAI - The Americal Div. welcomed two new brigade commanders and a trio of new battalion COs to its ranks in recent weeks.

The reins of the 196th Inf. Bde. were taken by COL Thomas H. Tackaberry (Fairfax, Va.), while COL Jere O. Whittington (Kilgore, Tex.) is the new leader of the 198th.

COL Tackaberry, who succeeded COL Frederick Kroesen, came to Vietnam after serving as military assistant in the office of the Under-secretary of the Army in Washington. He previously served here from July 1966 to July 1967. He is married with four children.

COL Kroesen was reassigned to the Pentagon.

The new "Brave and Bold" commander, COL Whittington, took over from COL Robert B. Tully who was reassigned to Headquarters, Department of the Army.

COL Whittington served a previous tour here as a MACV advisor at TUY HOA, in 1964-65 and most recently served in the Pentagon with the office of the Joint Chief's of Staff.

Also married and the father of four children, the 198th CO resides in McLean, Va.

The three battalion changes of command consisted of two new infantry CO's and one new armored squadron leader.

LTC Clarence T. Campbell (Rockfield, Md.) took over the 2nd Bn., 1st Inf., 196th Bde. from LTC Sinclair L. Melner; LTC Albert J. Smith (Fairfax, Va.) replaced LTC Jack C. Davis with the 4th Bn., 3rd Inf., 11th Bde.; and LTC John H. Dure is the new leader of the "Dragoons" of the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav., assuming command from LTC Phillip Bolte.

Photo Caption: **MEDCAP Milestone**

"Brave and Bold" medic from 1st Bn., 6th Inf., SP4 Carl J. Aikens (Bay City, Mich.), removes a splinter from the foot of the 50,000 MEDCAP patient from the Ky Sanh Village area. (Photo by SP4 Art Noel, 523rd Sig. Bn.)



MEDCAP Milestone

"Brave and Bold" medic from 1st Bn., 6th Inf., SP4 Carl J. Aikens (Bay City, Mich.), removes a splinter from the foot of the 50,000 MEDCAP patient from the Ky Sanh Village area. (Photo by SP4 Art Noel, 523rd Sig. Bn.)

'Regulars' Rebuild LZ

LZ BAYONET--Converting an infantry battalion base camp from a tent enclave into an enlarged, permanent wood and tin area can be more than a minor chore in a combat zone.

Rear area personnel are at a premium and carpentry seems to be an "on the job" learned expertise.

In spite of problems, infantrymen of the **1st Bn., 6th Inf.** found a solution. And the rear area at LZ Bayonet is not the same as it was a month ago.

Wood Replaces Canvas

The canvas is gone. There are 48 permanent wood and tin structures where tents once stood. Wood floor and walls and corrugated tin roofs have replaced weather-worn, faded green tarpaulins.

The job was done by the men themselves--infantry-men, cooks, jeep drivers and supervisory personnel. Working around operational commitments, they raised the buildings in one month.

"Whenever they had a few free minutes, or a day back in base camp from the field, they sawed a board here and nailed a plank," said MAJ Theodore G. Kershaw (Carmel, Calif.), Bn. XO.

Work Pays Off

"Sure, it was a lot of hard work," said SGT Don Beck (Prichard, Ala.), a field veteran now in the rear area. "But I was tired of canvas. So when we got the wood and nails, it was no problem getting it done."

Some have even called it a luxury. Medic SP5 John Kephart (Burlington, Iowa) remarked: "Just get the roads paved and some shad trees planted, and this place will be an R&R center before you know it." (198th IO)

Combat In Review

**DOG VICTOR
OVER CONG**

LZ BAYONET - A scout dog put a group of Viet Cong in their superiors doghouse recently and helped to find a booty of 23 mortar rounds in the process.

It began when a 40-pound German Shepherd named "Dix" sensed something while he and his handler, PFC Roger M. Collins (Mt. Airy, N.C.) of the 57th Inf. Plt. (Scoutdog) were on a night ambush patrol with the **1st Bn., 6th Inf. near LZ Bayonet.**

"We were heading toward our first checkpoint when the dog started to lead us off to the side," recalled SP4 Rudy Lopez (La Puente, Calif.), The patrol leader of the squad comprised of soldiers from The battalions HHC.

The dog led the 198th Bde. squad to the edge of a sand berm where they saw 19 82mm mortar rounds scattered on the ground around two freshly dug holes.

"I guess we interrupted someone from digging up these rounds and using them," Collins said.

But the enemy the "Brave and Bold" unit interrupted continued to lurk nearby and "Dix" sensed something awry.

"This time he's telling us there are people around," the canine's handler advised the patrol. The men took cover at the base of the sand berm.

"We were in a bad position to move forward since 'Charlie' was on the high ground and we had very little cover," Lopez recalled.

But the men, many of whom normally work as cooks, carpenters, and clerks at the battalion basecamp held their position and the Viet Cong moved from the area. (198th IO)

**ITT COURSE SIMULATES FIELD;
READIES GRUNTS FOR COMBAT**

By SP5 JIM KELLEY

LZ BAYONET - The infantryman's eyes narrowed as he focused on the dense foliage before him.

It looked as if it would be safe to move through the high grass, so PFC James L. Kirkland Jr. (Miami, Fla.) stepped steadily on.

Suddenly it hit. The first booby trap was tripped and Kirkland knew what patrolling with the 198th Inf. Bde's **1st Bn. 6th Inf.** was all about.

ITT Course

For the lanky soldier it was only a teaching experience, however, for he was the first newly arrived infantryman of the "Brave and Bold" to through the 1st Bn. 6th Inf. ITT combat course here.

"That course will definitely- help me be more observant after I've been sent to the field," Kirkland said as he moved on through the first and second phases of the exercise.

"The course is outstanding," remarked SP4 Robert E. Johnson (Chicago) a veteran of eight months in the field. "The booby traps are so realistic that when we hit the first few I was scared."

The new course constructed on LZ Bayonet, basecamp of the 198th Bde. and rear headquarters for the battalion, will help cut down the number of casualties suffered from booby traps.

Just Like Field

It will be included in the physical Training classes For all newly arrived personnel to the battalion.

Consisting of two phases, the first part of the course includes pop-up targets of both enemy- and friendly troops, along with 15 to 20 hidden smoke and CS grenades.

Phase two is comprised of a search and clear operation and a fire and movement mission made more difficult by booby traps and pop-up targets.

"This gives the men an idea of what they are likely to find in the field," explained SP5 Fred Teer (Corpus Christi, Tex.), one of the course instructors. (198th IO)

198th Locates Elaborate Enemy Basecamp

CHU LAI--Division infantrymen uncovered an abandoned battalion-size enemy basecamp believed to have housed an estimated 200 enemy soldiers.

Located approximately 15 miles west of Chu Lai, the camp was found overlooking a 125-foot cliff and nestled in heavy underbrush.

"It was a pretty permanent setup, complete with running water, showers, and multi-story huts," said MAJ Theodore Kershaw (Carmel, Calif.), operations officer of the 198th Inf. Bde.'s **1st Bn., 6th Inf.**, whose B Co. found the encampment.

As B Co. approached the camp, they crossed two bamboo bridges, only access to the well-hidden camp. Enemy soldiers apparently abandoned the area three to six days before it was discovered.

The area contained several large hootches, one of which a 15 ft. by 75 ft. three level structure with an underground bunker, sleeping space, and an attic for storage. Another large hootch housed sleeping facilities.

"It seems they had an elaborate system of running water and showers," said SP4 William Siegle (Farmington, N.J.), a radio-telephone operator at the battalion tactical operations center. "They even had a chicken coop and stock pens."

CPT Richard Jessop (Knightstown, Ind.), CO of B Co., said, "This place looks like it's been here for quite some time, and I wouldn't be surprised if we don't find more sites like it."

CPT Jessop's unit is one of three companies of 1-6 sweeping rugged jungle area with elements of the 6th ARVN Regt. (Americal IO)

INF. SEIZES AND DESTROYS
ENEMY BASE

By PFC BILL EFTINK

LZ BRONCO -- B Co. toiled slowly up the steep slopes of Hill 1362, west of Chu Lai, each man straining for the first glimpse of the objective.

These 198th Bde. soldiers from the **1st Bn. 6th Inf.** were in search of an enemy base camp reported to be in the area. Two men near the head of the company had not started looking yet; they knew the camp was on the other side of the hill. They knew because they had been there before.

SSG Ronald On (Wichita Falls, Tex.) and SF4 Franklin Cole (Westbury, N.Y.) were guiding the company into an area they last saw only two weeks before. At that time SSG On was the leader of a recon element of G Co., 75 Inf. (Rangers) and SP4 Cole was his pointman.

The Ranger element had been inserted into the area by helicopter looking for traces of the elusive enemy. The first indication of enemy activity was the appearance of three enemy soldiers.

In an effort to avoid being seen, the team inadvertently walked into the well-concealed base camp.

"We just ran right through when they saw us," said On. The unit broke contact and later was lifted out by helicopter.

But as SSG On led B Co. into the camp, even he was surprised at the size and complexity of it.

"We just thought it was one hootch," he remarked. That one building turned out to be part of a massive bunker and base camp complex hidden on the side of the hill.

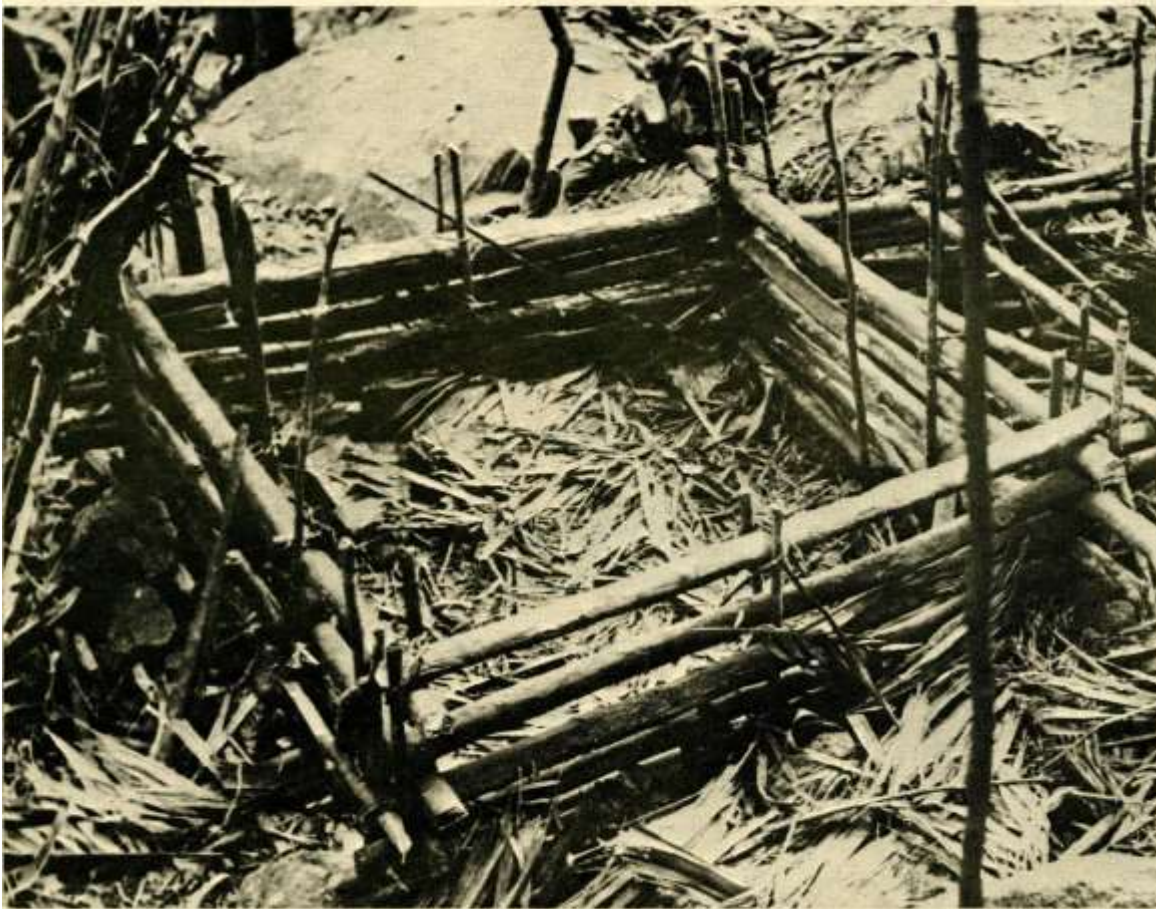
Gone from the camp were the enemy soldiers, estimated at 200, but they left behind a well hidden, highly strategic encampment comprised of many structures--the largest of which was a three level 15 by 75 foot bamboo house. Other hootches, storage areas and stock pens dotted the hillside.

The camp, which at first seemed almost inaccessible did not prove so. One week after B Co. arrived, the combat engineers of B Co., 26th Engr. Bn. started a jungle renewal program to force the enemy to find a new home.

With cool precision, the engineers used 1500 pounds of explosives to turn the base camp into smoking rubble. (198th IO)

Photo Captions:

1) These livestock pens held the food supply for the estimated 200-man enemy basecamp.



These livestock pens held the food supply for the estimated 200-man enemy basecamp.

2) "Nobody home but us tunnel rats." This soldier emerges smiling after searching a deserted tunnel.



"Nobody home but us tunnel rats." This soldier emerges smiling after searching a deserted tunnel.

- 3) A 198th Bde. soldier descends a ladder after checking out a "treehouse" probably used for storing rice at the large basecamp.



A 198th Bde. soldier descends a ladder after checking out a "treehouse" probably used for storing rice at the large basecamp.

- 4) 1-6 soldiers search two thatched-roof buildings camouflaged on a hillside by triple canopy.



1-6 soldiers search two thatched-roof buildings camouflaged on a hillside by triple canopy.

'Saturday Night At The Movies'

VILLAGERS WILD OVER FLICKS

by SGT Alfred Anthony, Jr.

KUONG: MY - One time the show was so exciting a Montagnard shot an arrow through the movie screen.

Things were more routine in the small village of Kuong MY, four miles west of Chu Lai when the division's mobile audiovisual team "HF-35" was showing its nightly movie.

CPT William D. Hyde (Merced, Calif.) and 1LT James Porter (Washington, Mo.), 1st Bn., 6th Inf. civil affairs officers for the 198th Bde., had brought the team to this small hamlet.

"The purpose is to bring information on recent government changes," said CPT Hyde. "The people in most of the villages in the brigade's AO have no means of keeping informed - they don't get newspapers." he said.

"During the election," added LT. Porter, "we showed films where the candidates spoke their views directly to the people - it was a big help."

For many villagers. The American movie team is their only link with the outside.

The backbone of the team is an ingenious three-quarter ton truck with its Familiar "Snoopy on the doghouse" painted along the sides. The audio-visual container on the back houses its own generator, portable screen, projector and film library..

In Kuong My, during the real changes the Americans got shouts of "Batman! Superman!" from the children swarming around the truck, while the village elders sat raptly in front of the screen, interested in the current news features about their country.

"These movies are all in Vietnamese," said 1LT Horner T. Hodge (Paramount, Calif.), "but a lot of times we show westerns and as long as they've got good action we've got a good audience."

"Part of our job is to provide entertainment," CPT Hyde interjected, "It's not propaganda -- We just show the films and hope they enjoy them, we've found enthusiastic audiences everywhere."

"In a Montagnard village we found the most enthusiasm ever," said Lt. Porter. "We were showing a cowboy and Indian flick and the tribesmen actually thought the movie was real. They got so caught up in it that in a scene where the Indians were charging toward the audience, two men got up and put crossbow arrows through the screen."

SSG Loy, a Vietnamese interpreter-and the projectionists an indispensable part of the team.

Before the showing, Loy calls over the loudspeaker, introducing the show. He's not Ed Sullivan, but he certainly fills the house - or the street, as the case may be.

When the show's over, the village square takes on an atmosphere strangely reminiscent of old, familiar movie houses. The crowd thins and files between the dark houses to the outer reaches of the village and Kuong My goes to bed - a little more informed. (198th IO)

6-56 ARTY LEFT A PARADISE
By SGT ALFRED ANTHONY JR.

KY HOA ISLAND--Heavy triangular sails pull the fisherman and their families of this island out into the South China Sea each morning and bring them back at dusk. Ky Hoa is refuge of peace, rare in Vietnam.

When the 6th Bn., 56th Arty departed the Americal for the United States, it turned over civil affairs responsibility for this island paradise to the 198th Inf. Bde.'s 1st Bn., 6th Inf.

Before he departed for home, CPT Michael D.Foncellino (Patchogue, N.Y.) civil affairs officer for the artillery unit drew an informal picture of the island and its people for CPT William D. Hyde (Merced, Calif.), civil affairs officer I-6.

"There are no Viet Cong on Hoa Island, said CPT Foncellino. Situated just north of Chu Lai, across the Truong Giang River, Ky Hoa from the air looks propeller-shaped. At sea level it is a south sea island paradise - tall, strong coconut palms stretching out from the beach's edge. For the 6,000 inhabitants, fishing is their chief means of income, and one can always see fishing nets hanging on four-foot poles along the island's magnificent shore.

For years the artillery's Hawk Missiles sat poised atop the only hill on Ky Hoa. But now the 6-56 is gone.

"One of our first projects is to find new jobs for the 200 villagers who worked on the missile compound," said CPT Hyde.

"We are planning to pave the one road which links the seven separated hamlets and we should be able to use many people on this project. We will give them the tools and supplies but they will do the actual construction work."

"We're giving nine scholarships which will provide a little extra money for nine kids to get through another year of primary or high school" said CPT Hyde.

"This means a great deal to the people here because the islanders hold education in very high esteem.

Ky Hoa is almost completely self-sustaining, and with its receptive attitude toward American aid, living standards are rising considerably.

Other plans for the future include introducing a more productive species to the offshore schools since fishing provides the main income of Ky Hoa Island.

**JUNGLE RESUPPLY CAMP TAKEN,
AS GUARDS RUN
By PFC BILL EFTINK**

LZ FAT CITY - Searching an area 12 to 15 miles southwest of Chu Lai, infantrymen of the Division's **1st Bn., 6th Inf.** uncovered a series of enemy basecamps, hospital facilities and resupply stations.

D Co. was first helicoptered into the rugged mountain area after E Co.'s recon platoon reported suspected sites in the general vicinity of Hill 1362, where the 198th Inf. Bde. soldiers had found a battalion-sized NVA basecamp only two months earlier.

After three days of climbing up and sliding down the steep mountains that made up the area, pointmen of the 3rd platoon spotted two elevated bamboo aqueducts carrying water from a mountain stream into the nearby jungle.

"The first aqueduct ran about 550 yards to a large 20-by-50 Foot bamboo-and-thatch structure used as a hospital, with another hut close by serving as living quarters. The second aqueduct continued on into the jungle for about a quarter-mile to another similar -setup, "said 1LT Charles J. Gantner (Piscataway N.J.), the platoon leader.

In addition to the structures making up the hospital complex, there were several livestock pens holding 50 pigs and 45 to 50 chickens also found.

"It was pretty well developed. They had large storage areas under each hooch containing medical supplies and other living materials, but they had just enough time to get most of it out before, we got there," related 1LT Peter Yatsevitch (Cornish, N.H.).

Searching in the same area the next day the company's point squad discovered a well stocked supply station. A concealed "hooch" was found to contain a ton of corn, 500 pounds of salt, over 20 pounds of tobacco, over 400 rounds of small arms ammo, NVA uniforms, home-made torches, cooking utensils and articles of clothing.

The CO of D Co., CPT Dale Collie (Benton, Ky.) explained: "Our Kit Carson Scout estimated that this probably served as a resupply stop for up to 300 men at a time on their way down south."

Looking around the area, the captain added, "Of course, there weren't nearly that many men here when we walked up on it. They probably left five or six men to guard the place, and when they saw us coming, they took off."

In an area about four miles away E Co.'s recon platoon uncovered yet another enemy complex containing a large structure, bunkers, and numerous livestock pens.

Anything we, can do to destroy the enemy's existing facilities and disrupt his resupply activities requires him to devote precious man-hours to rebuilding them, thus weakening his ability to fight," explained MAJ W. L. Lee (De Ridder, La.) battalion operations officer.

Another official was quick to point out that perhaps even more important is the psychological effect of penetrating and destroying what the VC and NVA once considered safe hiding places. (198th IO)

VIP PAYS IN FULL

KY SANH -- An elderly Vietnamese farmer was so inspired by the PSYOPs that he turned in a deadly 122mm rocket to division soldiers.

The 198th Inf. Bde. PSYOP men have concentrated their Voluntary Informations Program (VIP) efforts to undermine VC strength in this susceptible village, scene of a recent VC terrorist bombing which killed nine civilians, critically wounded 18 and caused injuries to more than 80 others.

"There had been three different leaflet drops dealing specif-

ically with rockets just before this one was turned in," said

CPT William D. Hyde (Merced, Calif.), civil affairs officer for

the 1st Bde., 6th Inf. The farmer, having read one of the leaflets, told the village's PF group of the 1-6 Inf. Located in a cluster of bushes, the missile was in good condition and had its warhead and rocket motor attached.

"It is inevitable that the rocket would have been used against us if the man hadn't turned it in," CPT Hyde said. "This area is known as the 'rocket pocket' because it's a major launching location."

The farmer, was paid 10,000 Piasters for the rocket. "It completely depleted our VIP fund," the captain said, "but I'd have gotten more from somewhere if we'd needed it."

A brigade PSYOP loudspeaker team returned to the village to applaud and encourage the people. "Our interpreter reminded the people that it is the VC who cause most of their suffering and that turning in enemy weapons helps to alleviate that suffering," said SGT Duane R. Leak (Rochester, N.Y.).

The 1-6 Inf Civil affairs men gave Ky Sanh a supply of captured enemy foodstuffs, including 2,000 pounds of corn.

They also distributed 500 pounds of rice, 100 pounds of salt, and 50 pounds of tobacco to the people.

VC Propaganda Office Closed

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Proudly Serving Our

Action

Army

Photo Caption: CPT Domingo

A. Monlinelli

Reenlistment

Officer

Amcal. Div.

By MSG H.A. BONESIO

Forty-four of the 54 soldiers reenlisting during a one-week period in the division were "first termers." Of these, 40 chose guaranteed enlistment options while the others remain on their present duty assignment.

Division Troops was represented by two "Topkicks" from the 23rd M.P. Co., 1SG Dillard Cannon Jr. and 1SG Collins J. Orebo;

SP4 Frank E. O'Brien, PFC Robert E. Cowles, PFC Wayne A. Stromely, PFC James Lindsay, all with A Trp., 1-1st Cav.; and PFC Luins M. Morgan Jr, C Co., 523rd Sig. Bn.

Support Command had SSG Robert G. Beal and SP6 Harold Cornett, 23rd Admin. Co.

Division Artillery keeps CSM Jerrold A. Wirig and PFC Thomas S. Hill, HHB, 1-14th Arty.; SSG Lonnie R. Webb, HHB, and PFC Earl Jones, A Btry., 3-82nd Arty.

The 16th Combat Aviation Group retains SFC Billy J. Stephens and SP5 Michael Hallman, HHC, 123rd Avn. B.; SSG Jimmie Green and SSG Darrell A. Snuffer, 71st Avn. Co., 14th Avn Bn.

The 11th Infantry Brigade was represented by 4-21st Inf., PFC Jennings Q. Parker, HHC, SGT James E. Turnbow, C Co., and PFC N. Montgomery, E Co.; 1-20th Inf. SP4 Raymond R. Jansky, C. Co., PFC Clarence Wallace, HHC; 4-3rd Inf., PFC Michael P. Collins and PFC Robert F. Ernest, both with C Co., and PVT Kenneth Hafford, A Co.; 3-1st Inf., PFC Ronald Wess, D Co.

The 196th Infantry Brigade reenlistees were from 1-46th Inf., PFC Ray H. Cox, B Co., PFC Wendell C. Mahan, C Co., PFC Dennis R. Murphy and PFC Bruce G. Ganey, D Co., PFC Gary L. Griffin and PFC Bobby L. Cunningham, E Co.; from 3-21st Inf. were PFC Gary D. Coffman, A Co., SP4 Henry Maestas, PFC Tony C. Deason and PFC Daniel K. Holifield, B Co., PFC James E. Peoples, C Co., PFC Ronald J. Wagman, PFC Donald B. Meehan, PFC Joseph B. Wright, PFC John P. Tucker, and PFC Richard P. Choenour, D Co.; from 4-31st. were PFC Everett Templeton and PFC Richard W. Harrison B Co., PFC George W. Camp Jr. PFC Rodney Sautter and SP4 Kenneth Albright, C Co.

The 198th Infantry Brigade re-upped at the 5-46th Inf., SGT Randolph Hall, and PFC Kenneth L. Dickerson, B Co., PFC Walter Griffin, HHC; from 1-52nd Inf., PFC Richard T. Cavanaugh, B Co., PFC Gerald E. Paulin, C Co.; while 1-6th Inf. had SSG Manis L. Caudil, HHC, and PFC Robert E. Stryker, A Co.

Photo Caption: Shot Into The Darkness

Division soldiers from E. Co. 1-6th Inf. 198th Bde, fire their 80mm mortar into the darkness surrounding Hill 76. These mortar men are on call 24 hours a day and are extremely accurate with their weapons. (Photo By PFC Laszlo Kondor, Americal IO)

SOUTHERN CROSS



AMERICAL
DIVISION

Vol. 2, No. 35

CHU LAI, VIETNAM

November 28, 1969



Shot Into The Darkness

Division soldiers from E. Co. 1-6th Inf. 198th Bde, fire their 80mm mortar into the darkness surrounding Hill 76. These mortar men are on call 24 hours a day and are extremely accurate with their weapons.

(Photo By PFC Laszlo Kondor, Americal IO)

Photo Caption: What Do Puppy-Dogs Dream Of?

With a candle to keep him warm, the mascot of E Co., 1-6th Inf. Mortar Platoon catches some sleep between fire missions. The men say "Mortar" is not at all gun-shy and if you share your C-rations with him he'll be your friend. (Photo by PFC Laszlo Kondor, Americal IO)



What Do Puppy-Dogs Dream Of?

With a candle to keep him warm, the mascot of E Co., 1-6th Inf. Mortar Platoon catches some sleep between fire missions. The men say "Mortar" is not at all gun-shy and if you share your C-rations with him he'll be your friend.

(Photo by PFC Laszlo Kondor, Americal IO)

Ammo Sarge Starts

Fourth Year in 198th

By 1LT A. J. Tolentino

LZ BAYONET—Division "short timers" fill the air with impromptu shouts of "Short". However no one around LZ Bayonet has ever heard SSG Howard Walker (Verdun, Quebec) yell it out, even though he has been "short" on several occasions.

The 30-year-old sergeant has been with the **1-6th** Inf. since Dec. 1966, and even took part in the activation of the battalion's now parent unit--the 198th Bde. --at Ft. Hood, Tex. in May 1967.

"I've seen many changes since we came to 'Nam in October 1967," Walker remarked. "When we first got here we didn't have a permanent 'home'. We were OPCON from the 196th to the 1st Marine Division."

Although a large part of the **1-6th** area of operation is pacified today, Walker recalls a time when it was "hot."

"During the 1968 Tet Offensive, we were attached to the 3rd Marine Regt. of the 1st Mar. Div. near Da Nang. In four days of fighting, our battalion killed 288 NVA. For that action, the battalion was awarded a valorous unit citation. After that we were in continuous contact with the NVA, and moving all the time -- LZ Baldy, Dragon Valley, the Burlington Trail, LZ West, LZ East, LZ Center -- all over the place."

From May to December, 1968 Walker was assigned to Delta Co. of the **1-6th**.

"Two days after I took over as Plt. Sgt., the lieutenant was wounded. We didn't get replacements too often in those days, so for the next seven months I was an acting platoon leader. I got a better understanding of the war being closer to it, and working with a platoon of men was one of the best experiences of my life."

In December 1968 SSG Walker voluntarily extended his tour of duty in Vietnam for six months and was reassigned to the supply section of the battalion's headquarters as the ammunition section chief in June 1969 he requested another 6-month extension.

As ammunition chief, Walker is responsible for insuring that the battalion maintains its basic supply of ammunition.

"In the old days," he says, "When we were getting started over here, we had trouble building up a basic load. We shot it up almost as fast as we got it in."

With each man in Vietnam required to serve a 12-month tour there has been a large turn over in personnel in Walker's three years with the battalion. "I've seen many people come and go. We've had five battalion commanders since I've been here with this unit."

This year he was home for Christmas for the first time in four years, and is taking a 30 day leave before beginning his next 6-month extension.

When he returns, SSG Walker's home will again be the same as it was before - **1st Bn. 6th Inf.**

Proud Men Serving

Action

Army

Photo SFC Bobbie J.

Boudreaux

Career Counselor

Division Troops

By MSG H. A. Bonesio

Forty-three of the 54 reenlistees in the Americal Division during a one-week period were in the First Term category.

Most of the new careerists reupped for guaranteed assignments or CONUS choice of station.

Division Troops were represented by 1SG Calvin Reis, C Co., 523rd Sig. Bn.; SSG James Wise, B Co., 26th Engr. Bn.; SP5 William Hanley, 635th MID; SP4 Beverly Whitgreave, B Trp., 1-1st Cav.

Support Command had SP5 George D. Duval, Hqs. & Co. A, 723rd Maint. Bn.; from the 23rd Med. Bn., PSG Roger Woder, C Co., SSG Herbert Foster and PFC Michael Doolin, Hqs. & Co. A.

Division Artillery retains SSG Herherts Seffels, HHB; From 1-82nd Arty., SSG Raymond Luinis, HHB, SSG John Fleming, C Btry.; from 3-16th Arty., PFC Marion Faison, C Btry.; from 3-82nd Arty., PFC Robert Jones, HHB, SP4 Victor Wilkins, C Btry.; from 3-18th Arty., SSG Gerald Wetherill, HHB.

The 11th Infantry Brigade reenlistees were SP4 Edwin Dunham, HHC; from 3-1st Inf., SP4 Earl Casper, E Co.; from 4-21st Inf., PFC David Berberich, C Co.; from 4-3rd Inf., SSG Alvin Linker, D Co.

The 196th Infantry Brigade re-upped Michael Wellert, PFC Dennis Moyers, PFC Wendell Nunley, A Co., PFC Donnie Shatley, E Co., 4-31st Inf.; from 1-46th Inf., PFC Jon Rhodes, PFC Walter Walker, PFC Thomas Stoddard A Co., PFC Roger Wooden and PFC Joseph Booth, B Co.; from 2-1st Inf., SP4 Lee Benton and SSG James Smith, HHC, SP4 Robert Neuman, PFC John Plate, PFC Jimmie Turner, SGT Timothy Moore, A Co., SP5 David Taylor, E Co.; from 3-21st Inf., PFC Richard Antill and SP4 Richard Christopher, HHC, PFC Alfonza Charles and PFC Brantley Jeffreys, B Co., PFC Seward Long, D Co.

The 198th Infantry Brigade was represented by PFC Steven Hosier, A Co., PFC George Morales and SP4 William Lambeth, B Co., 1-52nd Inf.; from 5-46th Inf., PFC James Fox, C Co., PVT Donald Nadeu, D Co.; from 1-6th Inf., **SP4 Matias Carrasco and PFC Marco Schiavoni, B Co., SP4 Larry Crabtree and PFC Travis Sanford, C Co., SP4 Lawrence Alvey and PFC Michael Runnels, E Co.**

Proud Men Serving

Our
Action
Army

Photo SFC Raymond
A. Boyles
16th Combat Avn Bn
Career Counselor

By MSG H. A. Bonesio

Thirty-two of the 38 reenlistees in the Americal Division during a one-week period were First Term soldiers.

Most of the new careerists chose guaranteed assignments or CONUS choice of station options.

Division Troops was represented by SP5 David Thole, 1-1st Cav.

Support Command had SFC Wallace Andersen and PFC Charles Williams, 23rd Admin. Co.

Division Artillery retains MSG Ray Pauley, HHB, SSG Larry

Scott, A Btry., 3-16th Arty.; SP4 Billy Hartsfield, B Btry., 1-14th

Arty.; SP4 Perez Gonzales, G Btry., 55th Arty.

The 16th Combat Aviation Group keeps PFC Roy Withers, HHC,
SFC Jesse Wallis, HHC, 14th Cbt. Avn. Bn.; SGT Leroy Gist, B Co.,
123rd Avn. Bn.; SP5 Joseph Anderson, 335th Trans Co.

The 11th Infantry Brigade reenlistees were SP4 Robert Williams,
HHC; from 3-1st Inf., PFC Hardy Rose, A Co., PFC Milton Avery, E
Co.; from 4-21st Inf., SGT Ronnie Sanders, D Co.

The 196th Infantry Brigade re-upped PFC Galen Fish, F Trp.,
17th Cav.; from 2-1st Inf., SP4 Robert Rendon, PFC Larry
Westphal, PFC Jerry Shields, SGT Thomas Long, SFC Doterto
Aguigui, all from A Co.; SP5 Francisco Rosas-Ramos, HHC, SP4
Ronald Gibson and SP4 William Moon, E Co., 4-31st Inf., from
1-46th Inf., PFC Charlie Strong, A Co., SGT Elmer Perry, B Co.,
PFC Richard Knoble and PVT Ernest Johnson, D Co.

**The 198th Infantry Brigade was represented by 1SG Jess Boyd,
HHC, 1-6th Inf., from the same battalion, SP4 Carroll Johnson, A
Co., PFC David Wallace, C Co., SGT William Schroeder, E Co.; from
1-52nd Inf., SGT John Lucas, HHC, SP4 Franklin Creswell, SSG
Joseph Michaud, PFC Daniel Copeland, PFC Ronnie Chaffin, E Co.**

Proud Men

Serve

Our

Army

SFC Edwin K.

Photo Crawley

Career Counselor

11th Inf. Bde.

By MSG H. A. Bonesio

Thirty-six of the 46 soldiers reenlisting in the AMERICAL Division during a one-week period, were in the First Termer category.

Division Troops was represented by MSG John R. Bayroth, HHC, Americal; SFC Masayoshi Tanno, 635th MI Co.; SGT Henry Sherwood, D Co., 26th Engr. Bn.; SSG Frank Bechtold, A Trp., and PFC James Glaser, HHT, 1-1st Cav.

Support Command had SFC Bobby Bramlett and SSG Gerald Mills, 23rd Admin. Co.; SGT Douglas Brooks and PVT Elton Parks, 23rd AG Repl. Co.; PSG Mitchell Lewis, HHC, 23rd S&T Bn.; SFC Lester Dunn, B Co., 23rd Med. Bn.

Division Artillery retains SP4 Jackie Riley and SP4 Francisco Lubin-Cazares, B Btry., 1-14th Arty.; SFC Harold Strawderman, HHB, 3-18th Arty; SP4 George Green, B Btry., 1-14th Arty.

The 16th Combat Aviation Group keeps SP5 William Arrington, A Co., 123rd Avn. Bn.

The 11th Infantry Brigade reenlistees were SP4 Steven Foster, HHC; from 1-20th Inf., SP4 Hershel Weathers, B Co., PFC Frank Garcia, C Co.; from 4-3rd Inf., PFC Michael Kemper and SGT Martin Paterson, A Co., PFC Edward Lauver, C Co., PVT Robert Jones, E Co.; from 3-1st Inf., PFC Larry Flickinger, D Co.; from 4-21st Inf., PFC Howard Dehann, HHC.

The 196th Infantry Brigade re-upped PFC Paul Fredenburg, F Trp., 17th Cav.; from 1-46th Inf., PFC Lawrence DeLair, PFC Clair Gaskins, SP4 Thomas Blyth, all with B Co., PFC Steven Berrier and PFC Arnold Galacia, D Co.; from 2-1st Inf., PFC Jose Pizarro-Pizarro, C Co., PFC Stephen Lyon, D Co., PFC Larry Yeager, E Co.; from 3-21st Inf., PFC John Williams, C Co.

The 198th Infantry Brigade was represented by MSG James Courtney, HHC; **from 1-6th Inf., PFC Robert Manna, HHC PFC Thomas Spaulding, B Co., SP4 Samuel Parker, Co Co.**; from 1-52nd Inf., SGT Paul Tittle and SP4 Galen Wanderschied, D Co.; from 5-46th Inf., MSG Arthur Newton, HHC, PFC Michael Somner, A Co.

SOUTHERN CROSS

Vol. 3, No. 10 CHU LAI, VIETNAM April 10, 1970

DFC Awarded For Dramatic Rescue

CHU LAI - In a highly dramatic rescue mission, former Americal Div. commander, MG Lloyd B. Ramsey was hoisted from thick jungle seven miles west of Chu Lai. The general and his crew had been downed overnight following the crash of his command and control UH-1 helicopter.

Readily the Army and Air Force rescue units flew to the area and a company-size infantry element of the **1st Bn., 6th Inf., 198th Inf. Bde.**, was airborne to within two miles of the crash site on Tuesday.

However, it was not until 8 a.m. Wednesday that the wreckage was sighted through the heavy cloud cover and the survivors were medevaced by Air Force HH53 helicopters of the 37th Air Rescue Det.

The search aircraft caught a beeper signal one-half hour after the crash. Then at 5:30 p.m. the helicopter made voice contact with the survivors.

The ceiling of low clouds, fog and 15-20 foot visibility thwarted attempts to spot the downed aircraft, which had landed upside down in 6-foot brush amid a dense canopy of 50 to 100-foot tall trees.

Abruptly radio contact broke at 4 a.m. Wednesday and was not reestablished until 8 p.m. when MAJ Tommy P. James (Bisby, Okla.) arrived in the area in a helicopter.

MAJ James, commander of the 71st Aviation Co. had searched Tuesday until nightfall, methodically and breathtakingly "walking" his ship up the side of the mountain where the wreckage was thought to be.

The major returned early Wednesday morning, diving through the cloud-ceiling into a valley below the mountain, then hovering once again up the steep side of the slope. The survivors picked up on his rotor-sound and directed him closer to their position.

MAJ James lowered 1st Inf. battalion surgeon, CPT Luis A. Oliver, on a jungle penetrator.

"The brush was so thick," said MAJ James, "that I had to talk Oliver over the crash even though he had seen the wreckage from the air and had landed only 20-feet away."

The major related that it took CPT Oliver 10 minutes to cross the 20 feet of thick brush.

The survivors were immediately flown to Chu Lai for treatment and hospitalization.

For his heroic and outstanding actions in the successful rescuing of the downed personnel, MAJ James was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. (Americal IO)

NCO Says Div. Changed

LZ BAYONET - "The Americal Division is one of the big success stories of the Vietnam War."

The man who holds this opinion is SSG Buck C. Lawhorn, Jr (Wichita, Kan.), a member of the 198th Inf. Bde.'s **C Co., 1st Bn., 6th Inf.** He feels he qualifies as an authority on the Division since he is serving his second tour in this part of southern I Corps.

SSG Lawhorn's first tour was with the 196th Inf. Bde. from July 1967 to July 1968, when it was part of Task Force Oregon. In less than three years, that task force grew into the Americal Division, the largest division in the Army.

The rapid growth of the division had been accompanied by a rapid change in many areas. For example, SSG Lawhorn recalled the differences in the Chu Lai area.

"When I first arrived at the Chu Lai airport," he said. "I was given a meal of C-rations. The men's area was in the open without even a canvas to cover it. The Combat Center was at LZ Bayonet, a mile west of Chu Lai and most of the beach area was not built up the way it is now. Things were pretty crude."

Logistical support for the troops in the field has improved drastically. One area SSG Lawhorn particularly remembered was the supply of food.

"We only got one hot meal every four days and a change of clothes less frequently than that," he recalled. "Today things are much better; we are resupplied everyday when the tactical situation permits."

SSG Lawhorn also recalled that the cavalry troop [Historian Comment: The cavalry troop was F/17 Cavalry] that supported his unit in 1967-68 had only jeeps mounted with .50 machine guns. Today the cavalry units use armored personnel carriers and Sheridan recon vehicles.

This makes it feasible for the field troops to enjoy an occasional refitting period. SSG Lawhorn recently relaxed on his first "stand-down".

"I never had a refit on my first tour," he recalled. "It's good to find out first hand that many things have changed for the better for the troops in the field." (198th Bde. IO)

Division Recap: Americal troops kill 260 enemy

By SP4 J. B. Majerus

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) -- In a week of activity throughout the Division's AO, Americal soldiers accounted for 260 enemy kills in early May.

Frederick Hill

One troop of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry while making a sweep in the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry's AO, 11 miles north west of Tam Ky found two VC who had been killed several days earlier. An RPG launcher was also found near the site.

On a reconnaissance-in-force operation, Alpha Company, 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry was working ten miles northwest of Tam Ky and found a sleeping VC in the bushes alongside the trail. Thinking the recon soldiers were a group of Prince Charmings, the sleeping VC woke and attempted to evade them. The results were one VC KIA and one captured SKS rifle.

In a previous operation, the 2nd of the 1st spotted and killed one VC as he moved through dense vegetation.

A Popular Forces platoon sighted 15 VC eight miles northwest of Tam Ky and called on the Echo Platoon mortars of the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry. The mortar men dropped a few rounds of HE down the tube and the PF troops reported one VC KIA and two more who were wounded and managed to escape.

On a remote hillside 15 miles northwest of Tam Ky, the Recon element of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry, "Gimlets", killed a lone VC as he came out of hiding. In another action, the Recon soldiers encountered five VC. Reacting quickly the Gimlets opened fire, killing four immediately and wounding a fifth. They also confiscated an AK-47.

Bravo Company was in a night position 12 miles northwest of Tam Ky. In the quiet hours shortly after midnight they engaged and killed one VC.

Charlie Company teamed up with a Marine chopper crew and bagged six VC. The company was operating 14 miles northwest of Tam Ky when they came under small arms fire. Pinpointing the position, the men maneuvered to engage the enemy at closer ranges. At about 30 yards they were pelted with CHICOM grenades.

The Marine gunship was in the vicinity and by following instructions, which the Army men kept simple, it rolled in on the enemy with rocket fire. Charlie then swept the area and found six dead VC and three AK-47 rifles.

The 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry was working the heavily vegetated hills 18 miles northwest of Tam Ky when they engaged an estimated squad of VC. After a short lived firefight the "Professionals" picked up one AK-47 rifle.

The "Professionals" Delta Company engaged five VC in a grass clearing 14 miles southwest of Tam Ky. they routed the enemy and followed a blood trail which led to a dead VC.

The Recon platoon, while in their night defensive position, heard voices and movement only 35 to 45 yards from their position. the infantrymen quickly and stealth[il]y sprang to their fighting positions and by using their rifles and Claymores killed three NVA.

In a later operation the Professionals' Recon found a row of practice targets indicating that there were enemy soldiers in the area. The targets were the bullseye type, almost new, and the bullets that had been fired were way off center.

Minutes later, the soldiers saw nine NVA in the fading afternoon light. They slowed their approach and opened fire on the enemy. At least 25 figures rose from hiding and scrambled away. Moving in, the troops found nine NVA dead. Also taken in the action were two AK-47s, six NVA pistol belts, eight CHICOM grenades and a transistor radio. The action took place eight miles southwest of Tam Ky.

(Continued)

(Continued - 29May70-Southern Cross Vol. 3 No. 19 Page 1)

Division Recap: Americal troops kill 260 enemy

Infantrymen of the 4th Battalion's 31st Infantry, while searching a suspected enemy area 22 miles northwest of Tam Ky observed a lone VC evading from a hooch. M-16 fire quickly brought the enemy down.

Another element of the battalion killed two NVA outside their night laager position near Hiep Duc, 22 miles southwest of Tam Ky.

Alpha Company came under mortar and small arms fire while in their day laager near a river 23 miles northwest of Tam Ky. Returning fire with a M-60 machinegun, the infantrymen killed three of the NVA. Later Alpha Company accounted for one enemy killed and the weapon captured while in their night defensive position. The company was hit with a heavy volume of mortar and small arms fire. Again they quickly responded and the "Polar Bears" killed one of the NVA attackers.

Later in the day, they were sweeping an area near Hiep Duc, 23 miles northwest of Tam Ky (continued on page 6) **Recap: cache found** (continued from page 1) when the company engaged a lone VC moving toward the woodline.

"He got away but we got his AK-47 and pack," said Specialist 4 James Logue, Clayton, N.J.

While searching a hooch area, Delta Company located some enemy ammunition hidden in a hut. They found 14 82mm mortar rounds. Civilians in the area said that there had been three mortar tubes set up at that location.

While searching another hooch area in the same general location, the Polar Bears found three to five thousand pounds of rice hidden in five different caches.

Charlie Company discovered a bunker complex containing four 82mm mortar rounds, one RPG round, three cases of shotgun shells and one box of .51 caliber rounds. Also in the area were bodies of three NVA killed by air strikes.

In a lightning plunge F Troop, 17th Cavalry chased an NVA mortar squad in a running exchange of gunfire killing 14 of the enemy and detaining four.

Captain Roscoe Cartwright, Cincinnati, Ohio, F Troop Commander, received the order to move the cavalry from LZ Hawk Hill to a swamp near the coast, about five miles north of Tam Ky. "We moved 16 miles in barely over an hour," said Captain Cartwright. Their objective was only a mile from the ocean near the VC infested Barrier Island.

When the tracks rumbled in, they were immediately hit by RPG and small arms fire. They smashed back; forcing the enemy into cover. Turning south they made another sweep. The men found 14 dead NVA and detained four suspects before they could escape. Confiscated weapons included nine AK-47s with 300 rounds of ammo, a 9mm Soviet made pistol, 5 packs and 25 CHICOM grenades.

F Troop, 17th Cavalry, working under the operational control of the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry killed four VC and detained six more and one NVA while working 15 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

Iron Mountain

The heaviest action in the 11th Infantry Brigade took place in the mountains overlooking the Song Ve River as "Primo" aviation engaged and killed nine NVA.

The Primo choppers and the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry teamed up to kill three VC and one NVA in the foothills seven miles south of Duc Pho. The Recon element also netted three VC detainees, three carbines and two automatic rifles.

Delta Company of the 4th Battalion accounted for one VC KIA and the capture of his weapon.

Alpha Company killed two NVA and captured their AKs, 20 60mm mortar rounds and one 60mm base plate. The action took place in the lowlands five miles south of Duc Pho.

The "Shark" gunships of the 174th Aviation Company teamed up with D Battery, 6th Battalion, 11th Artillery to kill four VC.

Delta Battery also responded to a call from the 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry who had spotted 12 VC and an estimated company of NVA in the lowlands 22 miles northeast of Duc Pho. Artillery stopped five of the NVA and two VC dead in their tracks.

(Continued)

(Continued - 29May70-Southern Cross Vol. 3 No. 19 Page 1)

Division Recap: Americal troops kill 260 enemy

Alpha Company of the 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry killed one NVA who walked into their position. One 9mm pistol was confiscated in the action 18 miles northwest of Duc Pho.

In the only defensive action in the Americal AO, elements of the 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry defending Fire Support Base 4-11 smashed two six man VC sapper squads involved in an early morning attack on the hill. Of the 12 sappers, ten were killed, one wounded and one detained.

Alerted by a trip flare, set off by a sapper sneaking inside the perimeter, the men killed five and wounded one of the sappers who attacked at 12:30 a.m.

Two hours later, five sappers were killed and one detained when they attacked from the northwest. Confiscated were six satchel charges, two AK-47's, one AK-50 and three RPG launchers with ten rounds.

Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry accounted for one VC dead. Later Bravo killed four VC and had one rally in action that took place in the foothills three miles north of Duc Pho.

Firing from FSB 4-11, the 6th Battalion, 11th Artillery reached out and killed 22 NVA who were seen moving the foothills 22 miles northeast of Duc Pho.

"Warlords" of the 123rd Aviation Battalion accounted for two NVA killed and three civilians detained in the mountains northwest of Duc Pho.

Other units of the 11th Infantry Brigade killed a total of 22 enemy in scattered action throughout their AO.

Geneva Park

In the 198th Infantry Brigade's area, a gunship from the Delta Troop, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry saw one VC coming out of a tunnel. The pilot engaged the fleeing enemy and then called for Echo Recon of the 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry to sweep the area.

As they approached the area the infantry were greeted with a barrage of small arms fire and a brief but violent conflict ensued.

When the recon element swept the area they found three dead VC and a cache. It included an AK-47, four B-40 rockets, one RPG launcher, eight CHICOM grenades, 50 small arms rounds, three pistol belts and 400 pounds of rice.

A "mad minute" by Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry produced a blood trail, one AK with several rounds and one sandal.

In other action ten miles south of Chu Lai, A "Sabre" [?Sabres were D Troop 1st/1st Cav) pilot from F Troop, 8th Cavalry [?BlueGhosts were F Troop] sighted one VC hiding a heavily vegetated area. The pilot engaged and killed him.

A gunship of Delta Troop, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry supporting Bravo Company of the 3rd Battalion, 46th Infantry [?there was no 3/46th typo should be 5/46th ?] with the Americal? observed a tunnel and fired several rockets. A search of the area revealed one dead VC and scattered pieces of a new uniform.

Division Recap

Troops discover caches

By SP4 Dennis L. Selby

Americal Division soldiers recently accounted for 163 enemy killed in the southern I Corps area. In the same seven day period, the men captured over a half a ton of rice and 10-15 tons of salt.

Geneva Park

Elements of the 198th Infantry Brigade recently policed up a quantity of VC equipment in their area.

While on patrol nine miles northeast of Quang Ngai City, an element of **Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry** picked up a VC suspect and held him for questioning. In the same vicinity, the patrol also found a cache that included five SKS carbines, one magazine, 400 rounds of small arms ammunition, two anti-personnel mines and one hand grenade.

Alpha Company also found a cache while on patrol nine miles north of Quang Ngai City. An element of this company found a tunnel in which there was one pistol belt, 500 pounds of rice, a 30 pound shaped charge, four hand grenades and eight green and black uniforms. The patrol destroyed the tunnel and its contents.

An early morning encounter with Charley Company, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry in an area 19 miles northwest of Quang Ngai City cost the enemy three VC killed. The three kills were part of a force that was estimated at about 14. They were carrying 600 to 800 pounds of rice and weapons.

Iron Mountain

In the mountains six miles east of Duc Pho, soldiers of Bravo Company, 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry discovered 10-15 tons of salt salted away. The cache was in a pit inside a well camouflaged hut.

Twenty-two NVA fell to rocket and gunfire of the 174th Aviation Company Helicopter) as "Shark" gunships turned a routine combat assault into a two hour air-ground battle.

While the company's "Dolphin" utility ships were lifting in one battalion of the 4th ARVN Regiment and a rifle company of the 3rd Battalion, 1st into landing zones 20 miles northwest of Duc Pho, a heavy fire-team of gunships spotted fresh .51 caliber gun emplacements, bunkers and structures thought to be a rice collection point.

"While we were marking the enemy positions with smoke grenades we spotted movement. We saw, engaged and killed three NVA who were trying to evade along a river." recalled Captain Stephen S. Riddle, Weaverville, N.C.

"Our rocket fire must have hit a command post because a company element of confused NVA split into large groups and ran in all directions."

It was then that the gunships were able to take full advantage of their lethal firepower.

Elsewhere "Warlords" of the 123rd Aviation Battalion and Alpha Company, 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry combined forces to kill three NVA and one VC near the Song Gianh River 16 miles northwest of Duc Pho. One enemy rifle was confiscated in the brief action.

Recon, 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry, National Police Field Force and "Shark" gunships recently teamed up to kill 15 VC while detaining ten of the enemy.

Three AK-47s and three SKS rifles were captured in the action which took place in the lowlands six miles north of Duc Pho.

"Shark" gunships of the 174th Aviation Company also accounted for three VC killed during an insertion. According to Warrant Officer James A. Reich, Wilmington, N.C., "We were circling overhead while the lift ships were inserting. Suddenly a VC with a pack and weapon was spotted running toward a mountain and dove into a bush. So we started firing up the area pretty good." Three VC soldiers were found killed by the gunships.

Frederick Hill

In the hills 14 miles northwest of Tam Ky. Delta Company had one VC inadvertently walk into their day laager position. The 18 year old wanderer had wounds in both hands and legs from an earlier contact with Delta's second platoon. He was evacuated to Hawk Hill.

A combined VC/NVA unit fared badly in the 196th Infantry Brigade's AO following a run-in with F Troop, 17th Cavalry.

The enemy unit was moving near the Tien Phuoc Road six miles south-west of Tam Ky when the cavalry troops surprised them. They opened up with a .50 caliber machine gun killing two VC and three NVA soldiers.

Face to face encounter

quick reaction nets VC

LZ BAYONET (198th INF BDE IO) – Quite often the only effective way to confront a problem is face-to-face. Sergeant Miley D. Bailey Jr., Panama City, Fla. knows the feeling well.

Sergeant Bailey, a member of the Recon platoon, **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry**, was on a search and clear mission with his comrades eight miles south of Quang Ngai. While checking out a supposedly deserted village, one of the soldiers spotted a small enemy force moving toward their flank. Aware that there was no covering [?] the immediate, the men reacted quickly and dropped to the ground near one of the hootches.

"After everyone got down," recounted First Lieutenant James F. Walsh, Fredricksburg, Va., the platoon leader. "Sergeant Bailey stood up and yelled 'Dung Lai' (stop) when they were about four feet away. I couldn't believe he was doing it, but I was glad when we started shooting first."

Sergeant Bailey fired his M-79 grenade launcher and hit the lead man at point-blank range wounding him. Realizing that his M-79 was almost useless at close range, he grabbed the rifle of a fellow soldier and fired at the evading enemy. He then chased them into a small gully and the rest of the platoon quickly followed his example.

"Everyone was pretty great," continued Lieutenant Walsh. "Some of the enemy tried to escape but my men were not about to let them. We got them all and we didn't take a scratch." Sergeant Bailey personally killed or wounded all four of the enemy.

For his part in the engagement, Sergeant Bailey was presented the Silver Star by Brigadier General Edwin L. Powell, Assistant Division Commander.

Division Recap

Late May costs enemy 207

By SP4 Dennis Selby

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - As May came to a close, Americal soldiers closed the door on 207 enemy soldiers. Action was highest in the 196th Infantry Brigade as the "Chargers" killed over 100 enemy soldiers in scattered action. The 198th Infantry Brigade discovered a base camp and supply cache which cost the enemy valuable foodstuffs and medical supplies. "Jungle Warriors" of the 11th Infantry Brigade captured 20 60mm mortar rounds when they overpowered two NVA.

Geneva Park

While maneuvering in the mountainous terrain 15 miles west of Chu Lai, Charlie Company, 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry received enemy small arms fire and several CHICOM grenades from an unknown number of NVA.

The "Brave and Bold" soldiers returned fire and swept the area to find one 9mm pistol, one shoulder rocket and a blood trail that which initiated the discovery of an enemy basecamp.

Following the blood trail, the company discovered 10 bunkers sheltered by thatched overhead covering. Each bunker measured ten feet in width and 15 feet in length. Twenty fighting positions surrounded the enemy complex. After repulsing an attack by two or three NVA, the infantrymen moved in to find a cache within the base camp.

The find consisted of medical supplies, two transistor radios, one camera and film, 200 pounds of rice, an assortment of documents and maps, 25 hammocks, 10 CHICOM grenades, several flashlight batteries, five anti-personnel mines, one 60mm mortar round, 900 blasting caps and one carbine.

Elsewhere in the "Brave and Bold" area, Company B, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry discovered a tunnel 70 feet long and 12 feet below the surface. The tunnel, located near a hooch 10 miles northwest of Quang Ngai, was well camouflaged by rough boards and pottery.

The Bravo men searched the tunnel and found 27 sand bags filled with rice and two five gallon drums which were also filled with rice.

Frederick Hill

The heaviest action of the week occurred within the 196th Infantry Brigade in Operation Frederick Hill with the brigade soldiers killing over 100 enemy in scattered fighting.

Shortly after noon, Charlie Company from the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry teamed up with a Marine gunship in locating and killing six Viet Cong.

Operating 14 miles northwest of Tam Ky, the men of Charlie Company came under fire. Pinpointing the enemy location, the men maneuvered to engage the enemy at closer range. At 30 yards, they were pelted with (continued on page 6) CHICOM grenades. The Marine gunship was in the vicinity and by following the instructions of Infantrymen, it rocketed the enemy position. After the helicopter had fired all of its ammo, the "Gimlets" swept the area and found the six enemy dead and three AK-47 rifles.

A row of practice targets told the 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry that the enemy had been in the area recently.

Minutes afterwards, the soldiers saw nine NVA in the fading afternoon light. They slowed their approach and opened fire on the enemy. At least 25 figures rose from hiding and scrambled away. Moving in

the Americal troops found nine enemy dead.

At daybreak recently, the third platoon of Delta Company, 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry swept a suspected enemy location 21 miles northwest of Tam Ky. They came across a vacated hooch area which yielded a 2,000 pound cache of unpolished rice stored in 100 pound bags. The rice was extracted to Landing Zone Karen.

A combined effort by Bravo Company, 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry and F Troop, 17th Cavalry made Army tactics work with tailor made results recently. The two 196th Infantry Brigade units accounted for 25 enemy

killed and seven individual weapons captured in an operation 11 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

(Continued)

(Continued **Division Recap** Vol. 3, No. 20 CHU LAI, VIETNAM June 05, 1970)

Bravo Company was acting as a flushing element along a river with F Troop blocking either side when a force of 20-30 NVA enemy soldiers were spotted as soon as the Charger units were set up.

As the enemy soldiers were avoiding the infantryman's thrust, they found themselves within 50 yards of F Troop's flanking movement.

The cavalrymen engaged the enemy with automatic weapons fire killing eight and wounding one. Five more enemy were detained in the fierce skirmish.

F Troop also captured an AK-50 rifle, two AK-47s, one carbine and eight full magazines of ammunition. Ten CHICOM grenades were destroyed. "It was amazing just how well it all worked," said Private First Class James Brandal from Albers, Ill. He is serving with Bravo as a rifleman. "Our plan worked perfectly."

Iron Mountain

The 11th Infantry Brigade experienced a week of relatively light action. Alpha Company, 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry killed two NVA and captured two AK-47s. Also captured were twenty 20 60mm mortar rounds and one base plate for a 60mm mortar. The action took place in the lowlands five miles south of Duc Pho.

Engineers and 198th team up to build new village

Story and photos by SP4 J.B. Majerus

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - About seven miles northeast of Quang Ngai City, near Van Thien Village, a roaring Rome plow slices through the tangled growth of trees and brush.

A few hundred yards away, Vietnamese civilians stare in awe at the two massive D-7 bulldozers of the 26th Engineer Battalion as the snorting monsters rip through the brush and trees and push them into tangled heavy smelling piles.

A village official grins with glee as a tall hardwood is toppled without disturbing the composure of the salvaged bricks stacked at its base. The tree fell exactly as he requested.

The work of clearing the land for defense and farming continues as the bellowing behemoths battle the tough roots and rocks.

A little further west, a jumble of bamboo framework and concertina wire bears the promise of safety and shelter for the several thousand Vietnamese. Scurrying figures run the maze of trails and paths carrying impossible loads of bricks sticks and logs.

A wizened little woman motions for an engineer lieutenant to lift one end of a log as big and heavy as she is. She searches for the center of balance and hoisting the log onto her thin shoulder moves quietly down the path in a fast, sure-footed shuffle.

A young boy cautiously edges into the perimeter of the American position on the edge of the village. He seeks "doc". **The 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Company** medic examines, carefully cashes and then treats a large sore of [?] on the youngster's head. A quick smile and the youngster is gone.

Another lad, older than the first, walks confidently to the perimeter and with a jaunty, "Hey honcho!?" announces that he wishes to trade food for an enemy round he has found.

Later in the morning a group of Quang Ngai Province Civilian Irregular Defense Group soldiers and elements of the 198th Infantry Brigade's 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, move carefully into the woodline east of the village. They seek the enemy, the lurking threat.

The "New Life" village of Van Thien grows wall by wall adding one family at a time. The people are returning to their land. The security provided by the soldiers enables them to work their fields and rebuild their homes relatively free from harassment and intimidation.

Van Thien will soon shelter about 3,000 people. I may grow to a population of 6,000 when more of the displaced farmers return to their fields.

Although most of the building is done with the abundant bamboo, some materials, such as tin, sandbags, wire and steel posts have been supplied by the Americans.

The local Popular Forces troops are trained and assisted by the Americal elements that are providing security for the village. Sometime in the future they will be able to defend their village and themselves.

Engineers and 198th team up to build new village

Story and photos by SP4 J.B. Majerus

Photo Captions:

1) A medic from the 198th Infantry Brigade, Private First Class Jerry Maxwell, Waukesha, Wisc., treats the sore on the head of a Vietnamese child. His unit is helping to defend the Van Thien village.



A medic from the 198th Infantry Brigade, Private First Class Jerry Maxwell, Waukesha, Wisc., treats a sore on the head of a Vietnamese child. His unit is helping to defend the Van Thien village.

- 2) The big blade of a D-7 bulldozer pushes brush and trees before it as the dozer heads for the larger tree. The dozer was involved in a land clearing operation around the village. It was supplied by Headquarters Platoon, Bravo Company of the 26th Engineer Battalion.
- 3) A Vietnamese woman salvages bricks from the ruins of an old farm house near the village. Later she will use the bricks to build herself and family a new farm house.
- 4) Members of the Quang Ngai province Civilian Irregular Group confer with infantrymen from Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry. The men were organizing a joint patrol in defense of Van Thien which is located north of Quang Ngai.



Members of the Quang Ngai province Civilian Irregular Group confer with infantrymen from Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry. The men were organizing a joint patrol in the defense of Van Thien which is located north of Quang Ngai.

5) A Vietnamese father and son work peacefully in their field. The farmers have been able to work without harassment from the enemy because the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry is providing security for the area.



A Vietnamese father and son work peacefully in their field. The farmers have been able to work without harassment from the enemy because the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry is providing security for the area.

6) A soldier from the 4.2 mortar platoon of Company E humps a load of supplies to the platoon's position next to the village.



A soldier from the 4.2 mortar platoon of Company E humps a load of supplies to the platoon's position next to the village.

146 enemy killed

Weekly Recap: action decreases

By SP4 Dennis L. Selby

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - During the last week of May there was a noticeable decrease in enemy activity in Southern I Corps with Division units killing 146 enemy soldiers and capturing more than 50 individual weapons.

Geneva Park

While moving toward their night laager position late Wednesday evening, Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry encountered five Viet Cong wearing black clothing in the mountainous terrain 18 miles north of Quang Ngai City.

The 198th Infantry Brigade infantrymen opened up on the enemy with automatic weapons fire to kill three and detain one. A sweep of the area produced several packs and several miscellaneous documents.

The following day while maneuvering in an area 17 miles northeast of Quang Ngai City, **Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry** discovered a bunker that concealed a tunnel exit.

The infantrymen searched the bunker and found eight 57mm recoilless rifle rounds, one sighting device for a machinegun, two AK-7 magazines and a cleaning rod. The company destroyed the equipment.

Frederick Hill

In the Operation Frederick Hill area last Thursday, it was barely dawn when Bravo Company, 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry tangled with a band of three VC. The 196th Brigade infantrymen were sweeping about 14 miles northwest of Tam Ky, when they came face to face with the enemy soldiers.

"Only one was carrying a weapon. He snapped a few rounds at us and started to run," said Private First Class Joseph Jones, Memphis, Tenn., pointman for the platoon.

But the Bravo Company troopers didn't buy it. They replied with a fierce barrage of automatic weapons fire, killing two of the enemy. The remaining enemy escaped, carrying a weapon.

The recon platoon of the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry decided to attend a Viet Cong garden party the following day, even though they were not invited.

While cutting their way through thick vegetation nine miles northwest of Tam Ky, the point element of the recon platoon heard voices.

"The voices were coming from about 10 meters on the other side of a hedgerow," said Specialist Four Larry Hardin, Steger, Ill., pointman. "Our kit Carson Scout could tell they were VC by what they were saying. Their weapons were lying on the ground."

The VC were working in a large garden that apparently supplied a battalion of enemy soldiers. The "Legionnaires" crashed into the hedgerow and came face to face with 15 enemy soldiers. "I killed two of them before they even knew what hit (continued on page 6) them," said Hardin. "And we dropped five more as they scattered."

While searching a village 10 miles northwest of Tam Ky, Friday, Alpha Company, 2nd Bn., 1st Inf. discovered 1,000 pounds of rice in a tunnel beneath a hootch.

Shortly before entering the village, the infantrymen spotted one VC. He was engaged and killed by small arms fire.

While on a sweep five miles west of Tam Ky, Bravo Company, 2nd Bn., 1st Inf., uncovered a sapper training site recently. The area consisted of three sections of barbed wire, which was destroyed by the infantrymen.

(Continued)

Iron Mountain

Forgetting to pull the pin on a grenade cost an NVA soldier his life in a recent action which killed three NVA in the mountains eight miles southwest of Duc Pho.

Alpha Company, 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry observed the three NVA evading to the east, all carrying packs and wearing brush as camouflage.

The ensuing engagement, killed one NVA and a sweep of the area produced the grenade-throwing NVA and the third member of the trio-both dead.

In an action five miles southwest of Duc Pho, Alpha Company, 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry was credited with eight VC killed. Six were found on a check of an area of previous contact. Two enemy were killed at mid-morning by a patrol of Alpha Co. that remained at their company's night defensive position.

One 9mm pistol and three hand grenades were confiscated in the action.

In a "non-action" in the 11th Brigade area recently, Charlie Company, 3rd Bn., 21st Inf. uncovered an 800 to 1,000 pound unpolished rice cache buried in the lowlands four miles south of Duc Pho.

In the same general area, Alpha Co., 4th Bn., 21st Inf. found a dead VC who had been killed by artillery. The enemy was found in the foothills five miles south of Duc Pho. The kill was attributed to A Battery, 6th Battalion, 11th Artillery.

Gunships of the 174th Aviation Company, flying in support of Charlie Co., 4th Bn., 21st Inf., recently accounted for four NVA dead.

The "Shark" gunships were called to station over the banks of the Song Be River 15 miles northwest of Duc Pho after an element of the company had been engaged by six to seven NVA.

Division Recap

Sharp increase

enemy loses 154

In sporadic but heavy action the "Chargers" in Operation Frederick Hill saw increased action as they killed 77 enemy soldiers and confiscated several weapons. Elsewhere in Operation Iron Mountain action also increased for the "Jungle Warriors" as they tallied 39 of the enemy. Action for the "Brave and Bold" in Operation Geneva Park continued light and scattered as they accounted for nine enemy killed.

Frederick Hill

Action for "Legionnaires" of the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry began with Alpha Company which engaged an NVA element in the triple canopy jungle west of Tam Ky. After an hour's firefight the enemy broke contact leaving behind four dead NVA.

Later in the week Company C, during a sweep and clear operation west of Tam Ky discovered a tunnel complex containing 30 AK-47 rounds and assorted NVA equipment.

Heaviest action occurred in the "Legionnaires" area of operation when Alpha Battery, 1st Battalion, 82nd Artillery stationed at Kham Duc airstrip (continued on page 6) **1st-82nd Arty repels sappers, kill 16** (continued from page 1) received rocket, mortar and ground attack. Sappers were spotted in the wire and inside the perimeter by the artillerymen who quickly opened up on the enemy with fierce barrage of fire.

A later search of the area revealed 16 sappers killed by artillerymen. Also found in the search were 50 CHICOM grenades, nine RPG rounds and five AK-50's.

Later that morning Bravo Company, while on a sweep of a suspected enemy mortar position found six bunkers containing 19 82mm mortar rounds and four cases of charges.

About the same time a Recon platoon killed two more NVA with small arms fire during a seep near the airstrip. Captured in the action was one 82mm mortar tube and 21 rounds for it. The "Gimlets" of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry, killed 13 of the enemy in the weeks action. Eight of the kills came in as many actions with elements of the battalion.

More action occurred when eight NVA were struck down in action involving two 196th Infantry Brigade LOH's, Hornet gunship helicopters and Charlie Battery, 3rd Battalion, 82nd Artillery.

Alpha Company later found a small cache southwest of Tam Ky containing 600 rounds of .51 caliber ammunition, 300 rounds of AK-47 ammunition, 100 pull-release detonating devices for booby traps and 20 B-40 rocket adapters.

Iron Mountain

In increased action throughout the week "Sykes' Regulars" of the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry accounted for nine enemy killed.

Early in the week C Company engaged an estimated nine VC, while on a patrol in the lowlands north of Duc Pho. After the ensuing fire fight the company turned up two VC killed, two AK-47 rifles and 15 CHICOM grenades.

The next day Charlie Company after receiving sniper fire engaged six VC in the same vicinity and this time accounted for one of the enemy.

During the week Bravo Company teamed up with gunships to kill four VC of an unknown size enemy force in the lowlands north of Duc Pho.

(continued)

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Division Recap

Sharp increase

enemy loses 154

In light sporadic action for the week the "Gimlets" of the 4th Battalion 21st Infantry accounted for seven enemy and uncovered an NVA basecamp composed of six huts.

While on a routine patrol near the coast of the South China Sea south of Duc Pho Recon killed two VC. One of the enemy was killed in the initial engagement and the other evaded to a tunnel and was killed there when the element blew the tunnel.

Later in the week, while working in the hills south of Duc Pho a Short Range Reconnaissance patrol from Company B engaged and killed three VC.

In daily sporadic contacts during the week the "Always First" of the 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry tallied 10 VC killed and found a sizeable cache.

In the middle of the week Charlie Company while working with Popular Force 117 discovered a 60mm mortar round cache in the lowlands northwest of Duc Pho. The mid-morning find contained 20 rounds which were in a camouflaged hole covered with bamboo.

The same day Delta Company engaged an enemy sampan on the Song Tra Khuc River northwest of Duc Pho. Six VC were killed as a result of the engagement.

Geneva Park

The "Professionals" of the 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry accounted for six of the nine enemy killed in light daily contacts.

In mid-week Bravo Company working in an area west of Chu Lai, engaged three VC carrying weapons. The infantrymen swept the area and found two Viet Cong killed.

Alpha and Delta Companies accounted for the "Professionals" other kills in as many contacts during the week.

In a light week of action the "Regulars" of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry found numerous explosive devices and had Vietnamese children turn over one 57mm and one 75mm recoilless rifle round and one mine.

While on a patrol in an area southeast of Chu Lai, Alpha Company discovered two VC bodies. The two kills were attributed to a contact Alpha Company had late in the previous week.

In a period on one hour Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry found a 250 pound bomb, two tunnels, a small basecamp, and killed one VC in an area northwest of Chu Lai.

The bomb was found shortly before the "Professionals" reached the site of the tunnel complex at late morning. The unit requested an EOD team to blow the bomb.

Within minutes, Bravo killed one VC carrying a rifle. The carbine was evacuated to an LZ. A short time later, the company found a small basecamp containing two hooches, a blacksmith shop with tools and several bunkers.

39th Engineers

build new road

By PFC Guy Winkler

LZ DOTTIE (AMERICAL IO) - A large road construction project in I Corps has just been completed by Bravo and Charlie Companies, 39th Engineer Battalion.

The road, which stretches 12 miles from Highway One to the Batangan Peninsula, now makes it possible for military and civilian vehicle transportation through the once enemy infested territory.

The territory approximately seven miles down the new road from Highway One was once believed to be the enemy headquarters of the 48th Local Force Battalion operating at Loc Son according to Captain Harry O. Taylor, commanding officer for Bravo Company. This area, known as the Athletic Field, has since been cleared by infantry support units of the **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry**, 198th Infantry Brigade along with a company of RF/PF support.

First Sergeant Perry Davis said that the Athletic Field presented a hazard to the construction of the road. However, contact in the area has annihilated the threat of enemy interference.

"We're forcing the VC out to the ocean," Captain Taylor muses.

the units did experience numerous road mine obstacles on the project. With two mine detectors and a combat engineer vehicle, they found over 15 mines.

The units have also found caches of rice, clothes and peanuts along the road.

After the completion of a day's work on the new road, the night defensive position infantry unit would move right along with the work crew to provide security during the night.

The 39th Engineer Battalion's motto, incidently, is "Drive On."

**Kham Duc airstrip retaken
by ARVNs and Americans**

By SP5 A. C. Barnett

KHAM DUC (DIVARTY IO) – Two years and two months to the day since Kham Duc was lost to an NVA Division, this Special Forces advised CIDG camp was retaken by the same Division units that played a central role in that withdrawal of allied forces.

In May of 1968, an entire NVA Division surrounded Kham Duc, overran the outposts, and from the high ground around the airstrip began an intense mortar and recoilless rifle barrage. The camp was defenseless and a contingency plan to evacuate all personnel was quickly put into action.

In what has been called "one of the most harrowing evacuation efforts of the Vietnam war," the Americal Division sent an infantry battalion and a battery of artillery to hold back the enemy until the evacuation could be completed. The plan called for the approximately 1500 persons in the camp to be flown out in a two day period.

Under cover of more than 150 airstrikes by both US and Vietnamese aircraft from units as far away as Cam Ranh Bay, Tuy Hoa, and Thailand, the heroic airlift was accomplished in only six hours.

The successful evacuation, however did not have the flavor of an offensive victory, so when Kham Duc was reclaimed from the enemy, the privilege belonged to the men that were ordered to fight and withdraw.

More than two thousand ARVNs moved into the ridgeline during the first few days of the recent operation to secure the high ground around the camp.

In the valley below, the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry, 196th Infantry Brigade, was inserted around the airstrip where they quickly cleared the lowland area. (continued on page 6) **Light resistance met** (continued from page 1) Cannoneers from D Battery, 3rd Battalion, 82nd Artillery, and A Battery, 1st Battalion, 82nd Artillery, were next and within twenty minutes of their arrival the two batteries of howitzers were ready to deliver their devastating support.

This time it was the NVAs turn to withdraw, and while resistance was encountered by the first elements of both the ARVNs and Americans, it was only a very scattered and ineffective effort, a cover for the enemy retreat.

The 26th Engineer Battalion, after destroying over 400 booby traps seeded in the black-top airstrip, had the job of restoring the surface which was pockmarked by a dozen bomb craters.

Just four days after the first assault, a C-130 landed on the repaired runway, the first of 30 sorties that day.

An impressive victory, accomplished by the Vietnamese and American forces, working together in the air and on the ground. The NVA had beaten a hasty retreat, inflicting only very light casualties and paying heavily for them. But to the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry and the 3rd Battalion, 82nd Artillery it was a special victory, a victory exactly two years and two months overdue-they had been to Kham Duc before.

(Not mentioned, but certainly part of this operation is the 1/46th Inf. Bn.).

NIGHT HAWK NET 49 IN HEAVY ACTION

CHU LAI (AMERICAL 10) -- Action increased sharply in Southern I Military Region as Division units accounted for 193 enemy killed. Highlighting the week's action in Operation Geneva Park, "Night Hawk" and gunships From F Troop, 8th Cavalry killed 16 NVA north of the Quang Ngai River. Despite a week of light action, soldiers of the 196th Infantry Brigade In Operation Frederick Hill tallied 33 enemy dead and discovered an enemy hospital. Elsewhere gunships of the 71st Aviation Battalion were kept busy the past week as the "Night Hawks" accounted For 23 enemy killed in Operation Iron Mountain.

Geneva Park

In mid-week, "Night Hawk" ships accompanied by gunships from F Troop 8th Cavalry conducting aerial patrols over the southern section of the 198th Infantry Brigade's AO with their powerful search lights, spotted a large number of NVA congregated on the ground below near the Quang Ngai River. After taking light machinegun fire, the pilots and gunners from F Troop went to work killing 26 enemy. The kills were credited to Operation Geneva Park.

Early in the week, H Troop, 17th Cavalry, working south of Chu Lai, moved out early in the morning to cordon and search a village. The cavalymen, using textbook-like tactics, trapped several Viet Cong killing three of them. Captured in the action were six CHICOM grenades two AK-47 rifles, three AK-47 magazines and a carbine with two magazines.

Early the next day incoming mortars, rocket propelled grenades and satchel charges erupted the early morning calm at LZ Fat City west of Chu Lai, as sappers firing automatic weapons, attempted to assault the firebase. The artillerymen located at the LZ and infantrymen from C Company, 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry returned the fire with automatic weapons and mortars and called in gunships and flareships. At first light the defenders swept the area to find one VC dead, four satchel charges, and nine CHICOM grenades.

Along the coast northeast of Quang Ngai, naval guns fired on an undetermined number of Viet Cong. Aerial observers from Division Artillery later flew over the area to confirm eight VC had been killed by the fire originating from the ships in the South China Sea.

The next day, Echo Recon, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry, picked up a rallier and killed two VC in two separate incidents. The "Ready Rifles" engaged several VC evading southwest of Chu Lai and brought down one VC as another rallied. About thirty minutes later, Recon killed another VC and captured an AK-47, two banana clips, two CHICOM grenades and a poncho.

Later in the week while working northwest of Quang Ngai, Delta Company killed one VC and later found a hooch. The hooch contained 350 pounds of rice and 350 pounds of potatoes.

Delta Company of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry also found a small cache of 1000 pounds of rice hidden in crocks and metal containers, southeast of Chu Lai Frederick Hill. In mid-week activity the "Gimlets" of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry killed six enemy in a single day as a result of four contacts in a thickly vegetated area west of Tam Ky. Four of the kills resulted when the enemy walked into well camouflaged defensive positions set up by the "Gimlets."

Company C received credit for the first of these four kills. The Reconnaissance platoon scored in a similar manner when they struck down three more NVA a short time later.

(continued)

NIGHT HAWK NET 49 IN HEAVY ACTION

The fifth and sixth dead NVA for that day was credited to Company A. In that engagement the enemy was spotted trying to escape into a woodline west of Tam Ky, when the company blanketed him with small arms fire.

"Gimlets" momentum continued to increase. Near the week's end Company A found a large enemy structure west of Tam Ky with a tunnel system, shortly after killing an NVA in the same area. The tunnels which were used as a hospital, contained a large quantity of medical supplies plus 750 pounds of rice.

Success again marked Recon platoon when they wrapped up a busy week three NVA killed. The incident occurred when the enemy walked into Recon's defensive position set up west of Tam Ky.

The "Legionnaires" of 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry registered several enemy dead. Two of the kills resulted cleverly placed defensive position set up in the triple canopy jungles west of Tam Ky. "Charlie" lost once to the Recon platoon, and again that afternoon to Company B. A search of the area by Company B revealed six enemy bunkers.

Company D concluded a week of enemy contact when they fired on several VC who were walking down a trail in the dense jungles near Kham Duc. Firebird gunships flew in to assist in the firefight which resulted in four VC killed.

The "Polar Bears" of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry, proved themselves homebreakers when Company A found an enemy bunker complex large enough to accommodate two platoons. The approximately seven week old complex contained seven bunkers.

Also in that area Company D found eight Viet Cong suspects--four female adults and four children hiding in their hooch. The infantrymen caught two of the females as they were attempting to hide a small amount of military equipment.

Iron Mountain

Early in the week while working in a river valley northwest of Duc Pho. "Night Hawks" of the 71st Aviation Battalion received fire from two NVA in a sampan. Return fire from the gunships accounted for both enemy killed. The sampan was destroyed following the action. Later in the evening the "Night Hawks" received small arms and .51 caliber fire from two directions. Fourteen NVA were found dead following the action which saw two hooches destroyed.

Later in the week while working in the same area "Night Hawks" engaged by an undetermined size enemy force as they moved along the river. Braving small arms and .30 caliber machinegun fire, the gunships accounted for seven enemy.

While conducting a search and clear mission in the lowlands south of Duc Pho, Company A, 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry discovered a rice and potato cache near two huts. The rice was in 11-55 gallon drums and the potatoes were in four 55 gallon drums. An intensified search of the area turned up eight more tons of rice.

LZ BAYONET (198th INF (IO) - Infantrymen of the 198th Infantry Brigade and gunships from the 116th Assault Aviation Company maneuvered swiftly to kill five Viet Cong as the enemy attempted to evade in a running battle northeast of Quang Ngai City recently. "They took us under fire as soon as we hit the landing zone," said First Lieutenant Winston W. Moody, Houston, Texas, a platoon leader with **Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry**. "We quickly repulsed the attack with small arms and machinegun fire and the enemy evaded into a village. Lieutenant Moody split his platoon into two elements and moved them forward to search the village. After moving several yards through rice paddies, a squad leader with Lieutenant Moody's elements discovered a blood trail.

"We followed the blood trail to a hooch," said Lieutenant Moody, "and my squad leader spotted two Viet Cong hiding within the structure. We told our interpreter to tell the VC to come out but they refused and we fired several rounds into the hooch in which they were hiding." The squad leader, Specialist Four Dean R. Wood, Central City, Iowa, then moved towards the structure and tossed in a grenade.

"Just as soon as he tossed the grenade the VC kicked it out the door and it exploded. We moved off again and fired several rounds of machinegun and small arms fire into their location."

The infantrymen again moved toward the hooch and inside found the two Viet Cong dead. The platoon then moved northeast toward higher ground where they had observed several more Viet Cong evading.

"As we moved toward the hilly terrain, we heard the gunships firing automatic weapons and rockets ahead of us," Lieutenant Moody said.

"Other Viet Cong had tried to evade from the village as we moved through and the gunships spotted them and opened fire."

"We spread out and began sweeping the more thickly vegetated area," said Lieutenant Moody "We had only moved a few more yards when we found two more bodies lying in the thick brush."

PSYOPS nets enemy munitions

By SGT Thomas C. Elmer

LZ BAYONET (198th INF BDE IO) - A psychological operations (PSYOPS) program encouraging Vietnamese civilians to turn over munitions they find paid off recently when several 198th Infantry Brigade units received a large amount of enemy weapons and ammunition.

"We conducted several operations in the area where the munitions were turned in," said First Lieutenant Richard H. Greenhagen, Masapequa, N.Y., assistant civil affairs officer. "We flew several night broadcasts using loud speakers, several daytime leaflet drops, and we also used special tapes to broadcast the messages."

Shortly after the PSYOPS missions were flown, H Troop, 17th Cavalry, maneuvering on a search and clear operation along the Tra Bong Road, ten miles south of Chu Lai, began receiving the munitions from the Vietnamese children.

"At first we received only a few mortar rounds from the children," said Private First Class Stephen Hickey, Flushing, Mich. "Then they spread the word and we began receiving all kinds of munitions. This continued for two days."

The total cache turned in by the children consisted of 96 mortar rounds, 60 Bouncing Betty mines, two 2.75 inch rockets, two 57mm recoilless rifle rounds, two rifle-propelled grenades, one CHICOM grenade, four artillery rounds and six mortar fuses.

Also working in the same area and benefiting from the broadcasts and leaflet drops was Alpha Company, **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry**, which received four artillery rounds, one anti-personnel mine, one booby trap and one mortar round. The 39th Engineers Battalion working with the company received two artillery rounds and two mortar rounds.

Division recap

**196th Bde finds
enemy basecamp**

Action decreased noticeably in the past week's action as units of the Americal killed 103 enemy soldiers. In Operation Frederick Hill "Chargers" of the 196th Infantry Brigade killed 40 enemy soldiers and destroyed an enemy basecamp. Elsewhere in Operation Geneva Park the "Brave and Bold" of the 198th Infantry Brigade also found and destroyed a large enemy basecamp and tallied 31 enemy soldiers. In Operation Iron Mountain the "Jungle Warriors" of the 11th Infantry Brigade also found and destroyed a large bunker complex consisting of 30 bunkers and from 50 to 70 fighting positions.

Frederick Hill

An enemy base camp, believed to be less than two months old, containing over 50 hooches, numerous medical supplies and a large rice cache, was seized by Company C, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry early in the week northwest of Tam Ky.

First Lieutenant Sammie M. Bush, Snyder, Okla., company commander reported one of his patrols came upon some well used trails near an extremely steep draw in the densely-wooded, triple-canopy jungle.

"The found a blood trail and some used bandages strewn along one of the trails and followed it up the draw to the enemy base camp." said Lieutenant Bush.

Approximately two hours after spotting the camp, Company C staged an[d] assault.

After a fierce firefight the enemy fled. Four blood trails were later found leading to the (continued on page 6)

All three brigades uncover large basecamps (continued from page 1) camp.

Confiscated from the enemy base camp were 4,500 pounds of rice, 40 pounds of assorted medical supplies, five NVA ruck sacks and one AK-47 rifle.

The next day the "Gimlets" of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry, killed three VC who walked into their defensive position west of Tam Ky.

Later in the week Company D engaged 10 NVA in thick jungles northwest of Tam Ky. The infantrymen called in gunships to assist. A later sweep of the area revealed two NVA dead.

In areas southwest of Tam Ky, Company C, 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry while on a search and clear mission found graves containing three NVA, dead approximately seven days [old].

Company D scored on two more NVA with small arms fire later in the week capturing one AK-47 in the process.

Geneva Park

Early in the week H Troop, 17th Cavalry, moving into a village on foot, engaged and killed five VC as the enemy attempted to evade the cavalrymen's search. "When my men entered the village," said Captain Oliver Croom, Garland, N.C., troops commander, the enemy tried to evade,. But we got five before they could make it to a nearby treeline." The troopers also destroyed a mortar pit in the action.

The same day, Echo Recon, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry observed three VC moving west of Quang Ngai City. The "Ready Rifles" killed two and continued maneuvering. A short time later, the Recon element spotted two more VC and killed them.

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Division recap

196th Bde finds

enemy basecamp

The next morning Charlie Company, while working in a heavily vegetated area southwest of Chu Lai, discovered a large enemy basecamp. The complex contained 10 bunkers, each having two or three entrances. There were also 50 fighting positions on a 400 yard stretch of trail leading to the camp. The infantrymen destroyed the entire complex.

The same day an aerial observer from the 1st Battalion, 14th Artillery, observed two VC on the ground below. The gunner opened up with automatic weapons to kill both.

The next day Bravo Company, 123rd Aviation Company inserted an aerial rifle platoon south of Chu Lai which found and killed five VC.

In mid-week action a long range reconnaissance patrol from G Company, 75th Rangers, on a mission northwest of Quang Ngai, discovered a battalion sized basecamp. The camp consisted of 130 to 180 bunkers, each containing a two man fighting position.

The next day the Rangers still working northwest of Quang Ngai engaged and killed three enemy and captured 45 bags of salt and 80 kilos of rice (Note: about 180 pounds of rice).

To conclude the action for the week Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry maneuvering in an area northeast of Quang Ngai, spotted four VC moving across a rice paddy. The "Regulars" fired on the enemy with automatic weapons killing one.

Iron Mountain

Early in the week Recon, 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry discovered a massive bunker complex on a search and clear operation in the mountains southwest of Duc Pho. The complex consisted of 30 bunkers which were well camouflaged and had overhead cover. From 50 to 70 fighting positions were evident throughout the complex which was fortified with 16-inch logs.

The next day while working in the lowlands north of Duc Pho., Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry engaged an estimated six VC in a treeline. Three of the enemy were killed in the engagement and three AK-47s and one grenade were confiscated following the action.

The same day the "Sharks" of the 174th Aviation Company accounted for five VC killed in action in the lowlands northwest of Duc Pho.

In the middle of the week Company C, 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry discovered a 300 pound rice cache in the lowlands northwest of Duc Pho. The rice was found buried in a 55 gallon drum in an out hooch.

The next day Company D netted two VC with a stay behind ambush at their old NDP in the lowlands northwest of Duc Pho. Two AK-47s were confiscated in the engagement.

Concluding the week's action the "Sharks" of the 174th Aviation Company observed and engaged four NVA. Two of the enemy were killed in the action.

Photo Caption: Enjoying a steak dinner with all the trimmings are these soldiers of Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, 198th Infantry Brigade. The company was on patrol southwest of Chu Lai at the time. (Photo by PFC James N. Dunn, 523rd Sig. Bn.)



Enjoying a steak dinner with all the trimmings are these soldiers of Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, 198th Infantry Brigade. The company was on patrol southwest of Chu Lai at the time.

(Photo by PFC James N. Dunn, 523rd Sig. Bn.)

September 11, 1970

SOUTHERN CROSS

Americal marks third anniversary in Vietnam

By SP4 Thomas Neville

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - Exactly three years ago, September 25, 1967, the Americal Division was officially designated as the seventh United States Army division to serve in the Republic of Vietnam and since that time Americal soldiers have succeeded in securing one of the strongest Communist-infested areas in all of Vietnam.

Although the division was not re-christened, "Americal" until September the nucleus of the force had been serving in Vietnam since April, 1967, under the name of Task Force Oregon. General William C. Westmoreland, then commanding general of the Military Advisory Command, Vietnam, spearheaded the organization of the task force and deployed it to the troubled I Corps of South Vietnam.

Under the control of III Marine Amphibious Force, the main elements of the task force and their area of operations were: 196th Light Infantry Brigade, operating near Chu Lai; the 101st Airborne Division, which operated in the jungles west of Duc Pho; and the 3rd Brigade of the 25th Infantry Division, which conducted search and clear operations in Southern Quang Ngai Province.

A massive revamping took place when the Americal Division's colors were unfurled on Vietnam soil in the fall of 1967. The 196th moved northward to replace the 1st Brigade of the 101st Airborne, while the 198th Brigade moved from Duc Pho area to Chu Lai, replacing the 196th. In December, the 11th Infantry Brigade arrived and assumed the responsibility of securing the area around and to the west of Duc Pho.

During the first year, the newly-christened division caused the enemy to undergo its own baptism by fire. The 11th Brigade took over "Operation Muscatine" from the 198th and the latter infantry brigade assumed responsibility of the Chu Lai area.

When the 1968 Tet offensive began February, elements of the Americal Division were called upon to aid the Marines who were under siege in the city of Da Nang. Task Force Miracle was formed and the **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry of the 198th Brigade** and 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry of the 196th were sent to the rescue. After four days of fierce fighting, the 60th Main Force Viet Cong Battalion was turned back. From January 25 to February 15, the enemy lost 1,407 men.

Action continued hot and heavy in the spring of 1968. The 11th Brigade participated in Operation Norfolk Victory in the mountainous terrain southwest of Quang Ngai City. The "Jungle Warriors" destroyed a major enemy base of operations and deprived the Viet Cong of weapons and munitions.

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Americal marks third anniversary in Vietnam

The Americal Division has the largest area of operations of any unit in Vietnam and often times large units would be rushed to various strategic locations to meet the enemy. This was the case in April, 1968, when the 198th (?196th) was sent to Quang Tri to participate in fighting near the DMZ. When that mission was completed, Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry, was rushed to the aid of the besieged Special Forces camp at Kham Duc, Alpha Company was instrumental in the successful evacuation of personnel at the camp.

A series of major battles highlighted the waning days of the 1968 summer. The 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry teamed up with members of the 11th and 196th Brigades against regulars of the 2nd NVA Division about five miles west of Tam Ky. During the three day (Cont'd on centerfold) **Americal Division marks its third year in Vietnam** (continued from page 1) battle, 548 NVA were killed. Shortly after that action, an allied force of 11th Brigade and 2nd ARVN Division soldiers accounted for 422 enemy killed at Quang Ngai City.

In November, the two longest running Americal Division operations, Wheeler/Wallowa and Burlington Trail, were completed. The results were staggering. The 196th Infantry Brigade accounted for 10,020 enemy dead and 2,053 captured weapons during the one year existence of Operation Wheeler/Wallowa. Operation Burlington Trail accounted for 1,948 enemy and 545 captured weapons.

One of the largest operations conducted by the Americal Division in Vietnam was Operation Russell Beach. That operation involved two basic tactics of this war-combat and pacification. Initiated January 13, 1969, on the Batangan Peninsula eight miles northeast of Quang Ngai City, the operation was a massive effort to win the hearts and minds of the Vietnamese. All civilians were removed from the peninsula in order to isolate VC units and members of the Viet Cong infrastructure.

The pacification phase ended on July 21st and the effort saw the resettlement of more than 12,000 refugees on the peninsula after it had been cleared of enemy bunkers and sanctuaries. The overall pacification effort continued in the Americal but was soon to meet some stumbling blocks.

Intensive Communist pressures were beginning to be felt in the Que Son and Hiep Duc valleys, 30 miles south of Da Nang. The Hiep Duc Refugee Center and firebases LZ Center and LZ West were believed to [be] prime targets of the 2nd NVA Division.

In early August elements of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry beat off a ground attack at LZ West, killing 59 enemy soldiers. Later in the month, 196th Brigade infantrymen killed more than 312 NVA in 72 hours of fighting in the blistering heat on the Que Son Valley floor. Skirmishes in the two valleys continued through the month. At month's end more than 1,000 enemy had died in the area at the hands of Americal soldiers and Marines.

Pacification continued to be the name of the game in 1970. Americal engineers became involved in massive land clearing operations and resettlement villages sprang up everywhere.

The spring of 1970 saw a set back in one such pacification effort in Hiep Duc Valley when the NVA launched an offensive. Heavy fighting flared in the area but the enemy was soon stopped by 196th Brigade soldiers.

In July of 1970, elements from the 196th along with other Americal units recaptured the remote outpost at Kham Duc. The former Special Forces Camp had been overrun in May, 1968, by the NVA but Americal and ARVN forces reopened the camp via a massive assault this summer.

Today, three years after its arrival in Chu Lai, the Americal Division is the largest Army division in the world. Its soldiers are fighting in the largest tactical combat zone in Vietnam and their main goal is to win the hearts and minds of the Vietnamese people.

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America marks third anniversary in Vietnam

Photos:

- 1) UH-1 helicopter laying a smoke screen in preparation of a combat assault.
- 2) Soldiers on patrol.
- 3) Helicopters landing to drop troops for combat assault.
- 4) Soldier trying to keep dry under a poncho.
- 5) FSB area.
- 6) Soldier wearing steel pot, tee-shirt, and carrying M-16 looks back in the distance to see a firebase up on a hill.
- 7) Soldier in jungle area sights ahead on his M-16.
- 8) Chinook slings in a howitzer
- 9) 105mm is being fired.
- 10) Soldier loaded down with full ruck and steel pot balances across a stream on bamboo branches.
- 11) Heavily loaded soldiers on patrol.
- 12) APCs online crossing through a rice paddy.

Photo Caption: Colonel James R. Waldi, CO, 198th Brigade, leads his staff and commanders ashore at Chu Lai in October, 1967. (Photo by SP4 Jack C. Andrews)



Colonel James R. Waldie, CO, 198th Brigade, leads his staff and commanders ashore at Chu Lai in October, 1967. (Photo by SP4 Jack C. Andrews)

Division recap

Action increases,
160 enemy killed

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) -- Fighting increased in the southern part of First Military Region as the units of the Americal killed 169 enemy soldiers. The heaviest action of the week was in Operation Iron Mountain as the "Jungle Warriors" killed 53 enemy soldiers. The "Chargers" of the 196th Infantry Brigade in Operation Frederick Hill killed 30 enemy soldiers in sporadic contacts. In relatively light action the "Brave and Bold" of the **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry** and gunships of the 176th Aviation Company (Note: Assault Helicopter Company) combined to kill 15 enemy in Operation Geneva Park.

Geneva Park

The combination of ground and air units proved to be a devastating force in an area southeast of Chu Lai. First a gunship crew observed one VC evading in the area and engaged the enemy to kill him. Later the crew observed signs of enemy activity in a clump of rocks on the ground below, and saturated the area with automatic weapons fire.

Two platoons of Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry were then inserted and began sweeping through the area. As they maneuvered, the "Regulars" spotted one Viet Cong evading from the rock formations and fired on him killing him. As they continued the sweep the found five more VC killed by gunships and two rifles lying near the bodies.

A short time later, the gunships, working in the same general area, took enemy small arms fire and spotted 15 VC on the ground below. The crew fired on the enemy to kill five more.

The next day, Delta Company made another sweep through the area of the previous day contact and killed one VC.

Men of the 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry saw light activity during the week. The battalion killed four and captured one in scattered engagements with the enemy.

Light action also characterized the activity in the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry. Bravo Company found a maze of 10 bunkers and hooches built (continued on page 6) **11th Bde soldiers find tons of enemy rice** (continued from page 1) together in a n area northwest of Quang Ngai. Inside the bunkers, the infantrymen of the "Ready Rifles" discovered five AK-47 magazines, two CHICOM grenades, five mortar rounds, one RPG with seven rounds and another antitank weapon. Also found were two VC bodies dressed in brown uniforms. It was determined the two VC had been killed by an airstrike earlier in the week.

Frederick Hill

After finding a basecamp early in the week Delta Company, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry spotted 10 VC. Delta engaged the enemy, killing three while the others fled into a nearby treeline.

Company A of the "Gimlets" did its share when it killed two NVA during a sweep of the double canopy jungle at the end of the week northwest of Tam Ky.

A daring day light raid by Recon platoon northwest of Tam Ky resulted in the death of two NVA.

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Division recap

**Action increases,
160 enemy killed**

A defensive position set up by Recon effected the deaths of seven enemy later in the week northwest of Tam Ky. The first of two encounters led the "Gimlets" to kill three NVA, in a thickly vegetated area.

"We counted four more VC killed late in the afternoon when they stumbled into our defensive position along a well used trail," said First Lieutenant Joseph D. Barrett, Burlington Mills, N.C., platoon leader.

Four NVA were killed and a basecamp destroyed by Recon, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry with the help of artillery at the end of the week in thick double canopy jungle terrain northwest of Tam Ky.

"Four NVA were caught unaware as they were moving out of ambush position by one of our patrols that was checking out an enemy laager site previously bombarded by arty," reported Sergeant Bill Milburne, Harriman, Tenn., squad leader.

Three of the enemy were killed in the encounter that followed.

The "Polar Bears" of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry came into possession of two packs when they surprised and killed two VC northwest of Tam Ky early this week.

Iron Mountain

Early in the week while on a search and clear mission in the lowlands south of Duc Pho, Company A, 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry uncovered a 300 pound rice cache. The rice was found in a wooden box inside a small hut. It became apparent that Company A had broken up a VC rice carrying detail when a short time later, near the first cache, 15-100 pound bags and 18-55-gallon drums of rice was found lying in the open. The estimated three and one-half tons of rice was evacuated to LZ Bronco.

The next day at noon Alpha Company, 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry discovered a 2200 pound rice cache in the lowlands northwest of Duc Pho. The "Always First" found the rice buried in a ditch. Later in the afternoon Company A uncovered another rice cache consisting of 1000 pounds. This cache was found buried in a 55-gallon drum.

Continuing their productive rice denial campaign in the lowlands northwest of Duc Pho, Company A uncovered 400 pounds of rice the next day. The rice was found in 55-gallon drums buried in a hedgerow. Four tons of rice had been uncovered by Company A in the last three days and found in four different caches.

In the middle of the week Company B, 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry and Regional Forces had an estimated VC Company attack their night laager position in the lowlands northwest of Duc Pho. The enemy hit with CHICOM grenades and RPG rounds in the early morning hours. The attack which saw the enemy assault the "Jungle Warriors" position twice, both times being repelled, included five VC killed. The VC broke contact when Blue Ghost gunships arrived on station.

Late in the week Alpha Company, 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry saw action in the mountains northwest of Duc Pho when they engaged and killed four NVA. While checking out the area one more NVA was engaged and killed.

Div's Own Rock Group

Plays Throughout AO

By SP4 Ed Breidenbach

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - Did you know that the Americal has four Joint Chiefs of Staff? And they are all enlisted men at that.

Actually the Joint Chiefs of Staff are the Americal's own band operating for the entertainment of troops all over the AO at their firebases.

The group consists of Sergeant Wayne E. Hart, Tacoma, Wash., formerly of **Echo Recon, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry** who plays organ. Specialist Four James V. Satokoski a medic from 14th Combat Aviation Battalion and his home is in Laport, Ind., on drums. Specialist Four David C. Nealis a Chicago bass player formerly of the 23rd MP Company and Private First Class Donald E. Russell, Phoenix, Ariz., previously assigned to the 132nd Helicopter Company on lead guitar.

In charge of the band is First Lieutenant Chuck Leary a former tour manager of the Bee Gees and co-owner of Northern Artists Limited, a recording company in New York City.

Headquarters for the music makers is the Americal Amphitheater and Birthday Sound Studios. Birthday Sound Studios consists of two acoustically tiled rooms complete with a separate sound and recording room. "We worked for four days and nights to get it done, but it was worth it," they commented. The name came from the completion of the studio on the bass player's birthday.

A recording of 'Proud Mary' was given to Lieutenant Colonel James M. Eubanks, the Americal AG in appreciation for all the help given in getting the band together and equipped. It was the groups first recording and the first of many more to come.

The relatively new equipment is Jazzmaster amps guitars and speakers by Fender plus a Bogen amp. The 20 odd pieces weight approximately 800 pounds. This equipment goes through pelting by rocks and dirt thrown up by choppers

and constant moving that normal equipment would never have to face. "It's a hardship tour," Sergeant Hart explained.

The band was formed on May 8th of this year. Specialist Nealis was the first member. After a couple days wait the rest of the group showed up and began to mesh, through Lieutenant Leary's direction, their different styles. It involved long 18 hour practice sessions in order to be ready for the deadline set to see if the group would stay in existence. They met it with flying colors despite having to work around Private Russell's country and western background, Sergeant Hart's acid music experience, Special Nealis' experience with the Mauds and the Buckingham's of Chicago and the 'Ski's' work with his hometown group. It was a real challenge.

An average day starts about six in the morning. Everyone gets up and assembles at the studio and begins packing the equipment from the night of practice onto the blue pickup. They crowd on and proceed to the 23rd S&T pad near the main gate and meet with the fast team which is there with their 201 files of the host unit and the mobile PX conex.

When a Chinook finally comes the equipment is transferred to the waiting bird. On the journey to LZ Center which will be used and an example, some members of the band were bumped from the first flight and were forced to wait for another chopper that was not long in coming.

(Continued)

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Div's Own Rock Group

Plays Throughout AO

At LZ Center the equipment was waiting on the pad for the rest of the group to arrive only two had unloaded it from the first chopper. When the rocks and dust had settled from the last Chinook the large cumbersome boxes were packed in two jeeps with trailers along with the fast team.

The equipment was moved up then down the rutted road to a chapel. here it was unloaded to the outside of the chapel until someone scrounged up a key. When that finally came the door was opened and again the heavy boxes were moved.

About as soon as everyone and everything was inside the group was informed that they must move to another part of the LZ so that a promotion board could be held in the chapel. The move was to be into the 'Gimlet Inn' where the door was opened and again the heavy boxes were moved.

Two moves were performed to the outside and to the jeep.

Tables and chairs were moved at the 'Gimlet Inn' so the equipment could be placed and more people could be squeezed in. Another blow was dropped. The mess sergeant made clear the group had to be out before noon so the individuals that eat there would be served on time. This meant the program was to be cut short by about 20 minutes. They had to wait for the fast team to finish so as not to detract their business. "it really makes us sad when we can't gives the guys a show, but even half a program is better than none. So we give half a show," Specialist Nealis pointed out.

After changing into civvies they use for the show, final tuning and tests were conducted. The show opened at 11 a.m. Real American music played and performed by professional American musicians. This group is not run of the mill. Every tune is polished. The routine and humor though is one thing that comes off the top of the head. It sure loosens the crowd up.

As the music went on the crowd grew larger and larger. People lined up on the porch, then began sitting on the bunkers on both sides of the Inn. Inside they were crammed like sardines. One of the spectators even felt so moved he got up and danced during 'Midnight Hour.' It was a time of release for some for others it was a somber moment during some of the wide variety of songs that brought back fond memories of home. In this particular crowd most were somber and thinking.

At 11:40 the guys completed their final song and began to pack up. The show had been cut short by 20 minutes. A move was made to the chopper pad, then lunch.

Two hours later, a Chinook landed but with a large number of people already on, only the equipment could be transferred to Hawk Hill. The band was rejoined with their equipment an hour later at Hawk Hill when another hot and tiring wait began. Two and a half hours time. Chu Lai was a welcome sight.

On reflecting on the day, general consensus seemed to be that LZ Center was one of the longer days as far as moving and waiting went. But to them it was worth it because the guys had enjoyed it.

Division Recap

124 enemy killed as action decreases

CHU LAI (AMERICAL - IO) – Action decreased last week in Southern First Military Region as Americal soldiers killed 124 enemy. The week was highlighted by the uncovering of 9,000 pounds of enemy rice by the 11th Brigade's 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry.

Iron Mountain

Early in the week, Company A, 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry spotted two VC entering a tunnel while on a routine patrol west of Quang Ngai near the Tra Khuc River. The infantrymen engaged and killed the VC by dropping hand grenades into the opening causing the tunnel to collapse. Later in the day, they engaged and killed three VC after they were sighted carrying packs twenty meters from their position.

The next night, Delta Company engaged five NVA in the lowlands southwest of Quang Ngai City. One enemy was killed and another was wounded.

In the middle of the week, while on a patrol in the mountains southwest of Duc Pho, Company C observed four enemy soldiers taking a bath. The patrol called in for artillery from Delta Battery, 6th Battalion, 11th Artillery. After the shelling, the patrol observed two dead enemy soldiers being removed from the water.

The following day, while on a patrol along the coast north of Duc Pho, Company D, 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry found an area which appeared to be a prepared cache area. The first and third platoon found approximately 4,000 pounds of rice distributed outside a hut in rice bins and boxes.

At the end of the week, Company B uncovered 1,000 pounds of rice near the coast north of Duc Pho to give the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry a total of 9,000 pounds of rice.

Frederick Hill

Early in the week Company A, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry, while on patrols northwest of Tam Ky, engaged and killed two VC. They also discovered one NVA killed by artillery. The kill was credited to Battery B, 3rd Battalion, 82nd Artillery.

While on a sweep northwest of Tam Ky, Company A of the "Gimlets" observed 10 NVA moving to their front. They engaged the enemy resulting in one NVA killed.

Company C, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry, while on patrols this week came across three NVA graves. All three kills were credited to Battery B, 3rd Battalion, 82nd Artillery.

Recon of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry, engaged three NVA while on a sweep northwest of Tam Ky. One NVA was killed while the other two evaded south.

While on a search and clear mission Company D, 3rd Battalion 21st Infantry, engaged and killed three VC. Three packs containing medical supplies were captured. (continued on page 6) **198th Bde Regulars kill 19 foe in week's action** (continued from page 1)

Company D of the "Gimlets" accounted for five enemy killed while on patrols northwest of Tam Ky. They also captured four packs containing medical supplies, clothing and food.

Company D, 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry, while on a sweep southwest of Tam Ky found five enemy shelters. They recovered 475 pounds of wheat and 50 pounds of corn in the shelters.

The Recon element of the 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry, while on patrol fired on three VC in jungles southwest of Tam Ky. One was killed while the other two VC evaded to the north.

Geneva Park

In a day laager position southeast of Chu Lai, **Company C, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, engaged a group of VC at close distance. Four enemy soldiers were killed and one was captured. Also taken in the action were one AK-50 and four packs. The next day, C Company killed three VC while working in the same area. Captured were one AK-47, two magazines, two CHICOM grenades, three packs, and one 60mm mortar base plate.**

(Continued)

In another action, Company C observed a group of VC in an [typo?]

The next day, Company B, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, swept the area of the previous night's contact, and found one enemy soldier killed and one pistol belt. Later that day, the "Regulars" found five 60mm mortar rounds lying on a trail. The rounds were blown in place.

Later in the week, Bravo Company observed and engaged two VC carrying weapons and packs at a distance of 300 meters. One VC was killed in the action.

While in a night defensive perimeter in an area northwest of Chu Lai, Delta Company, 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry, engaged an enemy force of unknown size. Gunships from F Troop, 8th Cavalry, were called in support of the "Professionals." Delta Company killed four of the enemy soldiers while gunships killed two.

Company B, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry, engaged two VC with small arms fire at a distance of 30 meters in an area northwest of Quang Ngai. Both of the enemy soldiers were killed. One AK-47 and one AK-50 were captured. Later that night, Company B killed two more VC as they approached their night laager site.

While on patrol southwest of Chu Lai, Company A, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry, engaged and killed two VC at close range. Two packs were taken from the enemy soldiers.

Company C, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry discovered a munitions cache in an area southwest of Chu Lai. The "Ready Rifles" found a hootch eight feet wide by ten feet long which contained one box of armor piercing rounds, 300 rifle rounds, 15 pounds of explosives, a home made bangalore torpedo, two satchel charges, and one RPG launcher. All the items were extracted to a nearby LZ.

Division soldier teaches Viet students English

By SP4 Terry Williamson

LZ BAYONET (198th INF BDE IO) - Every Tuesday and Thursday the eyes of over 100 Vietnamese students strain to see the doorway of their classroom at the Binh Son Public School for their newly acquired English teacher.

The teacher, whose reception is so eagerly awaited, is an NCO from the division's 198th Infantry Brigade.

Sergeant Douglas Nichols, Charlotte, N.C., civil affairs NCO of the **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry**, spends two mornings every week to help Vietnamese students with their pronunciation of English.

"It's the most rewarding thing I've done since I've been in Vietnam," Sergeant Nichols said. "The kids are so eager to learn, and, because I am American, they are fascinated with the class."

Father Thiep, principal of the school and teacher of English and civics, conceived the idea, and states that it has made his students more aware of their pronunciation, and has given them a much keener appreciation of the subject.

When the idea came to Father Thiep, he went through the battalion channels to procure a man for the job. Sergeant Nichols had already done considerable work in the MEDCAP program at the orphanage at Binh Son, and was well known to the staff of the school. He seemed to be a natural for the job in the eyes of the teachers and, most important of all, he was more than willing to tackle the job.

"It was something that I really wanted to do, and I'm glad everyone concerned is happy with the arrangement we made with the school," Nichols said.

The language barrier has been no problem to Nichols. "It is the main concern of the school for me to help the students with true pronunciation, and they feel that if the students can hear an American speak to the class and let them repeat the phrases, they will learn to speak clearly," he said.

Two classes are taught each Tuesday and Thursday morning by Nichols. Each class contains about 50 students, so during the week he faces about 200 students. The school has more than 1000 students, ranging from elementary grades to high school, and English is a subject all the children receive.

Sergeant Nichols has become quite a celebrity since taking over his new job. Whenever he appears at the school, a murmur of excitement and anticipation fills the air.

"When Sergeant Nichols is late for some reason, the children get very anxious, and you have to assure them that he will come," said Father Thiep. "They are very glad to receive him and it is the highlight of the week for them."

The normal class starts off with the traditional greeting between the American teacher and the Vietnamese students. He says "good morning" to the class and they bow and repeat his greeting in English. Nichols then reads passages from the students' English textbook, and the students repeat each phrase after him. When the reading is completed, Nichols pronounces some of the words that the children have been having difficulty with for the last week.

Division soldier teaches Viet students English

"The students have trouble pronouncing the 'th' sounds in our language," Nichols observed. "But they are very eager to show me that they can do well. They are all smiles when you compliment them."

"My students can't wait for Sergeant Nichols to come," said Mr. Sang, teacher of English, geography, Vietnamese and history at the school. "They want more teachers like him so they can have these types of classes more often."

Nichols' teaching chores are in addition to his regular duties and preparation for his classes have to be done in his spare time. But the rewards he receives make the extra effort worthwhile.

"I actually think I get more out of the classes than the kids do," Nichols said. "They try so hard to please you, and you can see improvement each week."

Nichols' work also has other benefits. Father Thiep's parish recently presented him with a giant lobster in appreciation for his work with the children.

The story of the fatigue-clad English teacher grows in Binh Son, but it seems that an American NCO is the one who is really looking forward to Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

Web snares 3 Viet Cong

By SGT Louis Miller

LZ BAYONET (198th INF BDE IO) - Infantrymen from the division's 198th Infantry Brigade slowly spun a web around three connecting spider holes and killed three enemy and captured another in a day's activity southeast of Chu Lai.

While on a patrol, an element of Echo Recon, **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry**, observed four VC entering a deserted village. Before any action was taken, the patrol leader called for a LOH to make an aerial reconnaissance of the area.

After the LOH had reported no sightings and had left the area, members of the patrol removed some of their gear and left guards to secure it. The rest of the element then moved toward the village.

Near the center of the village, the men of the recon element observed a VC evading to the south. Reacting quickly, a member of the patrol brought him down with an M-79 grenade launcher.

Finishing the sweep, the patrol came upon three spider hol[d]es, about 20 feet apart, each a foot and a half in diameter, just outside the village.

"This was where we had last observed the enemy," said First Lieutenant Peter Heesch, Jr., Westfield, N.J., platoon leader for Echo Recon. "So after we received no response from the enemy when we asked them to surrender, we decided to throw several hand grenades into the holes. But we were short of grenades so four men were left to watch the spider holes while the rest went back to their gear for more equipment."

After they had returned, the "Regulars" dropped three grenades into each hole and, when the smoke had cleared, Sergeant Jon Lair, Sikeston, Mo., entered, carrying a flashlight and a pistol.

Just then an enemy soldier fired at Sergeant Lair from within the hole. Lair pulled himself out unscathed and the infantrymen threw several more grenades into the holes. Again Lair tried to enter and again a shot rang out from within. This time, however, when Lair came out of the hole he brought with him a dead VC.

As members of the patrol searched the body, another enemy soldier stood up from one of the spider holes and fired two bursts from his AK-47.

"I was walking toward one of the holes when I heard two bursts," said Lieutenant Heesch. "The next thing I knew leaves were falling all around me and one round had hit the handguards on my rifle. I was not hurt however."

The enemy lowered himself back into the hole, again firing a burst from his rifle, this time hitting a bandoleer of ammunition which was on the ground, setting it on fire. The "Regulars" returned fire, forcing the VC into the hole and again threw grenades into the spider holes. Sergeant Lair attempted to enter again, and once more his advance was halted by enemy fire.

Lieutenant Heesch then radioed for tear gas grenades in an attempt to flush the enemy out of the hole. When they arrived, they were thrown into the three holes and, finally, the enemy emerged from his sanctuary with his hands up.

But the enemy wasn't through yet. As Lair went toward him, the VC suddenly grabbed Lair and tried to push him into the hole. After a short struggle, the VC tried to escape, but his effort was useless as the members of the patrol brought him down with small arms.

A few minutes later, the third enemy came out of the spider hole with hands up. After the recon element's Kit Carson Scout spoke to him for a few minutes, the VC returned to the spider hole and brought back with him one AK-47, two empty AK-47 magazines, and one canteen cup.

'Regulars' kill 4 VC from concealed positions

By SGT Louis Miller

LZ BAYONET (198th INF BDE IO) - Using surprise and well concealed daylight positions, men from the 198th Infantry Brigade killed four VC, captured one, and took one weapon and several munitions southeast of Chu Lai recently.

An element of **Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry**, resting in preparation for nighttime patrolling, had set up three separate laager positions at breaks in a hedgerow. Five feet to the front of the hedgerow was a trail, running east to west about four feet below the laager positions.

"It was late in the afternoon when we heard voices coming from the west end of the trail," recalled Private First Class Paul Cramor, Green Bay, Wisc. "The other positions were alerted and we just waited for the enemy to move closer."

Minutes later, a group of VC moved in front of the first position. The enemy group continued past the second position, all the time the "Regulars" holding their fire. When the VC pointman reached the third position, Charlie Company's machine-gunner opened up.

"It was too late for them to do anything," said Private First Class Richard Hooter, Natchitoches, La., the machine-gunner. "Their pointman stopped right in front of my position."

PFC Hooter brought down one VC while nearby riflemen brought down two more. Other VC, not yet in the kill zone, turned and attempted to evade, but ran right into the two positions manned by the "Regulars" -- the positions the VC had just walked past.

"By the time the enemy ran down the trail to our position, they were scattered," said PFC Cramer. "But two of them one with an AK-47, stayed on the trail and ran in front of my position, giving me a clear shot."

After Cramer fired, one enemy lay dead and another wounded. The wounded VC was soon evacuated to a Chu Lai hospital.

When the firing had stopped, the "Regulars" found several trails of blood running into the trail. The infantrymen followed them, but darkness forced them to call off the search.

Along with the four enemy killed and one captured, one AK-47, one hand grenade, and several blasting caps, detonating cord, and fuses were confiscated in the action.

1st-6th silences noisy enemy

By SGT Louis Miller

LZ BAYONET (198th INF BDE IO) - Two separate elements of Viet Cong violated the age old principle of noise discipline over a period of several days and infantrymen of **Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry** capitalized on the mistakes by killing five, detaining four and capturing several weapons and munitions in an area south of Chu Lai.

Bravo Company was only a short distance from their previous night's defensive position when members of the "Regulars" heard loud voices coming from the far bank of a nearby river.

After the third platoon leader halted his men, Sergeant Dennis Linn, Atlanta, Ga., and two other men went to the river bank to investigate the noise. After observing several Viet Cong with weapons, Linn sent one man back for the rest of the element.

"When the rest of the men reached us," Sergeant Linn recalled, "we spread everyone out on a line and opened up on the enemy."

A short time later, Bravo sent an element across the river and found two Viet Cong killed and one wounded. The wounded enemy was evacuated to a Chu Lai hospital.

The "Regulars" then followed a blood trail and found two more Viet Cong, both wounded from the contact, hiding underwater and using bamboo shoots to breathe.

Several days later, the enemy's carelessness in noise discipline again took its toll. Bravo Company was setting up an evening perimeter when members of an element spotted a woman heading toward their position. About 600 meters from the perimeter, the woman passed on some food and other items to a Viet Cong who appeared from the brush along the trail. Then the woman continued toward Bravo's location.

"When she came right up on us all we had to do was reach out and grab her," said Sergeant Linn.

Later in the evening the "Regulars" again heard voices, this time the noise was coming from the south. "There was only one problem," said Linn. "There was a large sand dune between us and the enemy and we couldn't see them, we just heard them coming."

But the enemy soldiers kept advancing and stopped just short of Bravo's position, chatting and lighting up cigarettes. The Regulars then opened up on the enemy killing two. At first light the company swept the area and found a blood trail and a knife. The men followed the trail and found another Viet Cong who had been killed during the contact.

The enemy's hard-learned lesson on noise discipline cost them a total of five killed, four detained, five rifles, 10 Chicom grenades and one knife.

'Refit' is welcome break from field

By SGT Louis Miller

LZ BAYONET (198th INF BDE IO) - Tired, dirty and sweaty but full of smiles and anticipation about the next several days of rest, recreation and relaxation is how "refit" begins for infantrymen of the division's 198th Infantry Brigade.

Refit is scheduled periodically to allow the infantrymen from the line units time to leave the field and spent several days at Chu Lai, where they can rest and attend to some of the things that cannot be taken care of in the field. In refit, steaks replace C-rations, hot showers replace steel pot baths, and floor shows replace patrols.

"The one thing I enjoy is having running water and being able to turn it on and off," explained Staff Sergeant David Fuller, Binghamton, N.Y., Alpha Company, **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry**.

Another pleasure is wearing new, clean uniforms. Haircuts are another must and the men have a chance to visit the dentist and submit reluctantly, to having their shot records updated. Other administrative items are also completed, including having dog tags and identification cards made up, and having finance records looked over.

But what the men really enjoy during refit is doing nothing. The 198th Infantry Brigade's refit area is located on the beach at Chu Lai. Here the tired troopers spend most of their time sleeping, sunning and swimming, and all without having to worry about setting up a defensive perimeter. And there is time for touch football, card playing and letter writing.

The men also spend a great deal of time commuting between the refit area and the main PX where they get the chance to buy items they could only think about in the field.

The entertainment highlight is the daily floor show, which is held early in the afternoon. The men can enjoy the music and dancing that were just thoughts in the "bush". One other popular service available on refit comes from the Army MARS station where radio-telephone calls can be placed back to the "world". But the three minutes of conversation seems to last only a few seconds. Private First Class Solomon Witman, Chicago, **Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry**, remembered, "Everyone was so happy to hear from me that all I listened to was three minutes of crying."

The least awaited event of the refit is the inevitable final morning when the men have to return to the field.

"Sometimes you're more tired when you leave than when you get in," recalled Specialist Four Allen Greenman, Marshal, Mich.

Division recap

Action increases,

97 enemy killed

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) - Action picked up considerably as monsoon rains subsided in Southern First Military region during the past week. Americal soldiers accounted for a total of 97 enemy killed during a week of intermittent rain.

Iron Mountain

Early in the week, Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry found over 2,300 pounds of rice in the lowlands southeast of Quang Ngai City. The day's find brought 1st Bn., 20th Inf.'s total to 100,000 pounds of rice since September 1, 1970.

The next day, Charlie Company continued to deplete the enemy's rations when they found another 2,400 pounds of enemy rice. The rice was found buried in drums and was evacuated to FSB Bronco.

The same day, elements of Echo Recon, 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry, found two tons of unpolished rice in the lowlands south of Duc Pho. The rice was found in bags, bins and drums and evacuated to FSB BRonco.

Warlords of Company B, 123rd Aviation observed one NVA with an SKS evading north in the mountains west of Duc Pho. THE LOH engaged and killed the enemy. When (continued on page 6)

Action picks up as rainstorms subside (continued from page 1) preparing to land, the LOH received enemy fire. The LOH again engaged the enemy killing three NVA.

Later that night, elements of Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry, observed 38 NVA with packs and weapons in the lowlands northwest of Duc Pho. The Infantrymen engaged the area with small arms fire and later with "Shark" gunships. Sweeping the area, the infantrymen found one NVA flashlight.

Frederick Hill

Early this week two enemy were killed by elements of Company C, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry, northwest of Tam Ky. they killed one VC they spotted moving outside their night laager position shortly before daybreak. A second enemy was accounted for during a midmorning search of a hootch area when they flushed on NVA out of hiding and killed him with small arms fire. Captured were one Chicom grenade and one rucksack containing a small assortment of tools and personal items.

Later the same day the "Charlie Tigers" uncovered a large tunnel complex during operation on a thickly vegetated hillside. The tunnel, estimated to be large enough to hide a company element, contained one freshly oiled 31 caliber machine gun, 57 recoilless rifle rounds, three boxes of 51 caliber rounds and 200-31 caliber rounds.

Also this week Company C, 3rd Battalion 21st Infantry, while securing a landing zone west of Tam Ky spotted one NVA 20 meters to their front. They engaged and killed the enemy with small arms fire. Thirty rounds of AK-47 ammunition were recovered with an AK-47 rifle and rucksack.

Later in the week, Charlie Company moved into a base camp and observed two enemy evading east. The "Gimlets" engaged them with small arms fire resulting in one VC and one NVA killed. One NVA pistol belt and one pack containing medical supplies were recovered in the action.

Company B, 3rd Bn., 21st Infantry while on patrol west of Tam Ky found three VC graves. The VC were believed killed by small arms fire.

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Action picks up as rainstorms subside

Geneva Park

The "Professionals" of 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry accounted for nine enemy killed, six in a single encounter. They also found a small food cache. Echo Recon engaged and killed the six enemy while patrolling near the Ky Tra Valley northwest of Chu Lai. Captured in the action were one AK-47, two AK-47 magazines, one handgrenade and two packs.

Charley Company, 5th Bn., 46th Inf., engaged and killed two VC northwest of Chu Lai. Later the company sent five detainees to Chu Lai.

Bravo Company, 5th Bn., 46th Inf., engaged and killed a VC in a brief firefight northwest of Chu Lai.

The "Ready Rifles" of the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry, killed six VC and detained seven during the week. A large amount of hand grenades, rice and other items were taken in the actions.

Conducting two after dark raids on small hamlets south of Chu Lai, Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, killed four VC and detained seven. Taken in the encounters were one rifle, 20 Chicom grenades, five packs, and 150 pounds of rice.

Alpha Company, 1st Bn., 52nd Inf., employing the same after dark technique later in the week, killed two enemy soldiers and detained one in a small hamlet northwest of Quang Ngai City.

The "Regulars" of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, accounted for four enemy killed and two weapons taken in action southeast of Chu Lai. Early in the week a Recon team engaged and killed three VC in three separate encounters. Later Bravo Company engaged and killed a single VC while on patrol.

In a day laager position, Delta Company, 1st Bn., 6th Inf., had a child show them the location of a large metal cylinder containing an unknown type of explosive. The container and explosive were destroyed.

Photo Caption - With packs on their backs, B Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, 198th Brigade, moves out on patrol about nine miles northeast of LZ Dottie. (Photo by PFC James Dunn, 523rd Sig Bn.



With packs on their backs, B Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, 198th Brigade, moves out on patrol about nine miles northeast of LZ Dottie.

(Photo by PFC James Dunn, 523rd Sig Bn)

79 enemy soldiers

die in light action

By SP4 Dave Goodrich

CHU LAI (23rd INF DIV IO) - Action was light this week, which ended with 79 enemy killed and large amounts of rice and munitions captured. In action south of Chu Lai, the "Ready Rifles" of the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry, 198th Brigade accounted for 11 enemy killed in on action as part of Operation Geneva Park.

Frederick Hill

The men of the 196th Infantry Brigade accounted for 40 enemy killed and captured a large amount of food and munitions during the week.

In operations east-northeast of Tam Ky the soldiers of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry recovered 7,000 pounds of corn, 2,700 pounds of rice, 508 Chicom (Chinese Communist) grenades, 140 pounds of plastic explosives, six Chicom light-machine guns, 14 122mm rockets, 52 60mm mortar rounds, 12 105mm artillery rounds, two complete 82mm mortar tubes, two 82mm mortar rounds, 17 75mm recoilless rifle rounds, three SKS rifles, six AK-47 rifles, 10,000 rounds of AK-47 ammunition, two 9mm pistols and 800 blasting caps.

Members of Company A of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry came in contact with five enemy soldiers while on patrol northeast of Tam Ky, resulting three NVA and two VC dead, and two AK-47 rifles and one 9mm pistol captured.

Later in the week, Company A of the "Polar Bears" accounted for three more dead NVA, capturing three AK-47s and eight Chicom grenades.

Soldiers of the 3rd Platoon, Company D, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry, upon entering a structure area, observed three NVA evading to their front. They killed one of them and chased another into a spider hole. The "Gimlets" called for him to come out, and when he refused they tossed a grenade into the hole. Upon search of the hole they found three dead NVA and 150 pounds of rice.

Company B, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry killed two NVA attempting to set up a booby trap west of Tam Ky.

Iron Mountain

The 11th Infantry Brigade was credited with 21 enemy kills. In the most significant action. Shark gunships of the 174th Aviation Company spotted five VC in the mountains Northwest of Duc Pho. The gunships engaged the VC with miniguns, resulting in five dead VC.

Earlier in the week, the men of Company A, 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry extracted about 2,600 pounds of unpolished rice to Brigade S-5.

In two separate actions, "Warlords" of the 174th Aviation [Note: the "Warlords" were B/123rd Aviation Bn, the "Sharks" were 174th Aviation Company] accounted for two additional enemy killed in action. Company C, 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry killed (Continued Page 6) **Ready Rifles net 14 KIA** (Continued from page 1) three NVA after hearing movement to their front.

Earlier in the week, Company A and Company C of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry were each credited with a KIA in two separate action.

Various elements of the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry accounted for seven enemy KIA, and found about 1,000 pounds of unpolished rice during the week.

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79 enemy soldiers

die in light action

Geneva Park

Action was generally light during the week for infantrymen in the 198th Infantry Brigade as 18 enemy soldiers were killed in Operation Geneva Park, including a major action south of Chu Lai in which 11 Viet Cong fell. Numerous weapons and rice caches were confiscated.

The heaviest action was recorded in the area of operation of the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry as the "Ready Rifles" accounted for 14 enemy kills. Eleven enemy were killed and seven weapons captured in one action south of Chu Lai.

The "Ready Rifles" after being inserted into a suspected enemy location, immediately engaged two VC, killing them when they attempted to hide in a bunker.

Company D of the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry were then inserted into another enemy sector, killing two of the enemy after engaging a group of Viet Cong. While sweeping the area of contact, the "Ready Rifles" managed to kill six more enemy soldiers with the aid of gunships. Earlier in the week, the battalion found 700 pounds of unpolished rice, and destroyed it.

While on a patrol south of Chu Lai, Company C, of the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry killed two enemy soldiers with small arms fire. The "Ready Rifles" captured a wounded Viet Cong soldier while sweeping the area of contact.

Earlier in the week, Company C found 22 crocks containing about 2,200 pounds of rice. They also found 32 pounds of tobacco, two cans filled with explosives and eight magazines.

While on patrol, Company B of the "Ready Rifles" discovered an abandoned base camp in a thickly vegetated area, along with a well-used trail leading to several military structures in the rear of the camp. All of the structures were destroyed.

Echo Recon of the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry killed one VC trying to evade while the company was searching a village.

Action was light for the infantrymen of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, as the "Regulars" killed two Viet Cong, and captured several enemy munitions southeast of Chu Lai.

Company D, of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry killed one Viet Cong when he tried to evade from a small hamlet southeast of Chu Lai. Late in the week, Company D captured a VC who had several blasting caps in his pockets.

While on patrol, Company C of the Regulars engaged a group of VC, killing one.

Two NVA soldiers were killed by the men of the 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry in the Ky TR. Valley, rounding out the battalion action of the week.

1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry had slightly increased action last week in the Pennsylvania Square area of operations as the "Blackhawks" encountered light enemy resistance.

Troop C found an enemy base camp area while on a joint operation with Republic of Vietnam forces. The action resulted in the capture of 200 pounds of rice, a large quantity of personal equipment and five NVA killed in action.

While operating north of the Pennsylvania Square, Troop B killed five NVA in a joint operation with the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry.

Troop A uncovered approximately 150 pounds of rice later in the week.

Unit gets Ochiner power

By SGT Louis Miller

LZ DOTTIE (198th INF BDE IO) - Mail call has become a little confusing for a company of the 23rd Division's 198th Infantry Brigade since those two men with the same last name joined the unit.

The two men, Specialist 4 Norman and Private First Class Rod Ochiner of Fresno, Calif., are both serving with the same platoon of Company A, **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry**.

Norman, a rifleman with the "Regulars", was helping his company secure a pacification hamlet southeast of Chu Lai when he was told to board the next helicopter to go to the replacement detachment in Chu Lai where he could see his brother. A reunion was in the making.

"It was exciting for us because we hadn't seen each other for nearly a year," said Norman. "I knew Rod was coming over, but I didn't know he would be assigned to this division."

During their first meeting, the men talked about difference between home and Vietnam and how nice it would be if Rod would be assigned to the same company. A short time later, their wish became reality when Rod, a medic, was not only assigned to Company A, but was further assigned to be the medic for his brother's platoon.

"It's great being in the same platoon," said Norman, who has been in-country for eleven months. "This way we can watch out for each other and be with each other instead of worrying about how the other one is getting along."

In a short time, Norman will be going home, but he's leaving with the feeling that some of his experience and know-how rubbed off on his brother.

70 enemy killed in a week of light action

By SP4 David Goodrich

In moderately light action this last week, elements of the Americal Division killed 70 enemy soldiers. In a slightly unusual cache find, the 196th Infantry Brigade found 34,000 pounds of salt.

Geneva Park

Infantrymen from the Division's 198th Infantry Brigade saw moderate action this week as Operation Geneva Park accounted for 21 enemy kills.

The heaviest activity was reported by the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, as the Regulars killed 11 enemy soldiers and wounded another southeast of Chu Lai. Of these 11 enemy k.i.a., nine were accounted for by Company C of the battalion.

An element of Company A observed one Viet Cong evading from a tree line, and a group of the "Regulars" maneuvered to within 100 meters of the enemy and killed him. Later, Company D chalked up a kill after the infantrymen observed a small group of the enemy.

Nine enemy soldiers were killed by the "Ready Rifles" of the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry and several weapons and a large rice cache were taken. Late in the week, an eagle flight by Company D resulted in four Viet Cong killed and five detainees taken.

Earlier in the week, the company discovered ten barrels of polished rice buried in the ground near a hedgerow. The barrels were well camouflaged and contained nearly 8,000 pounds of rice. All edible rice was extracted to Son Tinh District Headquarters for distribution to orphanages and refugee centers in that district. In other action, the company killed on VC attempting to evade to the east in an area south of Chu Lai.

A platoon from Company C of the "Ready Rifles" engaged a group of VC at a distance of about 100 meters in a brief contact south of Chu Lai. While attempting to evade, the enemy element ran into a well-placed blocking force of another element of the "Ready Rifles" who killed two enemy soldiers and captured another.

Later in the week, Company C killed two Viet Cong after establishing contact with the enemy and following some resulting blood trails. They led the infantrymen to a spider hole, which they threw hand grenades into, killing two.

H Troop, 17th Cavalry killed one Viet Cong southeast of Chu Lai.

Hawk Hill

In light action this week the men of the 196th Infantry Brigade killed 24 enemy soldiers and found 34,000 pounds of salt.

Company C of the 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry killed three enemy soldiers during the week's action in three separate encounters.

Company A of the battalion discovered 16,000 pounds of the week's salt finds while on a search and clear mission.

Later in the week, the company came across three large wicker baskets, each containing 6,000 pounds of salt.

The Recon element of the 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry, while on sweep observed 13 enemy to their front and managed to kill two with small arms fire.

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70 enemy killed in a week of light action

Company B of the Battalion engaged and killed three NVA southwest of Tam Ky while on patrol.

Company D of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry killed one VC after firing in the direction of movement from their night laager position northwest of Tam Ky.

Company A observed three VC evading from a structure, while on patrol. They killed two and the other managed to escape.

While on visual reconnaissance for the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry a member of Brigade Aviation observed three NVA northwest of Tam Ky. The enemy was engaged with small arms fire resulting in all three enemy killed.

IRON Mountain

The men of the 11th Infantry Brigade killed 16 enemy soldiers during the week in light action.

Bravo Company of the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry had their hands full when confronted with a number of challenges in the line of duty. In a two day period, a total of four VC were killed in action along with the discovery of a 1,900 pound rice cache.

Working in the lowlands south of Quang Ngai City, Company D of the battalion found approximately 1,000 pounds of unpolished rice stored in metal containers.

Company C found approximately 2,000 pounds of unpolished rice along the coast northwest of Duc Pho, stored in plastic bags buried underground.

Members of D troop, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry (Air) received small arms fire while riding in a Light Observation Helicopter (LOH) along the coast north of Duc Pho. After being cleared for firing, the LOH killed two VC and wounded the third.

While patrolling the foothills northwest of Duc Pho, elements of Company C, 4th Battalion 3rd Infantry engaged and killed one VC.

While patrolling an area along the coast south of Duc Pho, Recon platoon of the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry observed two VC in a boat. Subsequent action resulted in one enemy dead and one captured.

The next day, while patrolling the foothills southwest of Duc Pho, the Recon platoon of the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry saw five VC coming down a trail. The platoon killed two of the enemy as the rest managed to evade.

Pennsylvania Square

Action increased in the Pennsylvania Square last week as the men of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry killed nine enemy soldiers and captured seven more.

Alpha Troop accounted for eight of the kills and captured six. One contact began as the Troop's supply helicopter spotted a group of VC and directed the ground elements to them. The result was one killed and three captured.

Not habit forming

By SGT Louis Miller

LZ DOTTIE (198th INF BDE IO) - A unit of the Americal Division's 198th Infantry Brigade turned an old enemy habit into their own advantage and killed two enemy, captured three and confiscated two rifles and nine grenades in a recent encounter southeast of Chu Lai.

A platoon of Company C, **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry** was preparing to move from a night offensive [?defensive] position when members of the element spotted several women carrying baskets of food into a nearby deserted village.

"We stayed in our position a little while longer and saw the women bring more food into the village," said Staff Sergeant Wayne L. Bower of Newport, Ore., the platoon sergeant. "Then, using the hedgerows as cover, we moved away from our position and set up a new one where we could observe both the village and our old position."

The next morning the infantrymen found they had correctly predicted their enemies' habits when they spotted a Viet Cong checking their old position for discarded items. Sergeant Bower took several men and maneuvered towards the enemy.

"We got as close as we could without being detected and then I yelled 'Dung Lai'", said the sergeant. "He was going to run but then decided against it and just put his hands up." Taken from the enemy were two hand grenades, a pack, and web-gear.

The Kit Carson Scout with Company C questioned the Viet Cong and learned that there were more enemy soldiers in a structure next to the village the company had been observing. The platoon from the company left several men to secure the captured enemy and moved down a trail towards the village.

"We were nearing the area when we heard voices coming from a structure just 20 meters from us," said Sergeant Bower. "I looked around the bend in the trail and saw two VC, one with an AK-47, standing near the building."

The platoon busily began making their plan. A machinegun and one squad were positioned to the rear of the structure to block the enemy's exit while sergeant Bower and another squad was to move in from the front.

Just as the men were moving into their designated positions, one of the two VC they had seen decided to leave. A quick burst from an M-16 brought down the enemy.

"As soon as we opened up, so did our element in the rear," related the sergeant. "The enemy within the structure attempted to move out the back, but the machinegun changed their minds. So they decided to try the front where we were."

Sergeant Bower's element's of fire was just as intensive and, when the brief firefight was over, the infantrymen discovered they had killed another enemy and wounded two. The wounded were evacuated to Chu Lai hospital. Found inside the structure were another rifle, three AK-47 magazines, seven hand grenades, food and ten hammocks.

Division recap Action was 'moderate'

Action was moderate this week as the men of the Americal Division accounted for 84 enemy kills, with heaviest action concentrated in the Frederick Hill area of operations manned by the 196th Infantry Brigade

Frederick Hill

During the week, the men of the 196th Infantry Brigade killed 36 enemy soldiers and captured 3,800 pounds of rice, 200 pounds of corn and 500 pounds of tobacco.

Early this week Company B, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry engaged five Viet Cong with small arms fire while on patrol northwest of Tam Ky, killing five.

Also this week, Company B of the "Gimlets" killed two VC while on patrol northwest of Tam Ky.

Company B observed movement around their night defensive position and fired the area up. A sweep of the area at first light revealed three NVA killed by the night firing.

Upon observing three VC, Company A opened up with M-16s, killing one and wounding another that was then captured.

Rounding out the Gimlet action for the week, Company A on patrol saw three VC which they killed. As they moved forward they spotted another VC and opened up with small arms fire, killing him.

Company D of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry while on a search and clear mission observed three NVA to their front. They called in artillery, searched the area and found one enemy dead.

Company C of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry discovered a hootch area northwest of Tam Ky containing 500 pounds of tobacco, 200 pounds of corn and three sampans.

Earlier in the week, Company C, 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry found two VC graves, with the kills being credited to them for earlier actions in the area.

The company kill[ed] two other VC southwest of Tam Ky as the enemy walked into the "Professionals" day defensive position. Two AK-47s were captured in the action.

Company D also found two VC killed by artillery and later while working southwest of Da Nang found 1,450 pounds of rice.

Company A of the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry discovered 2,150 pounds of rice and 100 pounds of corn while working the same area.

The "Firebirds" gunships of the 71st Assault Helicopter Company were credited with eight kills this week as they supported Regional Forces southwest of Tam Ky.

Iron Mountain

Action was moderate this week as infantrymen serving in the 11th Infantry Brigade accounted for the deaths of 23 enemy soldiers.

Early in the week Company B of the 1st Battalion 20th Infantry observed and engaged two Viet Cong. The results of the action were one VC killed.

The "Warlords" of the 123rd Aviation Co. (B/123rd), observed one VC carrying a pack, in the foothills southwest of Quang Ngai City. They engaged him and chalked up a kill.

Flying over the lowlands southeast of Quang Ngai City, the "Warlords" again claimed four kills after engaging a quartet of VC later that afternoon.

Troops of Company B, 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry acquired credit for a couple of kills after a brief fight southeast of Quang Ngai City.

In the middle of the week, the infantrymen discovered 3,800 pounds of rice in the foothills southeast of Quang Ngai City. The rice was evacuated to Mo Duc.

Towards the end of the week, members of the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry caught two VC setting up a booby trap for their benefit. The infantrymen wounded and captured both of the enemy in the brief action.

Earlier in the week, a "Warlord" gunship of the 123rd Aviation Company (B/123rd) spotted and engaged two VC. The results were two VC dead.

Elements of Company C, 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry found one VC dead, believed to have been killed during one of the company's previous fire missions.

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(Continued Vol. 4, No 1 Chu Lai, Vietnam January 01, 1971 Page 1)

Division recap Action was 'moderate'

A day later, while patrolling the lowlands southeast of Quang Ngai City, the company spotted, engaged, and killed a VC.

Recon platoon of the battalion found six well constructed tunnels with a fresh water stream and an excellent view of the valley floor, in the foothills northwest of Duc Pho. They were destroyed.

Earlier in the week a "Shark" gunship from the 174th Aviation Company spotted one VC in the lowlands southeast of Quang Ngai City. He was engaged and killed. His AK-47 was captured.

Company C of the 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry killed an NVA and found two one hundred pound bags of unpolished rice alongside a trail while patrolling the foothills northwest of Duc Pho.

In separate actions, the company killed two more enemy later in the week, and then, while checking a base camp in their AO they observed more enemy soldiers almost too late. The enemy engaged them at 40 meters but the infantrymen recovered returning small arms fire and killing one enemy.

Within a period of four hours, the 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry found approximately 14 huts of which eight had connecting tunnels, in the mountains west of Duc Pho. Also found were various VC and NVA field equipment. The huts and tunnels were destroyed by the infantrymen.

A couple of days later, Company D of the 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry observed one VC in the foothills west of Duc Pho. During the short engagement that followed, the VC was killed.

While moving through the mountains west of Duc Pho, men of a recon platoon of the 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry observed three VC apparently setting up booby traps. Result of the action was one VC killed and one AK-47 captured. The next day, the platoon killed another VC carrying a pack at 300 meters.

Geneva Park

The men of the 198th Infantry Brigade and gunships from Delta Troop, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry accounted for 20 enemy kills for the week as action was moderate in Operation Geneva Park. The "Brave and Bold" also wounded two enemy soldiers and captured another during the week.

The "Ready Rifles" of the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry killed 13 enemy during the week, including a major action south of Chu Lai in which nine Viet Cong were killed.

While in their night defensive position, the battalion's Company C started receiving AK47 fire from a group of VC 400 meters to the east. The company returned fire and called for gunships and artillery illumination. Cobra gun ships arrived on station and brought down three enemy with mini-gun fire. The "Ready Rifles" then swept the area and found six additional VC their own organic small arms had killed.

Earlier in the week, Charlie Company saw some VC moving to the west some distance away. They contacted a recon element in the area who engaged and killed two of the NVA soldiers.

The next day one company engaged a group of VC at a distance of 75 meters while moving to a night position. One VC was captured and one killed in the action.

Operating south of Chu Lai, Bravo Company of the "Ready Rifles" engaged and killed one Viet Cong in a brief firefight.

The "Professionals" of the 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry had light action for the week as they killed four NVA soldiers and wounded two.

While on patrol northwest of Chu Lai, Company B killed two and wounded another in a brief engagement with a small NVA element. Later, the company engaged and killed two more enemy soldiers.

The "Regulars" of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry killed three enemy soldiers during the week and captured several weapons southeast of Chu Lai.

Early in the week, Echo Recon killed two VC while on a night patrol. Two rifles, two packs and a pistol belt were captured in the action.

Company A observed and killed a lone VC moving along a small trail.

In other action, H Troop, 17th Cavalry received three ralliers during the week. Two of them turned in rifles.

Company B of the 26th Engineer Battalion received 47 grenades 13 gas rounds and four mortar rounds from a group of Vietnamese civilians southeast of Chu Lai. All the munitions were destroyed.

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(Continued Vol. 4, No 1 Chu Lai, Vietnam January 01, 1971 Page 1)

Division recap Action was 'moderate'

Pennsylvania Square

Moderate action continued throughout the Pennsylvania Square last week as the "Blackhawks" of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry killed five enemy soldiers and captured two more.

Bravo Troop of the 1st Squadron began the week by destroying five enemy bunkers and killing two VC. Two days later B troop destroyed a tunnel, killed one enemy soldier and wounded another, who was evacuated.

Farther to the South, Troop A made contact, killing one VC and wounding another who was evacuated. Later in the day a Hoi Chanh led the troop to another rice cache, this time of 600 pounds.

C Troop of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry and F Troop of the 17th Cavalry together under the V.I.P program received a total of 35 mortar rounds, 13 anti-personnel mines, 7 artillery rounds and 14 M-79 rounds.

Photo Caption: LZ Dottie -- Captain Philip LaGuidico of Modesto, Calif., battalion surgeon of the **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry** shows the tender touch of his profession as he treats a cut on the knee of a child at the Binh Son Orphanage. (U.S. Photo by SP4 Terry Williamson)



LZ Dottie -- Captain Philip LaGuidico of Modesto, Calif., battalion surgeon of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry shows the tender touch of his profession as he treats a cut on the knee of a child at the Binh Son Orphanage.

(U.S. Photo by SP4 Terry Williamson)

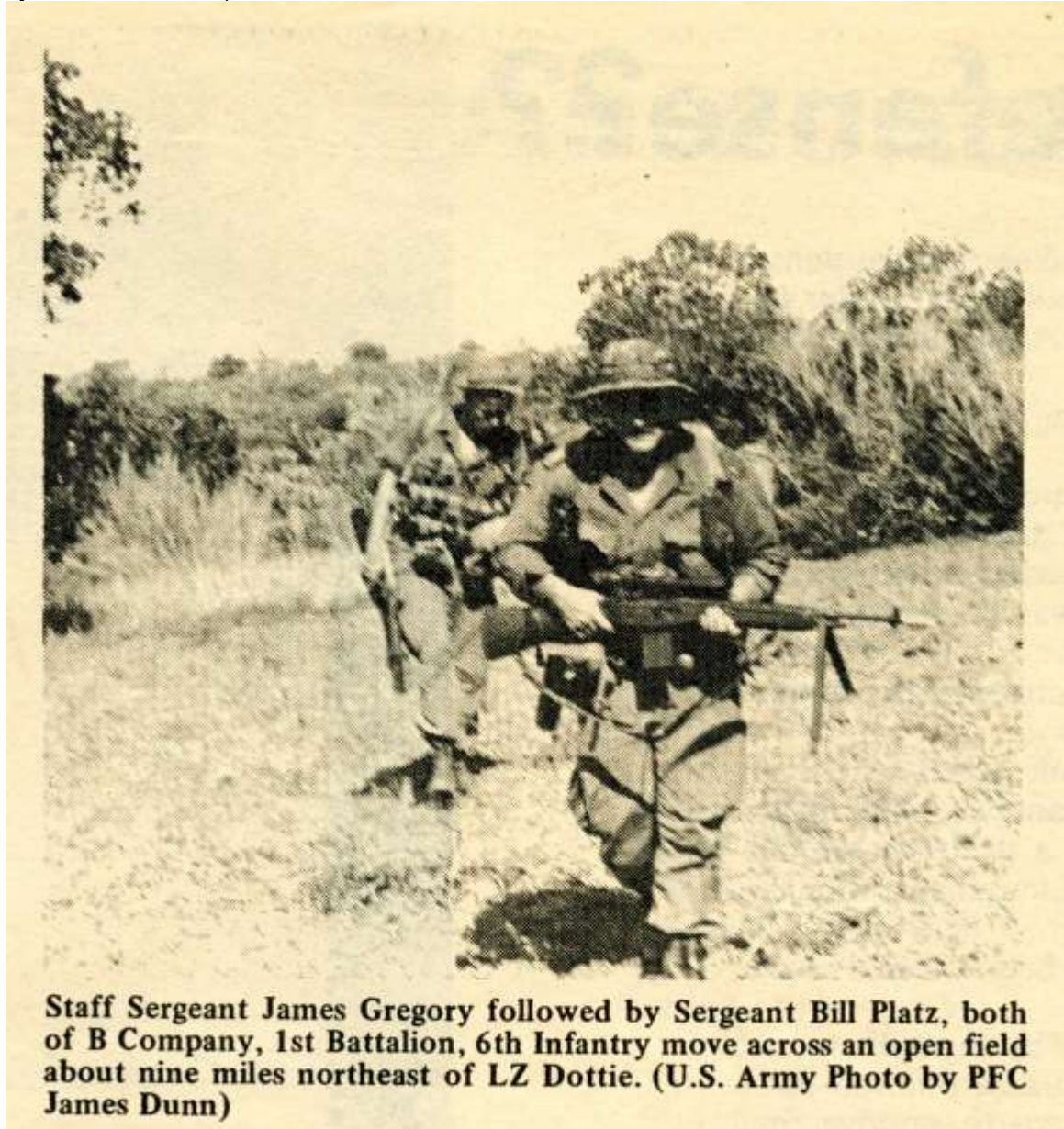
Photo Caption: LZ DOTTIE - Private First Class Jerry Lee Wood of Seneca, Mo., a member of the **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry** presents clothing that was gathered by his unit to Sister Giesle, supervisor of the Binh Son Orphanage. (U.S. Army Photo by SP4 Terry Williamson)



LZ DOTTIE -- Private First Class Jerry Lee Wood of Seneca, Mo., a member of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry presents clothing that was gathered by his unit to Sister Giesle, supervisor of the Binh Son Orphanage.

(U.S. Army Photo by SP4 Terry Williamson)

Photo Caption: Staff Sergeant James Gregory followed by Sergeant Bill Platz, both of B Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry move across an open field about nine miles northeast of LZ Dottie. (U.S. Army Photo by PFC James Dunn)



Division Recap

Weekly action--division counts 82

By SP4 David P. Goodrich

In moderate action last week, the men of the 23rd Infantry Division killed 82 enemy soldiers. All three brigades had approximately equal contact.

Hawk Hill

In Hawk Hill action 28 enemy soldiers were killed by the 196th Infantry Brigade this week.

Company A of the 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry initiated the action this week by killing one NVA southwest of Tam Ky. Captured was an AK-47 and a magazine.

While on a search and clear mission Company A of the "Professionals" engaged five VC with M-16s, killing while the others evaded.

Later this week, the company heard movement about 15 meters from their night defensive position southwest of Tam Ky. They covered the area with M-16 fire resulting in two NVA kills.

The Recon element of the 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry began the week by finding a hospital southwest of Tam Ky. The hospital consisted of four structures.

Half an hour later the unit received 10 rounds of sniper fire approximately 75 meters south of their location. The "Professionals" returned fire, swept the area and uncovered four enemy booby traps. Later in the day, while working with a platoon of RF's Recon came upon three NVA soldiers on a jungle trail. Quick reactions resulted in two NVA killed and two AK-47s C.I.A.

Late in the week, Company B, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry, while on patrol northwest of Tam Ky uncovered a cache containing 500 pounds of rice. About 200 meters farther along the trail they came across another cache of 500 pounds of rice. The rice was extracted to LZ Center.

Company A, 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry found one VC killed in a tunnel. The kill was credited to them for earlier action in the area. Earlier in the day the company has engaged one and killed one NVA.

Company C, 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry killed a lone VC this week spotted near a tree line in an area southwest of Da Nang.

Charger 13 of the 196th Infantry Brigade, Aviation section killed ? VC ???? while on a reconnaissance mission.

Geneva Park

Infantrymen from the 198th Infantry Brigade saw moderate action during the week as the "Brave and Bold" accounted for 26 enemy kills in operation "Geneva Park". In addition several enemy were captured, and several enemy weapons were taken.

The 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry saw the heaviest action during the week as the "ready Rifles" killed 11 Viet Cong soldiers in sporadic engagements.

Gunships of the 116th Aviation Company, flying security for an eagle flight south of Chu Lai accounted for one VC. The Ready Rifles killed another VC while sweeping the area. Two automatic rifles and five fully loaded magazines were c.i.a.

A recon element from the battalion observed and engaged three enemy soldiers south of Chu Lai. The elements killed one and radioed Company C that the other VC were evading in their direction. Company C set p a blocking force and captured the two Viet Cong.

Bravo Company of the "Ready Rifles" conducted a series of eagle flight missions south of Chu Lai which proved to be very effective. Bravo was inserted into an area where four Viet Cong had been spotted from the air, and the "Ready Rifles" killed the four VC.

The company was later inserted into another area and engaged two Viet Cong. The "Ready Rifles" killed one and captured another. The captured enemy was extracted to a nearby LZ. Then Bravo made another insertion a tan enemy bunker, site, and killed two more enemy soldiers. The "Ready Rifles" captured two hand grenades in the action.

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The 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry killed six enemy soldiers in light action northwest of Chu Lai.

While on patrol, Bravo Company of the battalion heard loud talking in ??????. ????? the Professional maneuvered to a better vantage point and engaged a group of VC. Two enemy soldiers were killed in the action.

Later in separate actions, the company killed two more VC with accurate small arms fire. The next day they engaged yet another VC in the same area and killed him too.

In a night defensive perimeter, Alpha Company of the "Professionals" engaged and killed one enemy soldier as he neared the "Professionals" position.

The "Regulars" of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry killed four enemy soldiers in light action southeast of Chu Lai.

In the early morning hours Bravo Company.....engaged several Viet Cong as they neared their laager site. The "Regulars" engaged the enemy with M-79 grenade fire. At the first light, the "Regulars" swept the area of contact and found three dead Viet Cong.

Echo Recon of the battalion killed one Viet Cong on a small trail. Captured in the action were an AK-47 rifle, an automatic rifle, five fully loaded magazines, seven Chicom hand grenades, and two packs. The captured equipment was extracted to a nearby LZ.

In other action in the 198th Brigade's area of operations, H Troop, 17th Cavalry engaged a group of enemy soldiers. Upon sweeping the area of contact, they found a blood trail that led to a wounded enemy soldier. He was extracted to a Chu Lai hospital for treatment.

While escorting a combat assault west of Chu Lai, gunships from the 116th Aviation Company observed and killed four Viet Cong.

Flying over an area south of Chu Lai, a light observation helicopter from Delta Company, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry, received small arms fire from one Viet Cong. The LOH returned fire and killed the enemy soldier.

Iron Mountain

Bronco action was moderate this week as men of the 11th Infantry Brigade killed 26 enemy soldiers.

The Night Hawks of the 123rd Aviation Battalion started out the week as they received small arms fire while flying over the foothills west of Quang Ngai City. Searching the area, they spotted, engaged and killed two VC.

Later in the day while reacting to a radar, the 'Night Hawks' spotted two more VC in the lowlands west of Duc Pho. The results of the ensuing action were two dead VC.

Later in the week, a light observation helicopter from the battalion spotted a lone VC over the foothills southwest of Duc Pho. The LOH engaged and killed him.

In the same area, the "Blues", an aerial rifle platoon of the battalion were inserted. The platoon rapidly engaged and killed two enemy soldiers.

Early in the week, while patrolling the lowlands southeast of Duc Pho, a recon element of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry found one Viet Cong inside a tunnel. He was asked to come out but he refused. The tunnel was destroyed resulting in one VC killed.

The next day, reacting to a radar sighting, the men of F Troop, 7th Cavalry [sic-8th Cavalry] checked an area in the lowlands northwest of Duc Pho and spotted three VC. They engaged the enemy resulting in three Viet Cong dead.

During a patrol of the foothills west of Duc Pho, the 69th Rangers engaged an unknown size enemy force resulting in three enemy dead.

While on a search and clear mission in the foothills northwest of Duc Pho, Company B of the 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry engaged one NVA. He was killed.

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(Continued Vol. 4, No. 02 Chu Lai, Vietnam January 15, 1971 Page 1)

Division Recap Weekly action—division counts 82

Elements of the 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry, working with the 70th Rangers, an ARVN unit, observed a small size enemy force in the foothills northwest of Duc Pho. After receiving fire support from the 6th Battalion, 11th

Artillery, the infantrymen swept the area finding four VC killed in action. Also found was a shotgun, an AK-47 and 35 huts. After investigating the area, the huts were destroyed.

A light observation helicopter teamed up with the fire support from the 6th Battalion, 11th Artillery to kill two NVA and one VC over the foothills west of Quang Ngai City.

Patrolling the foothills of Duc Pho, G Company of the 75th Rangers, a long range patrol unit engaged two enemy soldiers, killing both.

On the last day of the week, a gunship from the 174th Aviation Company spotted and engaged a lone VC in the lowlands west of Duc Pho, killing him.

PENNSYLVANIA SQUARE

Contact was light in the Pennsylvania Square area of operations last week as the "Blackhawks" of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry killed two enemy soldiers and captured 1.

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8 rally in a day

By LT. Mark Tucker

CHU LAI, (198th Inf. Bde. IO) - The Psychological Operations Program (Psyops) of the 23rd Division's 198th Infantry Brigade, a proven savings program in terms of casualties for both sides, paid an extra dividend recently when eight Viet Cong soldiers turned themselves in to the government in a single day.

At least one of the returnees turned himself in as a result of a unique "live" helicopter broadcast made the day before by another former Viet Cong who had previously rallied. This was believed to be the first time in the Division area that a returnee had personally flown on a Psyops mission and made a "live" appeal to his former guerilla mates.

The eight ralliers, all former guerrillas in Binh Son District, turned themselves in to a Popular Forces outpost southeast of Chu Lai. All stated that the Psyops program of the 198th had influenced their decision to return to the government, according to 1st Lieutenant William Cain of Burlington, Vt., the Brigade civil affairs officer.

"We have been running an intensive Psyops program in that area for some time," said Lt. Cain. "We were particularly interested in appealing to the village guerrillas who set booby traps and attempt to harass the pacification projects. These eight all told us that because of our broadcasts and allied operations in the area, they had decided to rally."

Two days before the eight returned to the government, a lone Viet Cong turned himself into the Brigade's H Troop, 17th Cavalry, which was working in the area. The troop sent him to a nearby firebase where the former guerilla expressed his willingness to go up in the Psyops helicopter and make an appeal for his friends to rally.

The next day, the normal schedule of broadcasting messages in the Brigade area was suspended and the helicopter was utilized for the "live" message by the rallier.

"We normally use only taped messages in our broadcasting," the lieutenant said. "But this time the opportunity presented itself for us to make a direct "live" appeal. Our interpreter, the rallier and the civil affairs officer of the **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry** got together and composed a short but effective message for the rallier to broadcast."

The next evening, the eight turned themselves in to the Popular Forces.

"Our Psyops program has been extremely effective this month," Lieutenant Cain said. "By employing this new twist of "live" messages, we hope we can have few more days of receiving eight ralliers in a single day."

Photo Caption: 1st Lieutenant William Cain, civil affairs officer of the 198th Infantry Brigade, watches as a rallier makes a broadcast from a chopper to induce his former comrades to rally. (U.S. Army Photo by 1LT Mark Tucker)

**Those guys in the boonies
did very well on Christmas**

By SP4 Terry Williamson

CHU LAI, (23rd Inf. Div. IO)

-Buying Christmas gifts for the American infantryman in Vietnam is just about as difficult as buying gifts for that "man who has everything".

"What can I get him that he can really use?, people ask. "What can we buy him that won't be too much trouble to carry around?"

To be sure, the infantrymen of the 198th Infantry Brigade were not forgotten this Christmas, but some of the gifts they received brought about firm chuckles from their fellow soldiers.

"My company is like a traveling confectionery," said 1st Lieutenant Kenneth McCumber of Denver, a platoon leader with Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry. "Food was the most popular Christmas gift we received, and there is more Christmas candy in this company than you could find in any one store back in the world."

Sergeant Thomas Fray of Bellevue, Neb., also with Bravo Company, received a gift containing no food. His present consisted of two yo-yo's, a chess set, a baseball game, and a two-foot tall Christmas tree.

"Everyone in our company had a Christmas tree at their high positions," Sergeant Fray said. "It was kind of a ritual to take out your tree and set it up before you went to sleep. If you didn't have a real one, you made one out of branches."

John C. Nero from Gadsen, Ala., found a candy pistol in his Christmas package. He said that he has always been fond of guns, "But this is ridiculous."

Private First Class Armano Carcia of Oakland, a member of Echo Recon, 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry helped make his family's shopping a little easier by writing home and telling everyone what he wanted. His tastes were simple-he just wanted a deck of plastic playing cards that might make it through the rest of the season. He received the deck just in time for a quick game of cards just before Christmas dinner.

Private First Class Bruce Gillingham of Casper, Wyo., a member of Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, received an eight-inch aluminum frying pan along with some things to cook in it. "Everyone laughed when I got the present, but they'll all be sorry when we're out in the field and I cook up some fresh eggs in the morning for breakfast," he said.

A popular gift with all the infantrymen were plastic blow-up pillows which can help turn the hard ground into an almost comfortable bed. Hundreds of these pillows were received, some in the shape of animals, and some even in the shape of Santa Claus.

"On our last operation, I had a little trouble getting my people to carry some extra equipment," said lieutenant McCumber. "They all complained that it would be too much extra weight. Then I found out they were all carrying Christmas trees. We had real ones, aluminum ones, pink ones, and green ones. You name it and we had it."

**Radio-telephone operator
carries more than share**

By SP4 Terry Williamson

CHU LAI (198th Inf. Bde. IO) - A routine patrol left the company laager site to check out several suspected enemy locations. The infantrymen were traveling light, except for the Radio-Telephone Operator (RTO), who carried his weapon and ammunition as well as his 25-pound PRC-25 radio.

Why does an infantryman elect to carry the extra weight on each mission when it would usually be easier to be a normal rifleman? Three RTOs from the 23rd Division's 198th Infantry Brigade, each of whom has carried the radio for at least five months, say the reason is that they like their jobs.

"We all know we would have a hard time in the field without communications," said Private First Class Daniel G. Hull of Buffalo, Charlie Company, **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry** who has been an RTO for five months. "Carrying the radio gives you the feeling of importance, and I like to know what's going on first hand, that's important in the field."

Private First Class Jefferey Small of Bridgeport, Ill., an RTO with **Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry** said he could have given up his radio at least a dozen times in his six months of carrying it, but he has always turned down the offers. "When you learn one job well, you gain confidence in yourself and your work. When you find something you like, it's best to stick with it.

Specialist 4 Carlos Escobar of San Diego, an RTO for six months with Company A, 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry, said "When I got here I didn't know too much about the radio and I had to learn quickly. I'm not going to give it up now."

All three infantrymen agreed that the need to know was going on at any particular time was important to them, and the three also agreed that two common myths of the RTO are just not true.

"A lot of people think that if you carry the radio, you'll make a better target and you'll be the first to get hit by the enemy, said Specialist Escobar. "That's not true. If everyone keeps spread out, no one person is a better target than anyone else."

All three expressed the belief that if the element is bunched up and not spread out enough, the group makes a good target-not just the RTO.

Another falsehood the three dispelled was that the RTO carries a lot more weight than the other infantrymen.

"Sure our packs are heavy," said PFC Small. "After all, we carry a 25-pound radio, extra batteries, smoke grenades, and our ammunition. But everyone carries a heavy load, it's not limited to RTOs."

The professional pride of the three RTOs notwithstanding, there are some definite disadvantages to carrying the radio. The radio must be kept as dry as possible, and it is a constant worry to make sure that the set is kept in good working condition. The radio must also be kept clean.

"One thing that is really a pain is that if you have a set that is temporarily out of commission, you must carry it anyway. Of course, it's obviously necessary, you don't just discard a radio," said Specialist Escobar.

"When we set up for the night, everyone relaxes as much as they can, but an RTO must stay with his radio in case someone calls," said PFC Small. "But if you like to know what's going on, there's no better place to be."

Division nets 48 enemy

By SP4 David Goodrich

In relatively light action last week, the men of the Americal Division accounted for 48 enemy dead, while capturing a number of others.

IRON MOUNTAIN

While action was very light elsewhere, it was almost normal in the 11th Infantry Brigade area of operations during the week ended. The troopers of Iron Mountain accounted for 21 enemy kills, as well as capturing supplies.

While scanning the foothills west of Quang Ngai City at start of the week, a LOH from the 123rd Aviation Company spotted and engaged a lone VC over the foothills southwest of Duc Pho. The enemy was killed.

In the same area that day, the "Blues", an aerial rifle platoon of the 123rd Aviation Company were inserted. The platoon engaged and killed two enemy soldiers.

A gunship from the 174th Aviation Co. killed a lone VC over the lowlands west of Duc Pho.

Patrolling the foothills west of Duc Pho.

Patrolling the foothills southwest of Duc Pho, G Company, 75th Rangers engaged two enemy soldiers, killing both.

A couple of days later, Company C, 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry engaged and killed a VC while in a day laager position. Checking the area, they made contact again, killing another enemy and capturing a rifle.

Elements of F Troop, 8th Cavalry (helicopter), spotted a VC along a roadside in the lowlands south of Duc Pho. He was killed and an automatic weapon was captured.

While patrolling the foothills southwest of Duc Pho, elements of Charlie Company, 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry observed and engaged an enemy soldier. He was killed and a pistol was captured.

Later in the same area, the company spotted, engaged and killed another Viet Cong, capturing his AK-47.

Three Viet Cong Chieu Hoi'd and turned themselves into the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry northeast of Duc Pho. All ralliers complained of inadequate food and a general apathy of Viet Cong goals.

An attempt to set a 250 pound booby trap was foiled when troops of Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry engaged the enemy at 150 meters, killing him.

A gunship of the 123rd Aviation Company spotted and engaged three Viet Cong, while flying over the foothills west of Quang Ngai City. All three were killed.

Working in the lowlands south of Duc Pho yesterday, Company C of the 4th Battalion 21st Infantry found five hootches with connecting bunkers, containing a small variety of VC equipment. The infantrymen also unveiled three spider-holes nearby. After a thorough study of the area, the hootch area was destroyed.

Frederick Hill

The men of the 196th Infantry Brigade managed to kill 14 enemy soldiers during the week ended.

On patrol at the beginning of the week, Bravo Company, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry uncovered a cache containing 500 pounds of rice. About 200 meters up the trail, they came upon another 500 pounds. All the rice was extracted to LZ Center. (Continued on Page 6).

(Continued from Page 1)

Holiday cease fires Limit week's battle action

Charlie Co. 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry killed a lone VC yesterday, spotted near a tree line, in an area north of Tam Ky.

That evening, Company A, 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry heard movement about 15 meters from their night defensive position, southwest of Tam Ky. They covered the area with M-16 fire, resulting in two NVA kills.

While on patrol southwest of Tam Ky, Delta Company, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry engaged five NVA with small arms fire. Two of the five were killed, and five packs were captured.

Charlie Company, 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry, while in their night defensive position killed an NVA, capturing an AK-47 and a pack, containing clothing and medical supplies.

A couple of days later, a lone VC was killed by men of Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry as he wandered into their day defensive position, south of Tam Ky.

While making a sweep of a structured area west of Tam Ky, Company A, 3rd Battalion 21st Infantry observed two VC to their front. They engaged with M-16 fire, killing one. Continuing the sweep, they discovered three graves containing VC killed by mortar fire. The kills were credited to a recon element of the battalion.

While on a visual recon mission yesterday, gunship from F Troop, 8th Cavalry observed seven NVA soldiers. One was killed, as the other managed to evade.

GENEVA PARK

The Christmas cease-fire period brought light action this week as Operation Geneva Park accounted for seven enemy killed, four enemy captured, and two detained. The "Brave and Bold" of the 198th Infantry Brigade also captured several enemy weapons and found a rice cache.

Two enemy were killed by the "Professionals" of the 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry while conducting an eagle flight mission northwest of Chu Lai. Company A was inserted into a heavily vegetated area and, observed two enemy soldiers. The enemy were killed.

Combat was also light for the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry as the "Ready Rifles" killed two enemy, wounded and captured one and found a deserted enemy basecamp.

Late in the week, Delta Company, working northwest of Tra Bong, engaged two evading enemy and killed one while capturing two packs. In the same general area, the company found an enemy basecamp compound of 20 structures and bunkers. Inside the structures were numerous articles of clothing and cooking utensils, 18 Chicom grenades, and other supplies.

Charlie Company of the "Ready Rifles" accounted for the other battalion kill while working south of Chu Lai, during a brief firefight. The company wounded and captured an enemy soldier in an eagle flight mission.

The "Regulars" of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry killed one enemy and detained three during the week. Several weapons and a rice cache were also confiscated.

Rallier pays off

By SGT Louis Miller

LZ DOTTIE, (198th Inf. Bde. IO) - Infantrymen from the 23rd Division's 198th Infantry Brigade recently learned that the Government's "Chieu Hoi" program helps decrease enemy forces in two ways.

The most obvious way was evidenced when a rallier turned himself over to H Troop, 17th Cavalry, thus giving the Allies in the area one less guerilla to fight.

But the big payoff came with the rallier volunteered to lead another Brigade unit to a Viet Cong resting spot and helped decrease the VC population by two more.

After turning himself into H Troop, the rallier was extracted to a nearby firebase where he expressed interest in leading a U.S. patrol to a spot he felt several Viet Cong would be sleeping that night. The offer was taken and the rallier was taken to the field position of **Echo Recon, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry**.

"WE didn't know what to expect from him at first," said 1st Lieutenant Thomas W. Tardy of Winona, Miss., the platoon leader. "He told us he wanted to walk point even though he knew we wouldn't give him a weapon."

The Recon platoon moved towards a new laager position and waited for dark to begin their search for the VC resting spot. During the wait, the rallier pointed out possible booby-trapped areas on a map.

When it got dark enough, the unit moved out, with the rallier moving at the head of the column.

"As he walked, he checked every hedgerow for booty traps," said Lieutenant Tardy. "Finally, after about a thousand meters, he halted and motioned towards a pot next to a wooded area."

Through the interpreter, the rallier told the lieutenant that this was the enemy resting point.

"I had my men drop their packs and move on line," said Tardy. "We had been there only a few minutes when we spotted about three enemy soldiers crossing a rice paddy to our front and moving directly towards us."

The enemy soldiers walked right up to the infantrymen's positions and, thinking the members of Recon. were other Viet Cong, began to speak to them. A split second later, the enemy realized they were talking to the wrong people.

The infantrymen opened up and killed two in the brief firefight. Captured were one AK-50 rifle, an automatic rifle, and eight Chicom hand grenades.

"I'd like to work with that rallier again," said the lieutenant. "He really knew what he was doing."

**2 medics meet,
one surrenders**

By SP4 Terry Williamson

LZ DOTTIE, (198th Inf. Bde. IO) - A medic from the 23rd Division's 198th Infantry Brigade recently met a Viet Cong medic face-to-face, and when the meeting was over, the enemy decided he was working for the wrong side.

A platoon from **Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry** while conducting an early morning search of a small hamlet southeast of Chu Lai, found three Viet Cong soldiers sitting in a small house.

Private First Class John Cvitak of Omaha, platoon medic, intercepted the enemy medic, when the surprised Viet Cong tried to evade the surprise party planned by the "Regulars".

First Lieutenant James O'Brien of Houston, platoon leader, set up a semi-circle blocking force in front of the small hamlet. He then sent a searching party to check out a row of houses. PFC Cvitak stationed himself behind a small structure on the edge of the hamlet where a trail led to the row of houses.

"We walked into the first house and noticed three armed Viet Cong sitting on the floor," said Lieutenant O'Brien. "They began firing at us and we took cover short distance from the house and returned fire."

The firing did not last long, however, as the three enemy tried to escape before the "Regulars" could close in on them. Two of the Viet Cong managed to get away by going through the rear side of the hamlet, using a small tunnel in the rear of the house.

The enemy medic also used the escape tunnel, but his chosen escape route proved to be the wrong choice. He ran up the small trail which led to his unannounced meeting with his counterpart.

PFC Cvitak saw the Viet Cong running down the trail with a bag containing the wares of his work. PFC Cvitak hid behind the small structure and waited for the unsuspected meeting.

The Viet Cong came pounding by the small structure and medic to medic, the two came crashing to the ground as PFC Cvitak lunged on the enemy from his hiding place.

"I just grabbed him when he came running by," said PFC Cvitak. "I saw him coming, and I was ready for him when he came down the trail."

Lieutenant O'Brien and Sergeant Abbr C. Cooper of Auburndale, Fla., who had chased the Viet Cong up the trail, added to the consternation of the captured medic, and he politely removed a pistol belt containing five Chicom hand grenades and handed them to PFC Cvitak.

Division sees light action

By SP4 David Goodrich

Action was extremely light during the week in the Americal area of operations as heavy rains and the New Year's ceasefire period slowed activity in all areas. In all, the troopers under the Southern Cross accounted for 31 enemy kills and a relatively large number of detainees and Hoi Chanhs.

IRON MOUNTAIN

The 11th Infantry Brigade killed 10 enemy soldiers during the week, despite no action during the first three days of the month.

At the beginning of the week, while patrolling the foothills west of Duc Pho, Company D of the 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry engaged and killed one Viet Cong. An AK-47, a pack and 20 pounds of cord were captured.

Through the combined efforts of the 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry, Company B of the 123rd Aviation Battalion and Tu-Nghia MACV officials, 14 Hoi Chanhs were successfully picked up on December 31st.

Some days later, while working in the lowlands west of Duc Pho, Company B of the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry detained five Vietnamese trying to evade them. The detainees were questioned by an interpreter and evacuated to Duc Pho.

In the lowlands northwest of Duc Pho, Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry observed two enemy soldiers evading east of their location. The enemy was engaged with small arms fire killing one and capturing the other, who was wounded in the action. Captured were an SKS, a pistol and one rucksack.

The next day while operating in the lowlands northwest of Duc Pho, recon of the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry observed 15 enemy soldiers. The enemy troops were engaged with artillery fire from C Battery, 6th Battalion, 11th Artillery and gunships from the 174th Aviation Company.

A sweep of the area of contact revealed two NVA, who had been killed by artillery fire. Continuing the search the infantrymen spotted two Viet Cong which they engaged and killed. A short time later, the unit encountered two more NVA, killing them both. A seventh enemy kill was credited to the 174th Aviation Company.

At the end of the week, Company C, 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry found a total of 11 enemy huts containing an assortment of Viet Cong equipment, during a day sweep in the lowlands west of Duc Pho. The company finished their long day by killing a lone VC who was detected hiding in a tunnel.

In other action, Company A, 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry detained five Vietnamese while recon of the battalion detained two.

GENEVA PARK

Action was light in the 198th Infantry Brigade AO during the week. Nine enemy soldiers were killed during the week and brigade infantrymen uncovered a large weapons cache.

Late in the week, Company A, 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry, while patrolling an area northwest of Chu Lai, found a weapons cache apparently belonging to a heavy weapons unit of the enemy. Included in the find were two AK-50 machineguns, three other automatic weapons, three rocket-propelled rounds (RPGs), 25 mortar rounds, three cases of AK-47 ammunition, and 600 machinegun rounds.

The captured equipment was all extracted to Chu Lai. Earlier in the week. Company A had found a Chicom grenade, which they destroyed.

Also late in the week, Company B, 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry, working northwest of Chu Lai, observed and engaged a small group of enemy soldiers. The infantrymen killed one enemy and captured one AK-50 rifle, two Chicom grenades, two AK-47 magazines, a helmet and 20 pounds of rice.

While on a patrol southeast of Chu Lai, Company D, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry engaged a group of Viet Cong with small arms fire at a distance for 200 meters.

The enemy evaded, but the "Regulars" swept the area and found and followed two blood trails. On further search, the infantrymen engaged and killed a lone Viet Cong and captured an AK-47.

(Continued on page 6)

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(Continued)

Division sees light action

Earlier in the week, Company C of the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry, while patrolling south of Chu Lai, killed one VC in a brief encounter. Earlier, the company had detained a VC suspect south of that location. He was sent to Chu Lai for questioning.

In other action in the 198th area, a doorgunner from the Division's 174th Aviation Company, participating in a combat assault with ARVN forces, engaged an enemy element with machinegun fire.

Troops were inserted into the area and the ARVN infantrymen found six Viet Cong killed by the accurate fire of the doorgunner. Two automatic weapons and three packs were taken in the action.

FREDERICK HILL

Soldiers of the 196th Infantry Brigade accounted for nine enemy kills during a week of almost continuous rain.

The 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry, while on a search and clear mission, killed two VC with small arms fire as the enemy attempted to evade from a nearby structure.

While in their day defensive position that afternoon, the company observed and engaged four enemy soldiers. Results were a detainee.

Later in the week, the company stayed active, killing two VC while on a sweep near a suspected enemy base camp west of Tam Ky.

In mid-week, Company A of the 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry while on a sweep with a Hoi Chanh. They found a hospital complex and engaged three VC spotted near the area. One of the enemy was killed and the other two wounded in the action.

The "Professionals" ended the week in a finale of action by killing a lone VC attempting to hide in a partially camouflaged bunker.

Later in the day, Company A found two Vietnamese males near an enemy structure. The suspects, who are extracted to Hawk Hill, claimed they had been forced to labor for the VC.

Soldiers in the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry accounted for two detainees this week west of Tam Ky. One detainee was found by Company C, as the 40-year old male was making a booby trap.

Charger 13 of brigade aviation engaged six VC, killing four of them while on a visual reconnaissance mission. Two of the VC escaped to a nearby woodland.

Heavy rains and cease fire limit enemy fatalities

In the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry's area of operations, Company C, while on a sweep northwest of Tam Ky engaged and killed one NVA with M-16s.

By mid-week another sweep by the company resulted in one VC detained and extracted to Hawk Hill. Company A of the "Legionnaires" wrapped up this week's action for the battalion when they found one VC killed by artillery on a sweep northwest of Tam Ky. The kill was credited to 2nd Battalion, 94th Artillery.

PENNSYLVANIA SQUARE

Action was also light for the troopers 1st Squadron 1st Cavalry in the Pennsylvania Square AO as the men of the Army's most battlehonored unit killed three enemy soldiers and captured one.

In the week's only significant contact F Troop, 17th Cavalry, killed two VC when small arms fire caused the bangalore torpedo they were carrying to explode. The troop killed another VC by processing artillery fire.

In other activity elements of the 1st Cavalry destroyed 11 mines, 15 mortar rounds, 1 RPG round, a law, 49 CBU's and captured over a ton of rice.

Americal nets 77

Troopers under the Southern Cross experienced increased action during the last week as they accounted for 77 enemy killed, as well as capturing significant amounts of supplies.

FREDERICK HILL

During fierce action this week, 32 enemy kills were credited to the 196th Infantry Brigade's "Chargers" this week.

Company B, 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry started the week engaging an enemy force of unknown size northwest of Tam Ky. The "Legionnaires" reported killing two enemy soldiers in the contact.

The death toll from Company B was higher the next day. While on a search and clear mission northwest of Tam Ky, they engaged five VC, killing three. The other two evaded north.

Later in the day while on sweep, Recon platoon, 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry found a large food cache containing 1075 pounds of rice, 200 pounds of corn, and 15 pounds of tea.

Towards the middle of the week, Stinger 88 (116th AHC?), a gunship, observed 15 VC with weapons. He opened up with his mini-guns and left three enemy dead.

Company D, 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry while on sweep (southwest of Tam Ky found one VC grave. The kill was credited to Company B, 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry for previous contact in the area.

While on a sweep southwest of Tam Ky later in the week, Recon platoon, 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry were ambushed by an NVA force of unknown size. The "Professionals" returned small arms and fire and five NVA were killed.

They also captured three AK-47's, 12 AK magazines, four pistol belts and three Chicom grenades. The weapons and equipment were extracted to LZ Young.

Charger 13 of Brigade Aviation while working southwest of Tam Ky towards the end of the week made contact with four NVA. Swooping down from the cloudy sky, the LOH succeeded in killing two of the enemy.

GENEVA PARK

Action during the week increased for the 198th Infantry Brigade as the infantrymen of the "Brave and Bold" killed 25 enemy soldiers and confiscated over 3,000 pounds of enemy rice.

The 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry saw the heaviest action of the week south of Chu Lai. The "Ready Rifles" killed 12 Viet Cong and confiscated a large amount of enemy rice in several actions.

While on patrol, Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry found seven dead Viet Cong. The Viet Cong had been killed by M-16 fire, and it was determined that the enemy soldiers had been killed by Charlie Company in two previous contacts with hostile elements.

Later, Charlie Company engaged and killed a VC evading into a woodline. The "REady Rifles" then received fire from the woodline, and immediately requested the aid of gunships, from the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry, which raked the area with mini-gun fire, killing one Viet Cong. The Ready Rifles" killed yet another with small arms fire. Four hand grenades were captured in the action.

Early in the week, Charlie Company was inserted into an area of suspected enemy activity. Supporting gunships from Delta Company, from the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry observed a VC evading into a spider hole. The gunships directed the "Ready Rifles" to the enemy location where they killed one VC and wounded another.

While conducting eagle flight operations, Charlie Company detained three military males. The detainees were sent to a nearby LZ for further questioning.

Maneuvering in the same area, Company C found three metal drums that contained 1,170 pounds of rice. The drums were buried under-ground in a hedgerow. Later the "Ready Rifles" found two metals barrels that contained 920 pounds of polished rice hidden i na hedgerow. All the rice was extracted to a nearby LZ for redistribution. Charlie Company also found 1,790 pounds of spoiled rice in the same area, which was destroyed.

(Continued)

The "Regulars" of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, killed six Viet Cong in scattered engagements on the Batangan Peninsula southeast of Chu Lai.

While in a night defensive perimeter, Echo Recon, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry engaged and killed on Viet Cong as he neared the "Regulars" perimeter. Captured in the action were an AK-47 magazine.

While on patrol, Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, observed seven Viet Cong soldiers in a military structure at a distance of 25 meters. The "Regulars" engaged enemy with hand grenades and small arms fire. After the action, the infantrymen entered the structure and found five dead enemy and two wounded. The two wounded enemy were extracted to a Chu Lai hospital. Captured in the action were six Chicom hand grenades.

Action was generally light for the infantrymen of the 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry, as the "Professionals" killed two Viet Cong in separate engagements northwest of Chu Lai.

While moving into a night defensive position, Company D of the battalion engaged and killed a VC on the trail.

A gunship from Bravo Company (Warlords) , 123rd Aviation, operating south of Chu Lai, observed and engaged a Viet Cong walking down a trail. The VC was killed by mini-gun fire.

Gunships from Company D, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry, observed a group of Viet Cong south of Chu Lai. An aero-rifle platoon was inserted into the area, and engaged the enemy with small arms fire. The aero-rifle platoon killed four enemy soldiers, and wounded three. The wounded enemy soldiers were extracted to a Chu Lai hospital.

IRON MOUNTAIN

Combat activity was moderate during the past week as the 11th Infantry Brigade "Jungle Warriors" accounted for 18 enemy kills, seven detainees and 15 hootches and caves destroyed.

The 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry led the way this week as they bagged 10 KIA's in various actions throughout the brigade AO.

Charlie Company of the battalion spotted and engaged one VC in the foothills west of Duc Pho. He was killed.

Operating in the foothills west of Duc Pho, Company B, 4th Battalion 3rd Infantry spotted, engaged, and killed one enemy soldier.

Working in the foothills west of Duc Pho, Charlie Company of the Battalion detected three VC hiding in a tunnel. They were engaged with hand grenades, killing all three.

Operating in the same area later, the company engaged and killed a VC.

The next day the company spotted 20 to 30 enemy in the open and engaged with artillery resulting in one VC killed.

About the same time, Bravo Company observed and killed one VC with small arms fire in the foothills west of Duc Pho.

Company B later detected a VC hiding in a tunnel. The enemy was engaged with hand frags and was killed in the action.

The 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry held a close second as they scored five KIA's in a single action northwest of Duc Pho. Recon observed 15 to 20 NVA while in their night defensive position. The infantrymen engaged the NVA killing five of them while the others managed to evade.

The 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry found one cave with three tunnels in the foothills southwest of Quang Ngai city. The caves and tunnels were destroyed.

Company C, 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry engaged two VC in the hills west of Duc Pho resulting in two VC killed. Captured in the action were two packs and a SKS. The battalion also accounted for five huts destroyed and five detainees.

PENNSYLVANIA SQUARE

Action was light in the Pennsylvania Square AO for the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry last week. The men of the Army's most battle honored unit killed two enemy soldiers and captured three.

A dismounted patrol from C Troops found 900 pounds of rice behind a false wall in a hootch and later that day captured a VC hiding in a tunnel. Later in the week, C Troop engaged two groups of VC killing one and capturing one. The command control helicopter after receiving small arms fire killed a VC in a sampan.

Photo Caption: Lieutenant Colonel James Sawey, center speaks to the officers and men of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry during a change of command ceremony in which he assumed command of the "Regulars", (U.S. Army Photo by SGT Terry Williamson) (Note: Major General Baldwin is prominent on the left side of the photo.)



Lieutenant Colonel James W. Sawey center speaks to the officers and men of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry during a change of command ceremony in which he assumed command of the "Regulars".
(U.S. Army Photo by SGT Terry Williamson)

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SOUTHERN CROSS

Division Re-Cap

Action is light

By SP4 Steve Elschlager

CHU LAI (23rd Inf. Div. IO)

- Action was light last week for the men of the 23rd Infantry Division as 56 enemy soldiers were killed and several large caches were uncovered in the Army's largest area of operation.

GENEVA PARK

In operation "Geneva Park" during the week, action increased for the 198th Infantry Brigade as 26 enemy soldiers were killed and several enemy weapons were captured.

Enemy contact continued to be heavy for the second straight week as the "Ready Rifles" of the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry, killed 17 Viet Cong south of Chu Lai.

Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry, while on an early morning patrol, received fire from a distance of 300 meters. The "Ready Rifles" swept the area of contact and observed a group of Viet Cong evading to the west. The infantry maneuvered to a better firing position, and killed six Viet Cong. Captured in the action were a pistol, an AK-47 rifle, three packs, and two hand grenades. All of the captured items were extracted to a nearby LZ. Later Alpha Company detained two Vietnamese.

Alpha Company also found a large rice cache during the week. Over 5,400 pounds of rice was uncovered at the bottom of a bomb crater. The rice was stored in four large barrels, and was destroyed by the "Ready Rifles". Alpha Company also found three barrels of rice, buried in the ground next to a woodline, containing 3,040 pounds of rice.

Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry, observed and engaged a group of Viet Cong. The "Ready Rifles" swept the area of contact and killed six enemy and captured an automatic weapon, five packs, and seven hand grenades.

Later, Charlie Company heard an explosion a short distance from their day laager position. the infantrymen swept the area and found one Viet Cong who had been wounded when he stepped on his own booby trap. The "Ready Rifles" continued the sweep and found another enemy killed by the booby trap.

In a night defensive position, Charlie Company heard an explosion a short distance from their position. The infantrymen swept the area and found that enemy soldiers had tripped their own booby trap for the second day in a row. Charlie Company then processed mortar fire in the suspected enemy location, and later found one enemy killed by the mortar fire, and a short distance away the "Ready Rifles" found a wounded Viet Cong.

Charlie Company also detained four Vietnamese in a small village south of Chu Lai during the week. Echo Recon, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry, killed two enemy soldiers in two separate engagements. In both actions, the "Ready Rifles" engaged a small group of Viet Cong moving along trails.

While searching a small village south of Chu Lai, Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry, engaged and killed a Viet Cong when he tried to evade into a nearby woodline.

Action was scattered for the infantrymen of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, as the "Regulars" killed three enemy and detained several Viet Cong suspects and found a tunnel complex southeast of Chu Lai.

While on patrol, Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, found several tunnel complexes. The "Regulars" searched the tunnels and detained five Viet Cong suspects.

In a day laager position southeast of Chu Lai, Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, received two ralliers who were extracted to a nearby landing zone.

Later, Bravo Company found several baskets containing 500 pounds of rice. The "Regulars" detained five Vietnamese and extracted them to a nearby landing zone for further questioning.

The "Professionals" of the 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry, killed two enemy soldiers and captured an enemy mortar in operations conducted northwest of Chu Lai.

(Continued)

While in a night defensive perimeter, Bravo Company, 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry, engaged and killed on Viet Cong. The "Professionals" also captured 25 pounds of rice.

In other action in the 198th Infantry Brigade's area of operation, gunships from D Troop, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry, observed and engaged four military structures with rocket fire. The gunships killed two Viet Cong.

In a day laager position southeast of Chu Lai, a team from G Company, 75th Rangers, engaged two enemy near the infantrymen's position. Two enemy were killed, and an AK-47 rifle, a 9mm pistol, and four Chicom hand grenades were taken in the action.

Gunships from D Troop, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry, engaged and destroyed four military structures, two bunkers, and what appeared to be two ammunition depots south of Chu Lai. There were secondary explosions.

IRON MOUNTAIN

Combat activity was moderate this past week in the 11th Bde's AO as the 11th Bde's "Jungle Warriors" accounted for 20 enemy kills and destroyed several bunker complexes.

Infantrymen from the 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry, had five enemy kills in various action in the 11th Bde's AO this past week as Bravo Company killed two NVA with M-79 fire in the foothills south of Minh Long. Another enemy was killed as Delta Company, working near the Song Ve River west of Duc Pho, engaged and killed an evading soldier.

The remaining two kills of the 4th of the 3rd resulted when Alpha Company, working south of Minh Long, engaged and killed them. Operating near the Song Ve River southeast of Minh Long, Delta Company detained two enemy suspects.

The 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry had a very successful week in destroying enemy hootches as they accounted for 16 of the enemy structures. Found inside were 1,000 pounds of corn, seven automatic weapons and a variety of VC equipment.

An ammo cache consisting of five automatic weapons, four boxes of fuses, 25 60mm rounds, 16 82mm rounds and a Chicom hand grenade was also found by Alpha Company near the Song Ve River west of Duc Pho.

The 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry accounted for three enemy kills in two separate actions beginning with Delta Company engaging and killing two enemy soldiers in the lowlands southeast of Quang Ngai City. Two Chicom hand grenades were captured in the encounter. The other enemy kill came when Delta Company engaged and killed a VC attempting to set up a booby trap on a trail in the lowland northwest of Duc Pho.

"Warlords (B/123rd) of the 123rd Aviation Battalion accounted for eight enemy kills as they were patrolling an area northwest of Minh Long. Also, on four separate occasions, they discovered and destroyed four huts, a bunker and five sampans while sweeping an area west of Duc Pho near the Song Ve River.

In action that took place southwest of Quang Ngai City, gunships of the 174th Aviation Company spotted and engaged four enemy soldiers. The enemy soldiers were all killed as a result of the action.

A total of 12 Hoi Chanhs turned themselves over to infantrymen of Bravo Company, 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry this past week.

(Continued)

HAWK HILL

In action this past week, the 196th Infantry Brigade "Chargers" killed ten enemy soldiers and captured several large caches.

Early this week company C, 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry, while in their night defensive position, killed one NVA with small arms fire southwest of Da Nang.

While preparing to leave their night defensive position, Charlie Company, 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry, received AK fire from four NVA. They engaged, killing two and capturing one AK-47, one AK-50, three Chicom grenades, 10 pounds of rice and assorted medical supplies.

While on a sweep west of Tam Ky, Delta Company, 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry, engaged three VC with small arms fire, killing two while one evaded.

Alpha Company, 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry, while on a search and clear mission found 100 RPG rounds, 67 boxes of 30 caliber ammunition, 200 rounds of 51 caliber ammunition, 50 pounds of explosives, two Chinese radios and one Chinese switchboard.

Early last week Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry, while in their day defensive position southwest of Tam Ky engaged one VC with small arms fire. They then swept the area and found a blood trail.

Company B, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry, while on patrol west of Tam Ky last week, observed three VC. They engaged with small arms fire, killing one.

While on patrol west of Tam Ky, Charger 13 of the 196th Brigade Aviation, received small arms fire from approximately 12 VC. They returned fire and killed two VC.

Sabre 78 of D Troop, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry, received fire from an unknown size enemy force. They returned fire and killed two enemy soldiers.

89 enemy rally By SP4 Terry Williamson

CHU LAI, (198th Inf. Bde. IO) - In a period of one month, 89 Viet Cong laid down their weapons and rallied to the Government of Vietnam in the 198th Infantry Brigade area. Nearly 90 per cent of the ralliers came from the once Viet Cong infested Batangan Peninsula, southeast of Chu Lai.

The total for the month was four times the average for the Brigade and is the largest number of ralliers received in a one-month period in at least a year.

The reason for the great increase of ralliers lies in the fact that four distinct yet cooperative operations have drained the enemy of his manpower and his will to carry out his mission in this area. Allied small unit operations, land clearing projects, pacification program and concentrated psychological operations have all combined to cause major setbacks for the enemy in the Batangan area.

"All of these reasons have been cited by the ralliers as reasons why they came over to our side," said 1st Lieutenant William Cain of Burlington, Vt., the brigade civil affairs officer. "The enemy's very existence is being threatened every day in this area."

Small unit operations have saturated the area with U.S. and Vietnamese patrols. Night movement by these allied forces have nearly stifled enemy movement and supply routes. The 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry has been largely responsible for upsetting enemy activities on the peninsula with its combat operations and its support of the pacification program.

Land clearing operations, conducted by the 59th Land Clearing Company and Company B, 26th Engineer Battalion, have eliminated thousands of former enemy hiding places, tunnels, bunkers and thousands of former enemy hiding places, tunnels, bunkers and booby traps, under the cover of which enemy elements used to be able to roam almost at will throughout the countryside. The land clearing projects have left enemy units and guerrillas without cover and this vulnerable to allied ground units.

The area is also becoming a show-place pacification site with the hamlets of Giem Dien, An Thien, and Van Thien proving the worth of the pacification effort, Vietnamese civilians in the area are less and less tolerant of enemy activities, and with the loss of popular support, more and more Viet Cong are seeking a better life by returning to the Government.

"Many of the Viet Cong want to come across but are afraid of what might happen to them," said Lt. Cain. "Our job is to make sure they know they will be taken care of, and we have been successful in this effort, partially by employing a 'live' broadcast technique.

The technique was initiated by the brigade to enable former Viet Cong to give direct messages to their past comrades from helicopter. The ralliers tell their friends that they are being well treated and they urge their friends to rally also.

Besides the broadcasts, ralliers also tape messages appealing to their friends. The messages are normally made and broadcast within a day after the rallier has turned himself in, and the messages continue for a three-day period.

Other taped broadcasts are subsequently made to show the enemy still in the field how his former friends who have rallied are progressing under government protection.

Many ralliers have said that this method of showing "follow-up progress" has encouraged them to rally. The asserted that they had wanted to rally but were not sure how they would be treated. These follow-up" broadcasts have eliminated this fear for many Viet Cong.

"The whole key to our Psyops program is quick reaction," said the lieutenant. "We try to get the rallier to make live broadcast within hours of his surrender. This way it has more of an impact on his friends than if he had been gone for several days before they heard from his [him] again."

The ralliers are reunited with their families at special government-operated centers, and the medical needs of the entire family are looked after. Few of those who rally have been reluctant to make the broadcasts after they see that they will be well-treated.

The trend appears to be continuing into this month as six ralliers have already surrendered in the first five days.

Once this Batangan Peninsula was considered a VC stronghold but the enemy now seems to be losing the last remnants of his influence as the Vietnamization process moves on at full speed.

Division Recap

Light action nets 53 By SP4 Steven Elschlager

CHU LAI (23rd Inf. Div. IO) - Action in the 23rd Infantry Division area of operation was light last week with 53 enemy kills, several caches uncovered and over 60 enemy structures destroyed.

GENEVA PARK

Gunships and infantrymen from the 23rd Division's 198th Infantry Brigade combined to kill 30 enemy soldiers during the week, including a major action in which 15 Viet Cong were killed southeast of Chu Lai.

An aero rifle platoon from Delta Troop, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry, killed 15 Viet Cong in the major action of the week. The aero platoon combat assaulted into an area southeast of Chu Lai, and engaged a large number of enemy soldiers. The "Blues" killed 15 Viet Cong and wounded two in the extended action. Also captured in the action were four AK-47 rifles, a carbine rifle, a 9mm pistol, nine hand grenades, seven full AK-47 magazines and nine enemy packs. The wounded enemy soldiers were extracted to Chu Lai.

Infantrymen from the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry, with the aid of gunships killed 11 Viet Cong south of Chu Lai. The "Ready Rifles" also destroyed several military structures and confiscated over 2,000 pounds of enemy rice.

The "Ready Rifles" of Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry, engaged a group of enemy soldiers at a distance of 50 meters. Four enemy were killed and two AK-47 rifles, and a rucksack were captured in the action. Later, the infantrymen engaged another group of Viet Cong and killed one enemy soldier with small arms fire and wounded another.

Early in the week, Delta Company found a structure containing 200 pounds of unpolished rice, 65 pounds of corn, and four baskets of grain. Nearby, the "Ready Rifles" found a tunnel containing 20 rounds of ammunition, 100 pounds of rice, and four enemy packs. In the same area, Delta Company found a military structure that seven separate rooms. Each room had a fireplace and beds. In the attic, the "Ready Rifles" found an SKS rifle and an automatic rifle.

The next day, Delta Company found another military structure. Inside the "Ready Rifles" found a homemade rocket launcher and 2,000 pounds of rice. The rocket launcher and rice were destroyed. Later, Delta Company found 200 pounds of rice, 50 rounds of small arms ammunition.

Gunships from the 116th Aviation Company observed and engaged three evading Viet Cong south of Chu Lai. the gunships killed two of the enemy soldiers. An element of Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry, was inserted into the area and killed another. Two automatic weapons and six Chicom hand grenades were captured in the action.

While on patrol, Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry, observed and engaged a group of Viet Cong killing one and wounding another in the action. Two carbine rifles and two magazines of ammunition were confiscated.

While in a night defensive perimeter, Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry detected movement 20 meters to the west of their position. The "Ready Rifles" engaged with small arms fire. At first light the infantrymen found one dead Viet Cong. Later in the week, Charlie Company engaged and killed one Viet Cong soldier, capturing an automatic rifle.

The "Regulars" of tex 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, confiscated several enemy weapons during the week, and received a large amount of enemy munitions from Vietnamese civilians southeast of Chu Lai.

Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, while in a day laager position, received a large amount of enemy munitions from several Vietnamese children. The children turned over five mortar rounds, 90 rounds of rifle and machine gun ammunition, a hand grenade, an anti-tank weapon, and a three pound fragmentation device. The "Regulars" blew the munitions in place.

Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry detained two Vietnamese southeast of Chu Lai. Neither of the detainees had identification, and one was carrying a pack and the other was carrying 100 pounds of rice.

(Continued)

Division Recap **Light action nets 53**

Later Bravo Company found a Viet Cong body that had been killed by artillery fire. The kill was credited to Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 82nd Artillery.

While on patrol, Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, found an RPG round an empty AK-47 magazine, one gallon of gasoline, and two NVA ponchos lying under a tree. Nearby Alpha Company found two AK-47 rifles, three hand grenades and a pistol belt.

The "Professionals" of the 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry, killed one Viet Cong and uncovered an enemy base camp during the week northwest of Chu Lai.

Alpha Company, 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry, found an enemy base camp which was in the construction stages. The "Professionals" found 20 carbine rifle rounds, two small bottles of gasoline, and three bunkers at the camp site. All of the items were destroyed, and artillery was processed in the area.

Early in the week, Alpha Company killed a Viet Cong as he neared their day laager site northwest of Chu Lai. Alpha Company also found and destroyed six military structures with bunkers.

Charlie Company, 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry found a military structure that contained a tunnel. Inside the tunnel the "Professionals" found an artillery round and a Chicom hand grenade. The structure and military items were destroyed.

In other action in the 198th Brigade's area of operation, F Troop, 8th Cavalry (helicopter cav), observed several camouflaged structures southwest of Chu Lai. The gunships received small arms fire from the area. The gunships engaged the enemy with minigun fire and killed one enemy soldier. F Troop also observed and destroyed 30 bunkers and 10 military structures with rocket fire during the day.

An aero rifle platoon from F Troop, 8th Cavalry, was inserted in an area southwest of Chu Lai and killed one enemy soldier.

IRON MOUNTAIN

Combat activity remained moderate this past week as the 11th Bde.'s Jungle Warriors accounted for 14 enemy kills with the 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry accounting for nine of the kills.

The 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry led with the most kills as they killed nine of the 14 enemy in the 11th Infantry Brigade area of operation this past [week]. Engaging the suspected area, the infantrymen accounted for two Viet Cong kills. Engaging the suspected area the infantrymen accounted for two Viet Cong kills. Operating along the coast northwest of Quang Ngai City, Bravo Company detected two enemy at 150 meters. The infantrymen engaged them, resulting in two enemy deaths. Bravo Company, operating southwest of Minh Long, found two NVA kills after searching an area of contact from the previous night. Maneuvering in the mountains northwest of Ba To, Alpha Company engaged and killed two North Vietnamese soldiers at 75 meters. Delta Company made the final kill for the 4th Battalion when they engaged a lone NVA near the Song Ve River southeast of Minh Long. The NVA was killed as a result of the action.

The 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry also set the record for destroying 29 of the 51 enemy structures destroyed in the 11th Brigade this past week.

Approximately 400 pounds of unpolished rice, one enemy carbine, two enemy pistol belts and 20 pounds of tobacco were captured by the 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry during this past week.

The 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry were credited with the remaining five enemy kills, in the 11th Brigade as Alpha Company, working in the lowlands northwest of Duc Pho, observed six to eight enemy soldiers moving away from their position. Engaging with small arms and M-79 fire, the infantrymen racked up four Viet Cong kills. A pistol belt, flashlight and three ponchos were captured as a result of the action. The remaining kill was made by Bravo Company, maneuvering in the lowlands southwest of Mo Duc, as they engaged and killed a lone Viet Cong.

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Division Recap Light action nets 53

The 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry accounted for one captured Viet Cong who was wounded in the action, as they were making a sweep of the mountains southwest of Quang Ngai City. The training area was used by a company size sapper unit. It contained 12 large bunkers and several small ones. The training area along with the several training aids were destroyed after a thorough search of the area.

Sweeping an area southwest of Quang Ngai, Recon of the 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry, discovered an enemy laager position containing one AK-47, one Chicom hand grenade, seven packs, an assortment of rice, salt, tobacco, fish and some heroin.

Alpha Company, 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry discovered an NVA hospital located in a cave southeast of Duc Pho. The entrance of the cave was booby trapped with 60mm mortar rounds.

Operating in the foothills south of Duc Pho, Alpha Company, 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry found two base camps. A total of 20 structures, five spider holes and one bunker were inspected and destroyed by the infantrymen.

Patrolling an area west of Say Hay Nh, Alpha Company, 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry discovered one hut, a bunker and a tree observation post. Later, in the same area, Tex infantrymen found an enemy base camp with 25-30 bunkers along its perimeter.

Sweeping an area west of Minh Ling, elements of Bravo Company, 123rd Aviation Battalion, accounted for the deaths of eight enemy soldiers and also destroyed four enemy structures. Gunships of Bravo Company, 123rd Aviation Battalion (Warlords), accounted for the deaths of eight enemy soldiers and also destroyed four enemy structures. Gunship of Bravo Company also engaged and killed a lone Viet Cong in the foothills south of Duc Pho.

HAWK HILL

In light action this past week the 196th Infantry Brigade soldiers killed nine enemy soldiers and uncovered several caches.

Early this week Charlie Company, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry, while on patrol west of Tam Ky, detained six Vietnamese females and two males. The detainees led the "Gimlets" to 400 pounds of rice. The rice and the Vietnamese males were extracted to LZ Center. The females were taken to Tien Phuoc.

While on patrol later this week, Alpha Company, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry, discovered two Viet Cong killed by artillery. Battery A, 3rd Battalion, 16th Artillery was credited with the kills.

Charlie Company, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry, while on patrol west of Tam Ky, observed and engaged two Viet Cong with small arms fire, killing one and wounding the other. The wounded VC was extracted to LZ Hawk Hill.

While on patrol west of Tam Ky this week, Charlie Company, 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry, found a grave containing one NVA killed by artillery. The kill was credited to Battery C, 3rd Battalion, 82nd Artillery.

While on a search and clear mission southwest of Da Nang, Alpha Company, 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry discovered an ammunition cache containing 23-57mm recoilless rounds, three 82mm mortar rounds, 24 AK-47 magazines with 800 rounds of ammunition, seven RPG rounds, five RPG boosters and two unidentified mines.

Alpha Company, 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry, while on patrol this week found three structures containing 110 pounds of rice and 20 pounds of corn. Tex supplies were extracted to LZ Young.

Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry had an unusual visitor outside their perimeter, this week, a Viet Cong with a Chieu Hoi leaflet in his hand. He surrendered to the "Professionals" who were located southwest of Da Nang. The second Hoi Chanh in two weeks to voluntarily give himself up to Alpha Company.

While in their night defensive position southwest of Da Nang Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry, engaged and killed one North Vietnamese soldier.

Regulars kill 5 in successful village search

By SGT Louis Miller

LZ DOTTY [sic -Dottie], (198th Inf. Bde. IO) Five Viet Cong were killed and two captured as an element of the 198th Infantry Brigade made an early morning search recently of an abandoned hamlet south of Chu Lai.

An element of Company A, **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry** had left their night defensive position at first light to search deserted hamlets suspected of harboring Viet Cong Guerrillas by night. The infantrymen of the "Regulars" found what they were looking for at the first hamlet they searched when the company's Luc Luong Scout (formerly Kit Carson Scout) spotted seven enemy soldiers hiding near a hedgerow.

After a brief exchange of hand grenades, the enemy bolted and moved into a nearby structure containing a bunker and, the infantrymen found later, a brick wall in the rear which blocked any possible escape.

"One of our men, Sergeant Michael J. Knox of Olney, Ill., made his way to the side of the structure and tossed in a grenade, said Private First Class Don L. Hayes of Palmyra, Tenn., a rifleman with Company A. "Then the enemy started throwing grenades back at us."

As the "Regulars" opened up with a barrage of small arms fire, other elements of the company moved into blocking positions to prevent any escape.

"Our Luc Luong Scout then told us to stop firing because he wanted to talk to the enemy," said PFC Hayes. "They exchanged a few words and two of the enemy came out with their hands up. They had been wounded by our grenades."

"Finally we heard no more noises from the building so we moved up to check it out," said Specialist 4 Larry Carrico of East St. Louis, Ill., a radio operator. "Inside, we found we had killed all five VC."

Found with the bodies were six grenades, a home-made booby trap, three packs and assorted field equipment. The two wounded Viet Cong were evacuated to a Chu Lai hospital.

You're in the Americal now Mr. Jones

What is the Americal?

The Americal, or 23d Infantry Division as it is officially known, was born in the South Pacific during World War II designating the "American Forces in New Caledonia."

You are now one of these men of the Americal who served gallantly during the drive to Japan during World War II and have since 1967, helped secure for the South Vietnamese a part of their country which used to be a Viet Cong stronghold.

Much has been accomplished, but the job is by no means complete. The division is now engaged in the nuts and bolts activities of Vietnamization, pacification, and small unit operations. That which you have heard about back home you will now be a part of on the person to person level.

How has the Americal progressed to its current position?

In 1967, General William C. Westmoreland, the MACV commander, directed the organization of an Army task force to send to troubled I Corps in the northern part of the Republic of Vietnam.

First with the help of the brigades from the 101st Airborne and 25th Infantry Divisions, Task Force Oregon, which later became the Americal, began search and clear operations in the area.

With the introduction of the 198th and the 11th Infantry Brigades to assist the 196th Brigade, the Americal was born again in Vietnam. The official change of colors was held October 26, 1967, a Major General Samuel W. Koster assumed command of the division.

Offensive combat operations continued and intensified in 1968 as the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry joined the division organization.

Task Force Miracle, composed of the 2d Bn, 1st Inf. and the 1st **Bn. 6th Inf.**, was sent to Da Nang to counter the 1968 Tet offensive. During this defense, the enemy lost 1,407 men most of them during the four days of heaviest contact.

The year 1968 in the division area of operation was one of heavy contact with relatively large numbers of VC and NVA forces. These units were reduced in number by offensive operations and forced to deploy in small groups.

Lines of communication and supply were opened and secured for both U.S. troops, the ARVN, and the civilian populace.

Units of the division intercepted and destroyed large units in the process of launching major attacks on Tam Ky and Quang Ngai City, the province capital.

The coming of 1969 ushered in Operation Russell Beach on January 13. The operation was typical of the coming operations as civilians were relocated from unsecured areas and then enemy units flushed out from these areas.

Operation Russell Beach relocated civilians from the Batangan Peninsula south of Chu Lai to secure areas along Highway One and then swept the peninsula south of Chu Lai to secure areas along Highway One and then swept the peninsula to clear out the Viet Cong and its political infrastructure.

In March, 1969, the division area of operations was divided into the three parts which are the same today. The 196th Brigade and the 5th ARVN Regiment joined forces in the Operation Frederick Hill to the north.

The 198th Brigade and the 6th ARVN Regiment shared the Operation Geneva Park sector in the middle, while the 11th Brigade and the 4th ARVN Regiment combined forces for Operation Iron Mountain in the Southern Sector. These operations are continuing to date.

You're in the Americal now Mr. Jones

August, 1969, brought a major operation as the 196th Bde. combined with the 1st Marine Division to inflict almost 1,000 deaths on the 1st Regiment of the 2d NVA Division.

The enemy had been threatening the Hiep Duc resettlement village, FSB West and FSB Siberia. Two weeks of fighting in the rolling valley floor reduced the enemy unit to a name only.

When the battle ended, sweeps through the still-blistering heat on the Que Son Valley floor met only small pockets of enemy resistance, which were quickly mopped up.

Spearheading Allied operations in Quang Tin and Quang Ngai provinces, the Americal pursued a vigorous rice denial program to choke the enemy's supply system and return this vital staple to the populace.

(Continued)

(Continued Vol. 4, No. 9 February 26, 1971 **You're in the Americal now Mr. Jones**

In addition, giant land-clearing operations along the coast denied the enemy ground he once honeycombed with sanctuaries concealed by vegetation and rough terrain. Civilians evacuated from these areas were resettled at relocation centers, which began to spring up along Highway One and other pacified areas in some of the river valleys.

These pacified areas became enemy objectives again in 1970 as NVA elements tried to take Hiep Duc. Again, they were repulsed and driven back to the mountains, suffering heavy casualties in their flight.

Today, in 1971, the Americal continues to perform its varied missions in helping the people of the Republic of Vietnam protect their country against subversive forces.

Through such efforts a Project Buddy, conducted by the 723d Maintenance Battalion, teaching ARVN mechanics techniques of care of vehicles and machinery, the withdrawal of American forces has been smooth and has allowed continuing peace and security to be maintained in this area.

The situation which you will face is not a static one however, due to the changing tactical needs it is possible that division units will be shifted to other parts of the country for important operations.

What is the Americal?

The Americal is you. It is whatever you make it.

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'Brave and Bold' Describes the 198th

The 198th Infantry Brigade was formed in the Organized Reserves in Erie County, Pennsylvania, on June 24, 1921. The unit became an organic element of the 99th Infantry Division.

The unit was reorganized and redesignated as the 3rd Platoon of the 99th Cavalry Recon Troop, and on November 15, 1942 was ordered to active military service at Camp Van Dorn, Mississippi.

During World War II, the troop fought with the 99th Infantry Division and received campaign credit for operations in the Rhineland, Ardennes-Alsace and Central Europe. The troop was also cited by the Belgian Army for action at Elsenborn and in the Ardennes, and was awarded the Belgian Fourragere. The 99th Cavalry Recon Troop was inactivated on September 29, 1945 at Camp Myles Standish, Massachusetts, and assigned as a reserve component of the 99th Infantry Division.

On August 1, 1962, the 99th Cavalry Recon Troop was relieved from its assignment to the 99th Infantry Division and withdrawn from the Army Reserve. At the same time, the 3rd Platoon of the Troop was converted and redesignated as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 198th Brigade, and allotted to the Regular Army. This, then was the unit which began training at Fort Hood in May 1967. During this training, jungle fighting techniques and air mobility were emphasized.

In October, 1967, the brigade shipped from Oakland, California, to Da Nang, Vietnam. After arriving in Da Nang, the "Brave and Bold" soldiers boarded troop ships for transportation to Chu Lai, where they arrived on October 22, 1967. Four days later they became a part of the reactivated Americal Division.

On March 18, 1969, the "Brave and the Bold" of the 198th Brigade and the 6th ARVN Regiment embarked upon Operation Geneva Park. The mission was to eliminate the enemy forces within the area of operation while stressing pacification and combined US/ARVN operations. This operation is still in progress.

The 198th Infantry Brigade presently consists of the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry; the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry; the 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry and H Troop, 17th Cavalry.

The brigade is presently situated in the central sector of the 23rd Infantry Division's area of operations and has its headquarters in Chu Lai.

In the spring of 1812, three months before war was declared, Congress constituted the infantry regiments. The first of the new regiments was designated the 11th. After the war, the Eleventh Regiment became the Sixth Infantry.

The sixth Infantry participated in eleven Indian campaigns, as well as the Mexican War.

In July, 1848 the Regiment's mission was in the West, protecting supply trains, scouting, and engaging the Indians. In March, 1862 the Regiment was committed to battle again, fighting as part of the Army of the Potomac, and earning seven additional battle streamers.

After the outbreak of the Spanish-American War, the 6th Infantry was sent to Cuba where it participated in the battle for Santiago.

In France during World War I, the regiment joined the 5th Division for battle in the Arnould Sector.

On May 17, 1967 the battalion was reorganized as a standard Infantry Battalion and was assigned to the 198th Infantry Brigade. the 6th Infantry was the first element ashore, arriving at Chu Lai in October to participate in its thirty-fifth campaign and ninth war.

After a brief initial operation south of Duc Pho, the Battalion was assigned the mission of securing the installation at Chu Lai.

The Regulars have participated in Task Force Oregon, Task Force Miracle, Operation Wheeler/Wallowa, Operation Burlington Trail, and has had the mission of protecting Americal Division Headquarters and Chu Lai Defense Command from enemy ground mortar and rocket attacks. The 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry has been awarded one Valorous Unit Citation for its victory at the battle of Lo Giang in 1968.

Deadly blues

CHU LAI, (23rd Inf. Div. IO) - Elements of D Troop, 1st Squadron 1st Cavalry trapped and destroyed a fifteen man element five miles south of Chu Lai during a recent daylight operation.

An aerial observer working with the **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry** spotted three sampans loaded with Communist troops moving north along the Tra Bong River and called for support. The enemy immediately took evasive action, beaching their boats on an island and attempting to hide in the thick underbrush growing in the two feet of water that covered the island.

Diverted from another mission, the 123rd AViation Battalion's Sabre flight (combined air-ground force) moved into the area. LOH pilots Captain Sidney Austin of Mineral Wells, Tex., and Warrant Officer Doyle U. Miner of Council Bluffs, Iowa, spotted 15 enemy soldiers occupying the island, confirming the aerial observer's report.

Receiving instructions from flight leader Lieutenant Ralph V. Cain of Valparaiso, Fla., members of the troops Aero-rifle Platoon (Blues were inserted on the opposite shore, 50 meters away).

The enemy failed to respond to repeated attempts by the LOH's to force their surrender and were then subjected to a CS attack in hopes that they would give up. Failing to receive an response, the Sabres requested permission to open fire and were cleared immediately by the district chief. Supported by Cobra gunships, the LOH's blasted the island.

A team of volunteers led by Lieutenant Aruther [sic?] L. Galloway of Williamsburg, Va., and including Staff Sergeant Wheeler Brooks of Ollie, Iowa, Sergeant Kevin O'Brien of New York City and Private First Class Michael Tyson of Hermit, Calif., was inserted by UH-1H (Huey) pilot Warrant Officer John M. Allen from Arlington, Tex., on the submerged island.

Sweeping the area, the team detained two suspects. Thirteen enemy KIA's were accounted for and credited to the LOH's. Continuing the sweep the "Blues" recovered eight AK-47's and one 9mm pistol plus twenty Chinese Communist grenades. Also discovered were 25 packs containing uniforms.

Pacification is a success in 3 villages — By SGT Terry Williamson

LZ DOTTIE, (198th Inf. Bde. IO) - Three villages in the 198th Infantry Brigade area have come the full cycle in the pacification program. No longer do the three villages require American assistance for security and aid and now all three are described as self-sufficient.

The entire three square mile area, about five miles northeast of Quang Ngai City, is a model example of success in the allied pacification effort. The once Viet Cong-infested area now resembles a flourishing farm area, and the smiles of a happy people have returned after a long absence.

Infantry of the **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry** played a major role in the pacification of Van Thien, An Thien and Giem Diem. The "Regulars" provided security for the people-most of them refugees forced away from their land-and helped the villagers get back on their feet.

It has been less than a year since the creation of Van Thien, the first hamlet of the three, and the results of that beginning can serve as a beacon to other efforts of the future. The Atmosphere for pacification was good and the village of An Thien sprang into existence almost immediately. The refugees involved were ready and now the villages needed the proper indigenous personnel to insure success.

A Revolutionary Development Cadre team (RDC) and a People's Self-Defense Force (PSDF) were formed as the inhabitants were about the chore of building their new homes and putting the area under cultivation.

The main task, however, was to insure that inhabitants were provided with security. The 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry was on hand to see that the proper protection was provided, but the ultimate goal of the program would have villagers self-supported, economically as well as militarily.

This goal has been reached with even greater efficiency than had been hoped. In fact, things went so smooth that still another village, Giem Dien, was created in the same area, and now the three support nearly 5,000 people.

"There are so many factors involved in the success of this program that it is hard to say which helped the most," said 1st Lieutenant Ron J. Johnson of New Carlisle, Ohio. Brigade Civil Affairs Officer. "But you have to say that the people themselves worked hard, and were eager to make this effort a success."

In conjunction with providing security, the battalion was involved in a program of training the local forces, both Popular Forces and Regional Forces, to assume full responsibility for their own security. The basis of this training program centered around combined US and GVN patrols and ambushes. This, in turn, was complemented by informal instruction in basic military subjects.

Supplementing these activities, the battalion also implemented a civic action program which involved conducting regular Medcaps, and assisting the people with their construction problems as much as possible.

"We feel that our greatest responsibility in the pacification effort is the personal example set by the men of the battalion in preparing the local forces to provide security for themselves," said 1st Lieutenant Daniel J. Boccolucci of Buffalo, a civil affairs officer. "Their devotion to the program allowed us to complete the job in record time."

Combined military operations in the area were not the only factors in insuring a pacification success. The 59th Land Clearing Company and Bravo Company, 26th Engineers, also helped to make the area safe. The two units have been involved in a massive land clearing project that has destroyed endless enemy sanctuaries on the Batangan Peninsula. The villagers also formed a common bond among themselves, and could not be intimidated by the Viet Cong.

This has left the enemy in this area confused, scared and ineffective. Rallies have been turning up in greater numbers than ever before, and most of them said they no longer have any support from the people.

The infantrymen of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry left the people to assume full responsibility for their homes without much fanfare, which showed a great confidence on the part of the people in handling their problems alone.

"The people were ready to take care of their own lives," said Boccolucci. "They are self-sufficient now, and they deserve it after all of the work they have put into their villages."

The villages are able to market their produce in Quang Ngai City, and now their economic condition is sound after their first bumper crop. The people are actively involved in local politics and support their leaders. They now have their own schools, and many children are getting the education that was denied them before.

'Regulars' uncover Viet Cong hospital

By SGT Terry Williamson

LZ DOTTIE, (198th Inf. Bde. IO) - Infantrymen from the 198th Infantry Brigade recently uncovered an enemy hospital, captured a Viet Cong and detained four members of the Viet Cong infrastructure southeast of Chu Lai.

The hospital, which was listed as the Binh Son District aid station by the Viet Cong was found by a platoon from Company D, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry. Reports of a hospital in that area had been mentioned frequently in the past three months by intelligence sources.

The finding of the hospital turned out to be a surprise for the "Regulars". Private First Class Dennis Violette of Van Buren, Maine, pointman, found an NVA poncho and a pack lying on the side of a small trail while the platoon was maneuvering to their day defensive perimeter. The observant pointman then notified his squad leader, Sergeant Chuck Adams of Topeka, Kan., of the find.

"It's not too often that we find field packs just lying in the open like this," said Sergeant Adams. "So I thought we should start looking a little closer around the area."

Violette found a camouflaged cover that appeared to be the lid of a deserted well, but when the cover was lifted, three Vietnamese popped out of the entrance of a well-concealed tunnel complex.

"This turn of events really surprised me," said Violette. "I didn't know if they were armed or not, but I kept a close eye on them."

It turned out that two of the detainees were nurses for the VC infrastructure, and the third occupant of the tunnel had been a wounded patient of the aid station for the past three days. The VC had been wounded by Popular Force units the week before.

Private First Class Jim Parker of Detroit drew the responsibility of searching the tunnel, and found a large amount of medical supplies in the underground hospital.

"The tunnel could hold 10 people, and they had hammocks strung up to serve as hospital beds," said Parker. "The tunnel was H-Shaped and was really built nice."

The hospital was set up to perform everything from child birth to major surgery. A complete medical kit was found in the tunnel, and was well equipped.

"We found drugs, surgical equipment, and medical textbooks that had been written in long hand," said Private First Class John Cvitak of Omaha, the platoon medic. "I would say that the hospital was very well equipped."

Meanwhile, Violette was at it again. Nearby, he found another tunnel, and detained a doctor and a medic of the VC infrastructure. Later, the doctor stated that he had been extensively trained in North Vietnam.

Parker also searched the second tunnel, and found a 9mm pistol, and more medical supplies. The "Tunnel rat" said later that he was glad that this was the last tunnel to be found.

"I like to find the tunnels and let Parker search them," Violette admitted. "He does all of the hard work, and I just watch."

Four of the detainees were evacuated to a nearby LZ for further treatment.

Division in light action

By SP4 Steven Elschlager

CHU LAI (23rd Inf. Div. IO)

- Two weeks ago soldiers in the 23rd Infantry Division saw light action as 84 enemy soldiers were killed with several suspects detained. This week 74 enemy soldiers were killed in the Americal AO with the 11th Brigade witnessing most of the heavy action.

IRON MOUNTAIN

Action in the 11th Brigade two weeks ago was the scene of the heaviest fighting in months as the "Jungle Warriors" along with the 123rd Aviation Battalion accounted for 48 enemy kills. There was moderate action in the 11th Brigade area of operation this past week as the "Jungle Warriors" along with the 123rd Aviation Battalion accounted for the deaths of 42 enemy soldiers.

The 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry was credited with 12 enemy kills as elements of Delta Company, patrolling the lowlands northeast of Mo Duc, detected an enemy soldier evading towards a shelter of a grove. The VC was killed as he was engaged with small arms fire. Delta Company later made contact in the same area as they engaged five VC resulting in one VC kill. Again, Delta Company was credited with six kills as they discovered six grave sites in an area northeast of Mo Duc. They were believed killed during contact two days before. The remaining four enemy deaths were also made by Delta Company as they engaged an unknown sized enemy force in the lowlands northeast of Mo Duc.

The 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry accounted for five enemy kills as Alpha Company, operating in the foothills west of Sa Hug Nh, engaged the five soldiers with small arms fire at 200 meters.

Bravo Company 123rd Aviation Battalion, accounted for the deaths of 21 North Vietnamese soldiers. The kills were recorded during several incidents in an area west of Minh Long.

This week the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry were credited with three Viet Cong kills as Alpha Company, working in an area west of Sa Huy Nh, detected movement near their position. The infantrymen engaged the suspected enemy area resulting in two Viet Cong deaths. Moments later, they engaged five Viet Cong with small arms fire, killing one VC.

The 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry accounted for two Viet Cong deaths in the lowlands north of Mo Duc.

Bravo Company of the 123rd Aviation Battalion accounted for 37 kills this past week as a ship flying over an area west of Minh Long spotted and engaged one enemy soldier, killing him. The aviators also found and destroyed five huts. Flying over the lowlands north of Mo Duc, a ship observed and engaged 10-15 enemy soldiers, killing two. In the same area, a LOH received enemy fire. Returning the fire, the aviators killed three VC. Later in the same area, elements of Bravo Company engaged the enemy again, and killed 17 enemy, captured two wounded NVA, and picked up a Chieu Hoi. Bravo Company, working in the lowlands north of Mo Duc, engaged an unknown sized enemy force, killing 14 and capturing three.

Twelve enemy soldiers were killed and two large caches were found two weeks ago in the 196th Infantry Brigade's area of operation.

Reconnaissance, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry, while in an observation post west of Tam Ky, observed four Viet Cong to their front. The VC engaged the "Gimlets" with small arms fire. The Recon element returned fire and killed two VC.

While on patrol Company C, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry came upon a structure containing two VC, both were detained. Upon continuing the patrol engaged and killed on VC with small arms fire. During the action the two detainees attempted to seize one of the "Gimlets" weapons and escape. They were engaged with small arms fire, killing both.

Also this week Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry, found approximately 150 weapons in good condition while on a search and clear mission southwest of Tam Ky. (Continued page 6)

In action this week the 196th Infantry Brigade soldiers killed 23 enemy soldiers in their area of operations.

While on patrol west of Tam Ky early this week, Company A, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry, engaged an unknown size enemy force. The "Gimlets" killed one NVA and wounded another.

Company A, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry, while checking their night defensive perimeter west of Tam Ky engaged two NVA with small arms fire. They killed one while the others evaded southeast.

While in the day defensive position later this week, Bravo Company, 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry, engaged two NVA with small arms fire. Both NVA were killed and two AK-47 rifles, two rucksacks, two ponchos and miscellaneous medical supplies were captured in the action.

(Continued)

GENEVA PARK

Contact with small enemy units increased two weeks ago for the infantrymen from the 23rd Division's 198th Infantry Brigade as the "Brave and Bold" killed 24 enemy soldiers in numerous engagements in Operation Geneva Park.

The 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry, saw the heaviest action during the week as the "Ready Rifles" killed 10 enemy soldiers in scattered engagements and captured several enemy weapons south of Chu Lai.

The "Professionals" of the 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry, killed three enemy soldiers and destroyed several military structures northwest of Chu Lai.

In other action in the 198th Brigade's area of operation, H Troop, 17th Cavalry, killed a Viet Cong when the enemy soldier neared their night laager position southeast of Chu Lai.

Gunships from Delta Troop, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry, observed small campfires and a military structure northwest of Chu Lai. The gunships engaged the targets and destroyed the military structure and killed three Viet Cong.

Action was light in the 23rd Division's 198th Infantry Brigade as infantrymen killed nine enemy soldiers in Operation Geneva Par. Several Viet Cong suspects were detained during the week, and several weapons were confiscated.

The "Regulars" of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, killed five Viet Cong in scattered engagements southeast of Chu Lai.

The "Ready Rifles" of the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry, killed three enemy soldiers and detained eight Viet Cong suspects south of Chu Lai.

Over an area south of Chu Lai, a command and control helicopter from the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry, engaged a Viet Cong as he evaded toward a tree line. The enemy soldier was wounded in the action and extracted to a Chu Lai hospital for further treatment.

In other action in the 198th Brigade's area of operation, H Troop, 17th Cavalry engaged a group of Viet Cong soldiers. The cavalrymen killed one enemy and captured an AK-47 rifle, an automatic weapon, and two Chicom hand grenades.

An artillery observer from the 1st Battalion, 14th Artillery, flying over an area southeast of Chu Lai, directed an artillery strike on a suspected mine field and bunker complex. Ten bunkers were destroyed and the aerial observer reported 25 secondary explosions.

Regulars find base camp

By SGT Louis Miller

LZ DOTTIE, (198th Inf. Bde. IO) - ;A large open area caused infantrymen from the 198th Infantry Brigade to move through a heavily vegetated area southeast of Chu Lai recently. The detour netted the infantrymen a Viet Cong base camp and one enemy soldier killed.

A platoon from Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry was maneuvering through a thick area when the "Regulars" came to an open space. Although it would have been shorter to move across the large open area, Staff Sergeant William Mennefee of Cleveland, decided to have his men cut through the thick brush.

Specialist 4 David Compton of Louisville, Ill., pointman led the platoon through part of the area without too much trouble, but he became suspicious when he spotted two passage ways through a thick hedgerow. Mennefee ordered that the patrol set up a day laager position a short distance away. "The "Regulars" then sent a patrol back to check the area.

"When our patrol moved through the small tunnel-like passageways, we found a Viet Cong base camp," he said. "When the whole patrol was through the hedgerow, we began checking out the area for booby traps."

The camp was 500 feet long and 200 feet wide, and had a trench line around the position. Also, the Viet Cong had tied the tops of the hedges and trees together, and pulled them over the area so that the camp couldn't be observed from the air.

While investigating the enemy camp, the "Regulars" uncovered sleeping positions, fortified fighting positions, clothes, and freshly cut hair. The camp appeared to have been used recently.

The "Regulars" set up a night defensive position near the enemy camp site in hopes that the Viet Cong would try to use the camp again. It turned out to be a good decision because the "Regulars" engaged and killed a Viet Cong when he entered the camp that night.

At first light the next morning, the "Regulars" swept the area of contact and found a homemade pack, ten pounds of rice, and a canteen cup. Mennifee plotted artillery on the enemy camp, and accurate artillery fire completely destroyed the Viet Cong base.

Due to a massive land clearing project in the area, the Viet Cong will be hard pressed to find another suitable site. Hundreds of Viet Cong tunnels and hiding places have been uncovered and destroyed in the past few months.

"I am glad we destroyed this camp," he said. "I imagine it is one of the last sanctuaries that the enemy had in this area."

Troops get lumps

By SGT Terry Williamson

LZ DOTTIE (198th Inf. Bde. IO) - An infantryman in the 198th Infantry Brigade recently faced an enemy mine-eye to eye. But the unexpected meeting between the two natural enemies fizzled.

Sergeant James Glenn of Columbus, Ga., squad leader, Charlie Company, **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry**, got the surprise of his life while on a patrol southeast of Chu Lai. A "Bouncing Betty" mine popped menacingly from the ground, and stared angrily at Glenn.

The mine failed to go off, and really didn't do any damage, unless you talk to Glenn, who has a different opinion. He didn't like the meeting at all.

"The whole thing happened so fast that I didn't have time to be afraid at first," he said.

Specialist 4 John Daring of Dayton, pointman, apparently triggered the mine when he stepped on a delay pressure release device. Just as Glenn got one step from the buried mine, it popped up to eye level, clicked instead of explode and fizzed into the bushes to the left.

The sergeant yelled, "Booby-trap!" The infantrymen fell to the ground without thinking twice, and instinctively covered their ears with their hands. The "Regulars" waited nervously for an explosion, but it never came. "I laid there only a couple of minutes, but it seemed like hours," said Glenn.

Hard-hitting Jungle Warriors

kill 3 and capture weapons

By SGT Louis Miller

LZ DOTTIE, (198th Inf. Bde. IO)-- An element of the **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry**, 196th [sic - 198th] Brigade, caught an enemy patrol and took advantage of their mistake by killing one, capturing another, and taking three automatic weapons and five grenades in a recent encounter southeast of Chu Lai.

A platoon from Charlie Company, 1-6th Inf. was moving to a day laager position when the point element spotted a group of Viet Cong soldiers in a rice paddy directly below. The point element reacted immediately.

"Our people up front laid down a base of fire while the rest of us maneuvered into better firing positions," said Private First Class Harold Harmon of Rockford, Ill., a rifleman with the "Regulars." "At first the enemy had to figure out where the fire was coming from and as soon as they did, they began to evade in three different directions."

The infantrymen swept over the area of contact and found one Viet Cong killed and another wounded. The wounded enemy was evacuated to a Chu Lai hospital.

During the sweep, the "Regulars" conducted a thorough search. The search turned up five Chicom hand grenades, two automatic rifles, and several items of enemy field gear. Nearby, the infantrymen found a tunnel.

"We brought the captured equipment next to the tunnel and then set up security to search the tunnel," Harmon said.

Inside the tunnel, the "Regulars" found eight Viet Cong field packs. A short distance from the tunnel, another automatic rifle was turned up.

Weekly recap

Ready Rifles net 16

Chu Lai, (198th Inf. Bde. IO) – Action was light in operation Middlesex Peak during the week of 21-27 April, as the men of the 198th Infantry Brigade and gunships from the 23rd Infantry Division accounted for 16 enemy killed and four suspects detained. A total of four enemy weapons and 77 Chicom (Chinese Communist) hand grenades were captured.

The "Ready Rifles" from the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry, accounted for most of the action in an area southwest of Chu Lai. A total of eight were killed, four Viet Cong suspects were detained, and two weapons captured.

In an area west of Chu Lai, Charlie Company 1st Bn., 52nd Inf., engaged a small group of VC soldiers, killing three and capturing two packs and one pistol belt. The captured equipment was extracted to a nearby LZ. The same day the "Ready Rifles" detained one VC suspect. The detainee was extracted to a nearby LZ for questioning.

While in an area south of Chu Lai, Charlie Company engaged a group of enemy soldiers, killing one. The infantrymen found in the area nine B40 rockets, 10 B40 boosters, 10 recoilless rifle rounds, and 13 9mm rounds. Other items extracted to a near by LZ were three RPG's, two 82mm mortar rounds, a small quantity of AK rounds, and a machinegun tripod.

Later in the week the infantrymen detained another VC suspect extracting to an LZ for further questioning.

Maneuvering through an area south of Chu Lai, and element from Alpha Company, 1st Bn., 52nd Inf., was engaged with small arms fire and rockets by an unknown size group of the enemy soldiers. The "Ready Rifles" returned fire, killing two NVA soldiers and capturing 11 Chicom hand grenades and two packs. The packs were extracted to an LZ and the grenades were destroyed.

Nearby, another element from Alpha Company engaged and killed one NVA soldier at a distance of 75 meters. Two Chicom hand grenades and one poncho were captured in the action and extracted to a landing zone.

Earlier in an area west of Chu Lai, a patrol from Alpha, 1st Bn., 52nd Inf., detained two VC suspects. The detainees were extracted to an LZ for questioning.

Also south of Chu Lai, an element from Alpha Company found 21 military structures and three fighting positions. In the area the "Ready Rifles" found 15 Chicom hand grenades, a quantity of AK rounds, one B40 rocket, 10 NVA ponchos, 12 khaki uniforms, six rucksacks, and two helmets. The items were extracted to an LZ.

On patrol southwest of Chu Lai, and element from Delta Company, 1st Bn., 52nd Inf., engaged a group of NVA soldiers. One enemy was killed (con't on page 6) **198th routs enemy (Continued From Page 1)** and one AK-47 rifle, one 9mm pistol, and one full magazine were captured in the action and extracted to an LZ.

Also in the area, Delta Company found eight structures, one large mess hall, and one B40 rocket. The rocket and structures were destroyed.

The action was light in the 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry area of operations northwest of Chu Lai. The "Professionals" accounted for five enemy killed and 49 Chicom hand grenades captured.

In a night defensive position in an area northwest of Chu Lai, Charlie Company, 5th Bn., 46th Inf., engaged and killed one Viet Cong soldier as he neared the "Professionals" position. Captured and extracted to a nearby LZ were two hammocks, four batteries, and a cooking pot. The next morning, the infantrymen killed two more VC also approaching the perimeter.

Earlier in the week Charlie Company, 5th Bn., 46th Inf., engaged and killed one enemy soldier, while capturing one pack which was extracted to an LZ. The "Professionals" searched the area and found one camp fire and 15 new Chicom hand grenades. The grenades were destroyed in place. On patrol in an area northwest of Chu Lai, an element from Charlie Company, 5th Bn., 46th Inf., found and destroyed two structures and one bunker containing 34 Chicom hand grenades, one homemade satchel charge, several punji stakes, and one gallon of kerosene. The "Professionals" also found 10 pounds of rice, two NVA ponchos, three pairs of sandals, one NVA rucksack, one pair of fatigues, a wristwatch, and assorted cooking utensils.

(Continued)

Another element from Charlie Company 5th Bn., 46th Inf., found 15 enemy rucksacks containing food, miscellaneous clothing, and one booby-trap device. The items were extracted to a nearby LZ.

While in a day laager position northwest of Chu Lai, Alpha Company, 5th Bn., 46th Inf., engaged and killed a lone VC soldier and captured one pack which was extracted to a nearby LZ.

Flying over an area west of Chu Lai, gunships from Delta Troop, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry, engaged and killed one VC soldier with mini-guns, killing him. The gunships then engaged and destroyed two military structures with rocket fire.

While flying over an area west of Chu Lai, the "Warlords" engaged and killed one VC soldier who was evading into a tree line.

On patrol west of Chu Lai, an element of Alpha Company, 1st Bn., 6th Inf., found and destroyed eight enemy bunkers.

Another patrol west of Chu Lai from Charlie Company, 1st Bn., 6th Inf., found one carbine and one SKS rifle. The weapons were extracted to a nearby LZ.

VIP spells 'success'

LZ DOTTIE, (198th Inf. Bde. IO) -- Combine a battalion S-5, a broadcast team and the energy of a small boy, mix in a thing called the Volunteer Informer Program (VIP) and what do you get? This intriguing formula recently paid massive dividends in a village near here when a large quantity of unexploded ordnance was turned in under the VIP Program.

The VIP Program is not new but seldom has it been more successful than it was in the village of Binh Lien, thanks to First Lieutenant Thomas E. McLain (Kansas City), Highway Broadcast Team 13 and a Vietnamese boy named Larry.

Under the VIP Program civilians bring in arms, ammunition or ordinance in exchange for money or other valued items like soap.

During a one-week period over 400 items ranging from artillery rounds to trip flares and fuses were brought in by children from Binh Lien, or pointed out by the industrious youngsters.

The turn-in of ordinance was initiated when McLain, S-5 for the **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry**, 198th Brigade, went with Highway Broadcast (HB) Team 13 to several villages to present the program first hand. In Binh Lien McLain found a boy of 12, Larry, who was most receptive toward the idea.

Larry got together a group of 10 or 15 Vietnamese children, and they scoured the surrounding countryside policing up unexpended ammunition or ordinance, or making it so that it could be found later and blown in place.

McLain says this of the VIP results in Binh Lien: "The boy, Larry, just got a gang and they went out and found the stuff. We've tried the program in other villages but it has never worked as well as it did in this one."

The HB Team moves through villages broadcasting its message and informing the people about the Vietnamese Government, as well as giving out toys and leaflets.

Among the items turned in were about 40 artillery and mortar rounds, over 100 hand grenades, 11 anti-personnel mines, 12 recoilless rifle rounds, three anti-tank weapons, 62 M-79 rounds and two trip flares.

"Most of the stuff was brought right here to Dottie," McLain says, "and then disposed of."

Binh Lien is located on QL1, about 15 miles south of Chu lai. But why the effective results of VIP in this one village and not in other? "The reason for its success was the boy, Larry," McLain says.

Obviously all S-5 programs could use a Larry.

Weekly Recap

'Ready Rifles' find rice

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(Continued on Page 6)

(Continued Vol. 4, No. 25 June 18, 1971 'Ready Rifles' net enemy)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Does your tour seem long?

CHU LAI, (23d inf. Div. IO) -

Does it seem like your tour in Vietnam will never end? One infantryman in the 198th Brigade can go you one better-he's spent more time in Vietnam than in the United States. But there's a catch to this one.

Private First Class Luis A. Coppin, Colon, Panama, a rifleman with Bravo Company, 1st Battalion 5th [?6th] Infantry, came to the U.S. on vacation only a year ago and decided he would like to stay. He enlisted in the Army for two years as a means of gaining his citizenship as quickly as possible.

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

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

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

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

Regulars find NVA camp

By SP4 Thoms F. Boehler

LZ DOTTIE (23rd Inf. Div IO) - A luxury NVA training camp, complete with running water and anti-pollution chimney in the mess hall, was discovered recently by infantrymen from the 198th Brigade, west of Chu Lai.

A platoon from **Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry**, was moving through mountainous terrain to support another element of the company when they came upon the camp at the top of a small ravine. Upon searching the area, the "Regulars" found six structures, including a large mess hall.

"Another element had spotted a large group of enemy and we were moving into a blocking position," said Sergeant Gary Piper (Denver, Colo.), the platoon leader. "Our pointman saw one of the structures when we were about 100 meters away. Half our element maneuvered to surround the area and the rest moved in to search the camp."

A thorough search turned up simulated barbed wire defenses and 75 practice Chicom hand grenades. The infantryman also found two chicken coops, latrines, and an enclosed lookout position in a tree.

"The place must have been a sapper training camp," said Piper. "It was built to last a long time. All the structures had basement type bunkers with trap doors over them and everything was camouflaged from the air as well as the ground."

Luxuries abounded in the camp. "The mess hall was really something," said Specialist Four Bob Skibo (Fayette City, Pa.), the radio operator. "It was big enough to seat 40 people and even had a built-in stove. The chimney was an engineering marvel. It had a bellows which blew smoke through a tunnel that had small holes opening to the surface. The smoke then filtered up through the trees and would be invisible from the air."

The "Regulars burned the structures to prevent their further use by the enemy and requested air strikes on the area.

196th & 198th's efforts net 36 enemy

CHU LAI (23rd Inf. Div. IO) - The combined efforts of the 196th and 198th Infantry Brigades, 23rd Infantry Division, accounted for 36 enemy kills during the week of 26 May to 1 June. During this period over 41,950 pounds of rice was also confiscated from the enemy's food supply.

MIDDLESEX PEAK

The action was the heaviest in the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry, area of operation as the "Ready Rifles" killed eight enemy soldiers and accounted for 11 detainees, and captured all the rice in the Brigade which consisted of approximately 37,950 pounds.

Flying over an area southwest of Chu Lai, gunships observed and engaged a group of Viet Cong soldiers killing two. Charlie Company 1/52nd Infantry, was inserted and killed one enemy hiding in a spider hole. The "Ready Rifles" killed two more enemy in a bunker and one Viet Cong evading down a trail. Captured in the action were one AK-47 rifle and two Chicom hand grenades.

Later in the week, Charlie, 1/52nd Infantry, engaged and killed a Viet Cong soldier who was setting up a boobytrap,. Captured were 12 Chicom hand grenades. Near the same area, the "Ready Rifles" found a booby trapped Chicom hand grenade. The hand grenades were all destroyed.

Near a day laager position southwest of Chu Lai, the infantrymen engaged and killed a lone Viet Cong who was attempting to evade.

Working southwest of Chu Lai, Charlie Company, 1/52nd Infantry, detained five Viet Cong suspects and captured three hand grenades, two ponchos, and one full rifle magazine. The detainees and equipment were extracted to Chu Lai. The "Ready Rifles" also found 22,500 pounds of unpolished rice which was extracted to an LZ.

Earlier in the week, the infantrymen found 6500 pounds of unpolished rice in several metal containers. Near the same area, the "Ready Rifles" found 25000 pounds of rice and detained three Viet Cong suspects. The detainees and rice were extracted to a nearby LZ.

Later in the week, Charlie, 1/52nd, found and destroyed 400 pounds of unpolished rice.

Working southwest of Chu Lai, a Recon element from 1/52nd, founds [sic] of unpolished structure, with enemy soldiers inside. The "Ready Rifles" engaged the Viet Cong resulting in two enemy killed.

While on patrol southwest of Chu Lai, an element from Alpha Company, 1/52nd, engaged and killed one Viet Cong soldier who was evading from a military structure. Inside the structure were two Viet Cong suspects who were detained and extracted to an LZ.

Near the same area, Alpha, 1/52nd, found and destroyed four boobytraps. The infantrymen also found and extracted to an LZ 1260 pounds of unpolished rice which was hidden inside an old well. Also southwest of Chu Lai, an element from Delta Company 1/5nd found 440 pounds of rice which they extracted to a nearby LZ.

An element from Delta, 1/52nd, working southwest of Chu Lai, found 2500 pounds of rice in six metal barrels. The rice was evacuated to a nearby LZ.

Near the same area the "Ready Rifles" found 1850 pounds of unpolished rice which was extracted to a nearby LZ.

196th & 198th's efforts net 36 enemy

Action was fairly moderate in the 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry during this recent week, as the "mountainmen" killed six enemy soldiers, detained two Viet Cong suspects, and captured 10 weapons.

While on patrol an element from Alpha Company, 4/3rd, engaged and killed one Viet Cong and detained two Viet Cong suspects.

Working in an area northwest of Chu Lai, Alpha Company also engaged and killed one enemy soldier coming down a trail.

While on patrol near the same area, the "Mountainmen" found a weapons cache which included three machineguns, three tripods, nine circular magazines, one 76mm recoilless rifle, 31 76mm rounds, two small recoilless rifles, one heavy machinegun, four 82mm mortar rounds, and one Chinese-made 70mm howitzer.

Working northwest of Chu Lai, Delta Company, 4/3rd, engaged and killed one Viet Cong soldier. Captured in action was an AK-47 rifle, two Chicom hand grenades.

Earlier in the week the "Mountainmen" engaged and killed another Viet Cong trying to evade from the infantrymen.

(Continued)

(Continued Vol. 4, No. 25 June 25, 1971 **196th & 198th's efforts net 36 enemy**)

In a night defensive position northwest of Chu Lai, Charlie Company, 4/3rd, engaged and killed one Viet Cong soldier as he neared the "Mountainmen's" position.

In an area northwest of Chu Lai, Echo Recon, 4/3rd, engaged and killed one enemy soldier. The "Mountainmen" also captured in action one AK-47 rifle which was extracted to a nearby LZ.

Gunships from the 23rd Infantry Division accounted for seven enemy kills this recent week and destroyed several enemy structures.

Flying over the 198th area of operations, gunships from Delta Troop, 1st Cavalry, engaged and killed four NVA soldiers with mini-guns and rocket fire.

Gunnies from Delta Troop, 1st Cavalry, engaged and killed one Viet Cong evading into a tree line, while flying over an area west of Chu Lai.

Using min-guns and rocket fire, the gunships from Delta Troop were successful in destroying 10 enemy structures southwest of Chu Lai.

Action was light in the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, as the "Regulars" had but one kill and detained five Viet Cong suspects during the recent week.

Charlie Company 1/6th, observed and engaged a group of Viet Cong killing one. Captured in action and extracted to an LZ were three Chicom hand grenades and one AK-47 magazine.

While on patrol west of Chu Lai, Alpha Company, detained five Viet Cong suspects which were extracted to a nearby LZ for further questioning.

Finally, the 198th Brigade's Highway Broadcast Team received, 13 hand grenades, one anti-personnel mine, one rocket, and three recoilless rifle rounds.

CAROLINE HILL

In light action during this recent week of operations the "Chargers" of the 196th Infantry Brigade were credited for 14 enemy soldiers killed and over 4000 pounds of rice captured.

While in their night defensive position early in the week the Reconnaissance element of 2/1st Infantry engaged and killed one VC.

A few days later Recon, while on a search and clear mission southwest of Da Nang, observed seven enemy soldiers to their front. They engaged with small arms fire, killing two as the others evaded.

Later that week while patrolling an area southwest of Da Nang, Recon engaged and killed one NVA with small arms fire. Six packs containing 65 pounds of rice and miscellaneous medical supplies were captured in the action.

While patrolling an area southwest of Da Nang early that week, Company D, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry, found one enemy structure. Upon checking the structure, the "Gimlets" found 2000 pounds of rice stored in wooden bins. The find was extracted to a nearby LZ.

Company C., 3/21st, while on patrol southwest of Da Nang found a cache consisting of 2,000 pounds of rice. The rice was extracted to Que Son.

Later in the week, Charlie Company engaged and killed one VC, while working an area southwest of Da Nang.

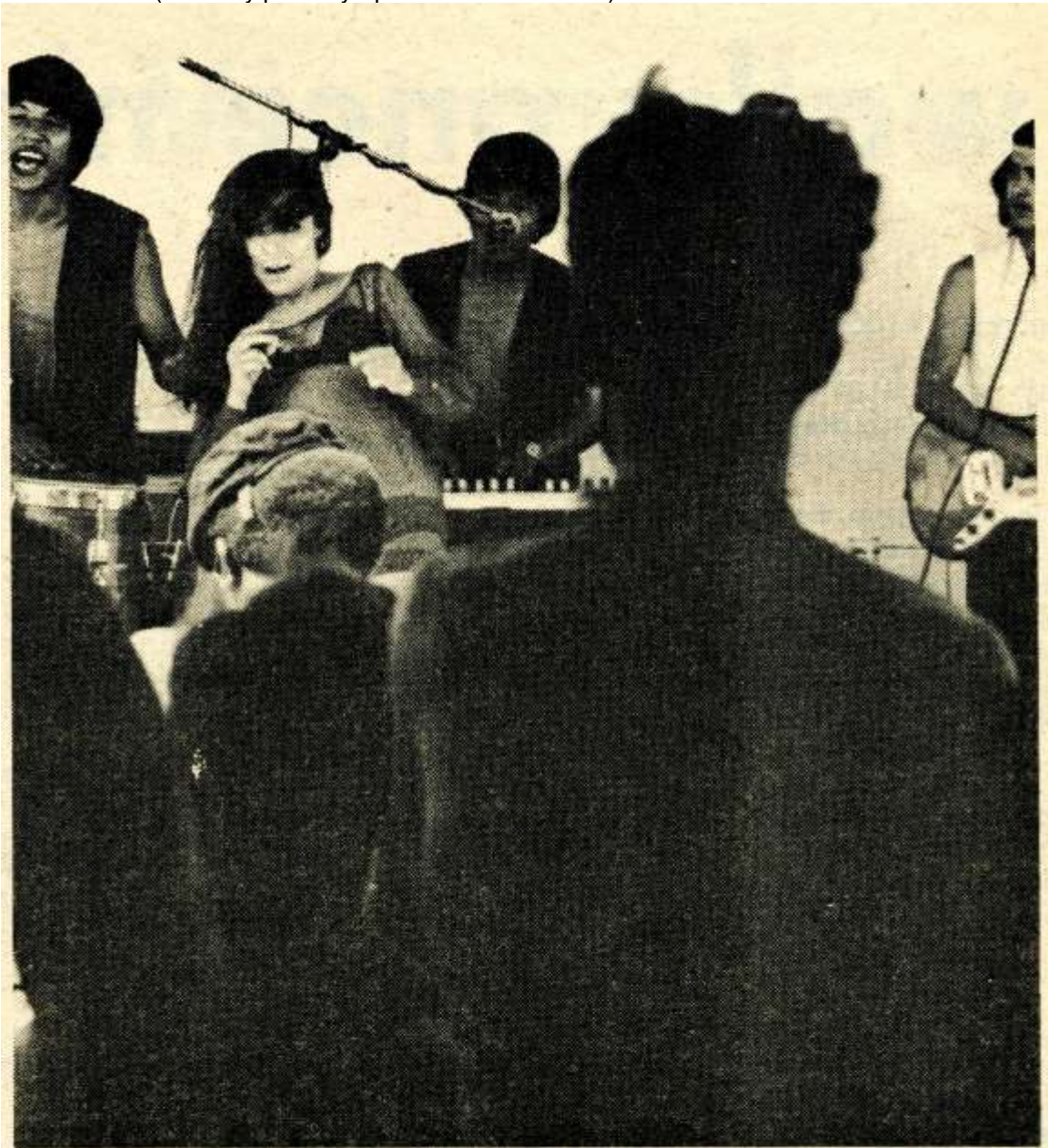
The Reconnaissance elements of the "Gimlets", while on patrol late this week came upon a structure and observed two VC. The enemy soldiers attempted to evade and were engaged by the Recon element. As a result, one VC was killed as the other successfully evaded to the southeast.

While patrolling an area southwest of Da Nang, the Recon element found 12 structures and detained two Vietnamese males. A search of the area uncovered 13 packs containing four NVA uniforms, one Chicom grenade, 10 pounds of rice, 10 pounds of potatoes and 80 pounds of corn. the detainees and supplies were extracted to a nearby LZ.

Early that week, while flying a visual reconnaissance mission in the 196th Brigade's AO (air [sic] of operation), Helix 16 observed four VC and processed artillery on their position. As a result, all four enemy soldiers were killed by the arty. The kills were credited to Battery A, 3rd Battalion, 16th Artillery.

Later in the week, Helix 16, while on a visual reconnaissance mission, observed three enemy soldiers and called in artillery on their location. As a result the artillery killed all three enemy soldiers. Battery B, 3rd Battalion, 82nd Artillery was credited with the kills.

Photo Caption: A beautiful dancer, and a lively beat keeps the attention during this floor show at the 198th Refit area. These soldiers of A 1/6 seem entranced by the moves of the girl or is it the music of the "Big Sound" band. (US Army photo by Sp/4 James Richardson)



A beautiful dancer, and a lively beat keeps the attention during this floor show at the 198th Refit area. These soldiers of A 1/6 seem entranced by the moves of the girl or is it the music of the "Big Sound" band. (US Army photo by Sp/4 James Richardson)

Photo Caption: Relaxing "grunts show their appreciation for a good show. These "grunts" who were on refit after 46 days in the field relax and get comfortable for the small amount of time they spend at the 198th Refit area. For the men of Alpha Company, **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry** the days in the rear and the floor shows are just to [too] few and far between for soon they will once again don their rucks, gather up their weapons and return to the bush. (US Army photo by Sp/4 James Richardson)



Relaxing "grunts" show their appreciation for a good show. These "grunts" who were on refit after 46 days in the field relax and get comfortable for the small amount of time they spend at the 198th Refit area. For the men of Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry the days in the rear and the floor shows are just to few and far between for soon they will once again don their rucks, gather up their weapons and return to the bush. (US Army photo by Sp/4 James Richardson)

He awoke

with

bamboo viper

By Sgt. Tom Frey

CHU LAI, (23rd Inf. Div. IO) -- How would you like to wake up some morning and find a "bamboo viper" hanging over your head? Exactly that happened to Specialist Four Joseph Chrisman, Hatfield, Ark., a member of the 23rd Infantry Division's 198th Infantry Brigade.

Chrisman, a rifleman from Alpha Company, **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry**, was lying down at his sleeping area of a high laager position when he noticed the poisonous serpent crawling among some branches directly over him.

"I was in a daze at first," said Chrisman, "but when I realized the danger, I immediately cleared the area, fast."

Members of the platoon chased the snake with sticks, fired M-79 canister rounds at it, and finally Specialist Four Dan Daily (Loving, Tex.) killed it with a machete.

"He was a hard one to kill, but we finally got rid of him," said Daily.

The deadly snake measured about six foot in length and possessed large fangs.

"I've heard a saying that snakes travel in pairs," said Chrisman. "I hope it's not true because I don't want to wake up tomorrow and find the second one."

198th kills 15

CHU LAI, (198th Bde. IO) -- Action was moderate last week in operation Middlesex Peak as 198th Infantrymen and gunships from the 23rd Infantry Division accounted for 15 enemy killed, two wounded and 11 Viet Cong suspects detained. Also four enemy weapons were captured and 11,000 pounds of unpolished rice were found.

The heaviest action occurred in the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry's area of operations. The "Regulars" killed 12 enemy and wounded one. They also detained five Viet Cong suspects and captured two enemy weapons.

An element from Echo Company, 1st Bn., 6th Inf. engaged with mortars and Delta Troop, 1/1st Cavalry engaged with min-guns and rockets a group of enemy soldiers. Seven Viet Cong were killed by the mortars and two by the gunships.

In an area west of Chu Lai, a recon element from 1st Bn., 6th Inf. engaged a group of Viet Cong soldiers, killing one and wounding one. Captured in the action were two AK-47 rifles and four Chicom hand grenades. The wounded enemy and the weapons were extracted to a nearby LZ.

Also west of Chu Lai, Alpha Company, while on patrol, detained five Viet Cong suspects. The detainees were extracted to an LZ for further questioning.

The 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry, "Ready Rifles" accounted for one enemy killed and four Viet Cong suspects detained. The infantrymen also found 11,000 pounds of rice.

On patrol in an area southwest of Chu Lai, an element of Charlie Company, 1st Bn., 52nd Inf., observed and engaged a group of NVA soldiers. In the ensuing fire fight the "Ready Rifles" killed one enemy.

Earlier Charlie Company found 5000 pounds of unpolished rice and detained one Viet Cong suspect. The detainee and rice were extracted to a nearby LZ. Also near the same area, the infantrymen found and destroyed a boobytrapped artillery round.

Also working southwest of Chu Lai, an element from Bravo Company, 1st Bn., 52nd Inf. found 1600 pounds of unpolished rice. Near the same area, the "Ready Rifles" found 2000 more pounds of rice and detained two Viet Cong suspects. The detainees and rice were extracted to an LZ.

In an area southwest of Chu Lai, Bravo Company, 1st Bn., 6th Inf., detained and evacuated to an LZ, a Viet Cong suspect.

Working southwest of Chu Lai, an element of Bravo Company found 2400 pounds of locally grown rice, hidden in the walls of a structure. The rice was extracted to a nearby LZ.

Action was light in the 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry, as the "Mountainmen" killed one enemy, wounded one, detained two Viet Cong suspects, and captured two weapons.

198th kills 15

While on patrol, a recon element from 4th Bn., 3rd Inf., observed and engaged one Viet Cong resulting in one enemy soldier killed. Captured in action and extracted to an LZ was one AK-47 rifle and one pack.

In the same area, the "Mountainmen" detained a Viet Cong suspect who was evacuated to an LZ.

Later, an element from Bravo Company found and destroyed two boobytraps with trip wire firing devices.

An element from Alpha Company found and destroyed two boobytraps with trip wire firing devices.

An element from Alpha Company, 4th Bn., 3rd Inf., found two boobytraps with trip wire firing device that were blown in place. Later the infantrymen found and destroyed four enemy structures.

In an area northwest of Chu Lai, Delta Company, 4th Bn., 3rd Inf., found and destroyed a boobytrapped mortar round with trip wire firing device.

In addition to the two enemy soldiers killed by Delta Troop, 1st Bn., 1st Cav., along with the mortars, the gunships engaged and killed one Viet Cong soldier who was attempting to evade. Nearby, the gunships engaged and destroyed five enemy bunkers and five military structures with mini-guns and rocket fire.

Finally, the 198th Brigade Highway Broadcast Team received from Vietnamese civilians 44 artillery rounds, 50 mortar rounds, 17 anti-personnel mines, 14 hand grenades, and one stick of TNT. The munitions were destroyed.

A day with General Baldwin

Story and photos by Sp4 William Hutchison

CHU LAI, (23rd Inf. Div. IO) -- "The Old Man." How many times have you heard that expression? Well, you can stop using it when you refer to the commander of the 23d Infantry Division. If you could spend a day with him, you would believe Major General James L. Baldwin to be anything else but.

The General's working day begins at 7 a.m., or thereabouts, and ends whenever the work of the day is finished--which is usually quite late. His week is seven days long, determined by a tight and usually quite full schedule. For a man who tries to see every one of his battalion commanders--each on his own distant LZ; our Vietnamese allies; and the division support commanders at least once a week, there do not seem to be enough hours of daylight.

Unexpected and expected VIP's must be seen, important problems hashed out and an occasional reporter appeased. Two full staff briefings and numerous special briefings take many hours. And yet the General can still log over 250 miles a day in his chopper to visit his outlying commands (A/123rd Avn Bn. 3rd Flt Plt. provided the general's helicopter daily plus a chase ship. Comment by Leslie Hines).

On a typical day, with an Army reporter tagging along (dragging by the end of the day), MG Baldwin attended nine tactical briefings and three special intelligence briefings. During each of these briefings--the smallest dealing with the movements and strategy of four companies; the largest dealing with three full brigades--the facts and figures flowed quickly. Even so, he was able to retain and recall what he had been told.

"The General has a truly remarkable ability to retain facts. Facts which I have trouble keeping straight on paper," remarked Captain Peter F. Verga, Folsom, Pa., who is the General's aide de camp.

The day. It begins, as every day, with the General's arrival at his office, where he is confronted with a multi-page folder containing the happenings of the division in the rear and in the field. A brief summary of friendly and enemy locations, movements and activities is also included.

At 7:50 a.m., General Baldwin, accompanied by his aide, attend the morning General Staff briefing. Here, seated in his huge leather chair, facing the divisional situation map, the General is informed of friendly and enemy initiated action, and specifically what happened in the entire division during the previous night. If something troubles him, he questions the appropriate staff officer or comments as to the changes needed.

From the staff briefing, the General goes to a special intelligence briefing, so special that only a dozen or so people are permitted to attend.

At 9:30 a.m. on this day, after a short chopper ride, the General presented impact awards to valorous members of the 116th Aviation Battalion (?116th Assault Helicopter Company?). As the General pinned on each medal, he questioned each recipient in an attempt to know him better. He feels such awards are of the utmost importance for individual morale.

General Baldwin, accompanied by Lieutenant Colonel Alfred B. Pursell, the G-2, Lieutenant Colonel Crosbie E. Saint, the G-3, and Verga flew to Da Nang, home of the 196th Infantry Brigade.

A day with General Baldwin

The General's party was briefed on the operations of the brigade--much more in detail than was given at the Division briefing.

General Baldwin was especially concerned with the different Battalions and their tactical problems. Toward the end of the briefing, the question of drugs was brought up and the General suggested that an Allied effort be intensified to get the pusher.

Very rarely during the whole day did the General actually tell one of his commanders how to do something. He usually suggested a course of action or described a hoped-for outcome. Implementation and basic strategy is left largely to the individual commanders.

After lunch and an aerial tour of Da Nang, the General flew to LZ Linda, home of the 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry, where Lieutenant Colonel Clyde J. Tate, battalion commander, gave the briefing. The Tactical Operations Center was small and cramped--more boxes than chairs for seats. The numerous radios made listening difficult. In one ear you could hear the briefing; in the other you could hear a company requesting resupply.

(Continued)

In rapid succession, Landing Zone Chloe, home of the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry, and Yonkers home of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry, were visited. While enroute to each base, the General was updated on the Division tactical situation. Once again, the General was airborne-destination Tien Phuoc.

Nestled in a valley and flanked by a river, Tien Phuoc is a forward base for the 2nd ARVN Division. There, General Baldwin was brought up-to-date on the situation of the RVN operating in or near the Division AO (area of operation). Refreshments were served as the General asked for an evaluation of the overall enemy situation. The outlook was favorable.

Later when asked to comment on the ARVN's ability to go it alone. General Baldwin remarked: "They have made great strides forward and with only direct air support, they are fending for themselves in their areas of responsibility."

The 198th Infantry Brigade was the next objective. At LZ Professional, home of the "Old Guard" (4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry), the General along with Colonel Charles R. Smith, 198th commander, and Colonel Rutland D. Beard Jr., the commander of the 196th Brigade, were briefed on the battalion situation and then given a look at the 198th's over-all picture. The General stressed that cooperation with the local province chief was essential. He suggested that the chief be invited over for a few "beers".

The question of drugs was again brought up. General Baldwin felt that narcotics constitute one of the division's greatest problem.

"Many military offenses, like falling asleep on guard, not reporting for duty, and violence against officers may often times be correlated with drug use," he said.

Concluding his travels, the Commanding General visited the **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry** in Chu Lai. Then back to Division Headquarters for a brief respite, before the evening briefing.

At the final briefing, the General is once more bombarded with all the facts and figures concerning the situation of the Division for the day. Future plans are presented as well as an Allied wrap-up.

Amazingly the General easily recalls needed information he has gathered that day to enlighten a cloudy tactic problem.

With that final briefing the "reporter's" day ended. The General returned to his office for more meetings while this reporter dragged himself off to ponder a day with the General.

Photo Captions:

- 1) ABOVE: General Baldwin buckles up in preparation for a day of firebase hopping.
- 2) BELOW: The General pauses for a personal minutes with Sp/ Maruicio O. Morales, who had been awarded a Silver Star. (116th AHC crewchief?)
- 3) General Baldwin confers with Colonel Clyde J. Tate, commander of the 1/46th Battalion inside LZ Linda's TOC.
- 4) At LZ Professional the General attends a briefing on the activities of the 4/3rd Battalion. He is flanked by Colonel Charles R. Smith 198th commander (left) and Colonel Rutland D. Beard Jr., the 196th commander.
- 5) BELOW: General Baldwin opens the breech of a Chicom 70mm Howitzer (model 92) at LZ Professional. The weapon was captured by the "Old Guard" (4/3rd Bn.)
- 6) ABOVE: Donning his cap, General Baldwin leaves the 2/1st Battalion TOC on LZ Chloe after being briefed on the Battalion's situation.
- 7) The General "raps" with an infantryman on LZ Yonkers. Accompanying the General is Lieutenant Colonel L.W. Roberts, 3/21st Battalion commander.

Sp4 Manuel opposes 15 foot python

CHU LAI (23d Inf. Div.) - "Somebody told me not to be afraid, it wasn't poisonous," said Specialist Four Donald Manuel, Ville Platte, La., as the soldier from 23d Infantry Division 198th Infantry Brigade, faced his opponent-a 15 foot python.

The incident took place while an element from Alpha Company, **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry**, was on patrol west of Chu Lai.

"I was walking rear security and the rest of the platoon had already passed the snake when I first saw it," said Manuel. "I had just stopped and when I glanced down there was this python all coiled up on the grass about six inches from my feet."

After Manuel jumped back, he passed the word up to the rest of the platoon about his find.

Private First Class John Fernandez, Los Vegas, N.M., the pointman, had a machete handy so he volunteered to dispose of the serpent.

"He seemed rather quiet and peaceful at the time," said Fernandez, "but as big as the was, he could have done someone a job!"

Fernandez proceeded to chop the python's head off and discard of the snake for the safety of his element.

"We kept the skin to prove our story was no lie and show everyone how large he really was," sid Fernandez.

The last word came from Manuel, however, when he said, "You can bet I'll take a double-look before I sit down anyplace."

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

Later a recon element from the 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 the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry, killed three enemy soldiers, captured one enemy weapons and detained two Viet Cong suspects during the week.

While on patrol southwest of Chu Lai, an element from Alpha Company, 1st Bn., 52nd Inf. detained on 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 the 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 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 stream bed. "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 recoilless rifle rounds, and five hand grenades. All the articles were destroyed.

(Note: Unit-Delta Troop, 1st Bn., 1st Cav., should be Delta Troop, 1st Reg., 1st Cav.)

Dealers of death' drive off 10 to 12 enemy without injury

By Sp/4 William Hutchison

CHU LAI (23rd Inf. Div IO) - An element of Alpha Company, **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry**, 198th Light Infantry Brigade, while on a patrol in the mountains west of Chu Lai, encountered a large enemy ambush of ten to 12 NVA soldiers using a B-40 rocket and AK-47 rifles. The "Dealers of Death" were about to deal the enemy a loaded deck when they drove off the enemy without sustaining any injuries.

Specialist Four Kenneth Holley (Logansport, Ind.) was up a ridgeline when he and the cover man, Private First Class Gerald B. Goodman (Douglas, Ga.), entered a small clearing and spotted some well concealed hootches. They signaled back for the M-60 machinegun to be brought up to recon the area by fire.

As the signal was being silently passed back, Holley spotted a NVA soldier who was preparing to fire a B-40 rocket at the patrol. As he dove to the ground Holley pressed off a quick burst of automatic fire knocking the NVA soldier off balance and causing the rocket to go off course. The rocket passed two feet over the pointman's head and exploded harmlessly in the trees.

With the explosion of the rocket the patrol found themselves engulfed in fire from numerous enemy positions to their front, left and right. Every man hit the ground and began to return a heavy volume of fire.

Within three minutes of the initial contact, the FO (forward observer), First Lieutenant Ron Noce (Brooklyn, N.Y.), had artillery zeroed in on the area. The artillery, fired by Charlie Battery, 1st Battalion, 14th Artillery, was worked in toward the patrol's position, the enemy fire ceased and the artillery stopped.

Captain Ward Odom (Martinsburg, W. Va.), Alpha Company commander, sent parts of his element to the left and to the right to sweep the area. One group stayed put to "keep the back door open, in case the NVA decided to try and close it," remarked Odom.

The element to the right was led by Noce who stated: "When we first got hit, I hit the ground so hard I must have lost my mind, for I went charging up that stupid hill. I took fire 15 feet from the first hootch and I hit the ground. The M-60 gunner was covering me all the way up, putting out beaucoup rounds and I guess that is what saved me. Someone threw a hand grenade and the firing stopped."

The men swept the hootch area, throwing "frags" into each hootch before they entered. The enemy had pulled out and left nothing.

"They took everything; they were just sitting there waiting for us; remarked Holley.

The patrol had uncovered an enemy basecamp capable of easily servicing 40 or 50 men. Each hootch had bunkers built into the floor. The concealed camp was impossible to see from the air and almost as hard to find from the ground. Its only give-away was a complex series of well-used trails leading in and out of the base, which Alpha Company had been searching for the past few days.

"What can you say about an ambush? We walked into one. They were set up waiting on us. Sure they outnumbered us, but we turned around and walked out. Why? Because the men were doing what they were supposed to do, when we were coming in, when we got hit, and when we were leaving. They did it silently, quickly and efficiently," sated Odom, who had nothing but praise for his "Dealers of Death".

1/6th Inf

nets 4 NVA

By Sgt Tom Frey

CHU LAI, (23rd Inf Div) - On a recent mission west of Chu Lai, an element from the 23rd Infantry Division, 198th Infantry Brigade, used some quick reactions and fine shooting to kill four NVA soldiers.

An element from **Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry**, was on patrol and came to a stream, so the men decided to fill their canteens and take a break.

"We put out security on both sides of the stream and observation points (OP's) flanks of security," said Sergeant David Sanchez (Denver, Colo.), a team leader.

Sanchez, Allard, and three other men maneuvered up along a steep bank into some heavy vegetation and waited.

"It hadn't been but about five minutes when our OP's spotted four NVA soldiers coming up a trail along the stream bed," said Private First Class Lonnie Allard (Martin, S.D.), the element's pointman. "They were headed right for us and of course we all got a little nervous."

"They came out of a hedgerow about 75 meters away and we could tell they were NVA soldiers by their khaki apparel and Chicom hand grenades attached to their pistol belts," said Sanchez.

"We waited until they got within about 50 meters, then we all opened up at once," said Allard. "We got all four before they knew what had happened."

The "Regulars" captured three packs, four Chicom hand grenades, and two pistol belts in the action. All items were extracted to a nearby LZ.

LTC Rolf Arnhyrn takes over

command of 1/6th Infantry

By 1LT Edward O. Spaulding

CHU LAI, (23d INF DIV IO) - Lieutenant Colonel Rolf G. Arnhyrn assumed command of **the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry**, 198th Brigade, succeeding Lieutenant Colonel James W. Sawey, in a recent ceremony at the 198th Brigade Parade Field.

Arnhyrn (Fairfax, Va.), joins the "Regulars" following a tour at the Pentagon, where he served as Chief of the Systems development Branch for the Manpower and Forces Director. Arnhyrn, a 1953 graduate of West Point, served an earlier tour in the Republic of Vietnam with the 1st Cavalry Division.

Sawey (Sandia Base, N.M.), took command of the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. early in January, and under his leadership the battalion became proficient in small unit tactics, operating in both the lowlands and mountains.

The "Regulars" area of operations quadrupled during Sawey's tour as commander, and the 1st Bn., 6th Inf. executed two complete moves. The unit first moved to Fire Support Base Dottie, and later moved back to Chu Lai. Sawey was largely responsible for making Dottie one of the best fire bases in the Division, with his improvements including a new mess hall, outdoor theatre and recreational facilities.

Sawey, a 1956 graduate of New Mexico Military Institute, is headed for assignment with the Defense Communications Planning Group. In his farewell remarks to the 1st Bn., 6th Inf, he praised his small unit leaders, calling them "the backbone of the unit because of the way this battalion operates."

At the ceremony, Sawey was presented the Distinguished Flying Cross and Legion of Merit by Brigadier General Bertram K. Gorwitz, Acting [Acting] Division Commander.

Photo Captions -

1) TOP LEFT: Four boys from Binh Son Catholic Orphanage frolic on the beach near the 198th Brigade's Stella Maris Chapel during the party given recently for the orphans. The party was sponsored by the **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry** and the 198th's Civil Affairs office.



2) BOTTOM LEFT: Chaplain (Captain) Donald W. Gover (Ft. Worth, Tex.) poses with two young (eight years old?) beauties from the Tam Ky Protestant Orphanage.

3) CENTER: It seems everyone has to stand in line for chow in the Army-but these youngsters from the Binh Son Catholic Orphanage don't seem to mind. They were treated to a picnic lunch and later went swimming in the South China Sea.

4) BOTTOM RIGHT: A young boy from the Binh Son orphanage, under the watchful eye of Sergeant Steve J. Slipher (Lafayette, Ind.) gets a picnic lunch.

5) TOP RIGHT: Captain Gary D. Robbins (Ft. Benning, Ga.) Commanding Officer of Headquarters, Headquarters Company 198th Brigade, helps serve a picnic lunch to girls from the Catholic orphanage. Specialist Four William D. Mitchell (Chicago, Ill.) also of HHC, 198th Bde., supervises the serving.

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CHU LAI (198th Inf. Bde. IO) - Remember when you were young, and Saturday afternoons were for picnics and swimming? Times may change, and the places, and the people, but kids are kids and they have the same likes everywhere.

For 50 Vietnamese children, that Saturday afternoon became a reality recently when the 198th Infantry Brigade Civil Affairs office and the Brigade Chaplain combined forces to sponsor a couple of "Kids Days."

About 25 children from the Binh Son Catholic Orphanage were first to get the royal treatment, when they came to the beach near 198th Brigade Headquarters for a picnic lunch and an afternoon in the surf. The food was typically American: hamburgers, sodas, potato chips and ice cream, and even the language barrier couldn't stand between the children and American GI's serving as "Big Brothers for a Day."

The weather failed to cooperate when another 25 children from the Tam Ky Protestant Orphanage came for their visit, but an indoor picnic, movies and skits replaced the fun in the sun.

The idea for the two parties originated with Chaplain (Major) Thomas J. Confroy, 198th Brigade Chaplain, and First Lieutenant Ronnie J. Johnson, Brigade Civil Affairs Officer. Johnson (New Carlisle, Ohio), has been a frequent visitor to both orphanages, and decided to invite some of the youngsters for an American-style holiday.

Most of the legwork for the two parties was done by Confroy (Union, N.J.), and the four Chaplain's Assistants from the Brigade. Stella Maris Chapel was pressed into service as a combination mess hall-theater when heavy rains threatened to wash out the Tam Ky visit.

The first party was co-sponsored by 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, which provided "Big Brothers" while soldiers from both **1st Bn., 6th Inf.** and 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry helped out when the orphans from Tam Ky visited.

NVA training camp found by Delta Co.

By Sp/4 Thomas F. Boehler

LZ DOTTIE, (198th Inf. Bde. IO) - A luxury NVA training camp, complete with running water and an anti-pollution chimney in the mess hall, was discovered recently by infantrymen from the 198th Brigade west of Chu Lai.

A platoon from Delta Company, **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry**, was moving through mountainous terrain to support another element of the company when they came upon the camp at the top of a small ravine. Upon searching the area the Regulars found six structures, including a large mess hall.

A thorough search turned up simulated barbed wire defenses and 75 practice Chicom hand grenades. The infantrymen also found two chicken coops, latrines, and an enclosed lookout position in a tree.

The place must have been a sapper training camp," said Piper. "It was built to last a long time. All the structures had basement type bunkers with trap doors over them and everything was camouflaged."

Luxuries abounded in the camp. The mess hall was really something," said Specialist Four Bob Skibo (Fayette City, Pa.), the radio operator, "It was big enough to seat 40 people and even had a built-in stove. The chimney was an engineering marvel. It had a bellows which flew the smoke through a tunnel that had small holes opening to the surface. The smoke then filtered up through trees and would be invisible from the air."

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'Brave and Bold' see light action'

CHU LAI (198th Inf. Bde. IO) --Action was light last week in the 198th Infantry Brigade AO (area of operations) as infantrymen and a ranger element killed ten enemy soldiers and captured four enemy weapons.

The meat of the action occurred in the 4th Battalion, 3d Infantry's AO northwest of Chu Lai. The "Old Guard" accounted for eight enemy soldiers killed and one captured weapon.

While working northwest of Chu Lai, Alpha Company, 4th Bn., 3d Inf. engaged a group of VC soldiers, killing one. After following a blood trail for a short distance, they engaged and killed two more VC soldiers. A further search of the area revealed four military structures and two bunkers. The infantrymen assaulted the area with hand grenades, killing four more VC soldiers.

Also working in the same AO, Charlie Company, 4th Bn., 3d Inf. engaged and killed one VC soldier and captured on rucksack containing 50 pounds of rice and two gallons of cooking oil. The items were extracted to a near LZ.

While on a patrol in the same area later in the week, Charlie Company found and extracted one 51 caliber machinegun without a tripod or barrel and five picks.

Near the same area, while on patrol, Company B, 4th Bn., 3d Inf., found and destroyed 200 engineer stakes, ten ammunition cans, five batteries, two sleeping positions and assorted clothing.

While patrolling northwest of Chu Lai, an element of Delta Company, 4th Bn., 3d Inf., found and destroyed two structures, 20 pounds of corn, cooking utensils and a small quantity of beans and potatoes.

While working in an area west of Chu Lai, Ranger teams from the 198th Brigade engaged a small group of NVA soldiers. Two enemy soldiers were killed and one AK-47 rifle, one carbine rifle, 25 pounds of rice and seven pounds of peas were captured and later extracted to a nearby LZ.

While in their night defensive position west of Chu Lai, a long range recon team engaged suspected enemy movement near their perimeter. The sweep of the area netted one dead bear weighing 400 pounds.

Gunships from Delta Troop, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry engaged and destroyed six military structures and four bunkers with miniguns and rockets during a week's action west of Chu Lai.

Bravo Company, 1st Bn., 6th Inf., while patrolling west of Chu Lai, found and extracted one AK-47 rifle.

Weekly re-cap

196th, 198th Bdes kill 16 enemy soldiers

198th kills 10

CHU LAI, (198th Inf. Bde. IO) - Action was light in the 198th Infantry Brigade area of operations (AO) as infantrymen and gunships killed ten enemy soldiers, captured nine enemy suspects and one weapon.

Most of the action occurred in the 4th Bn., 3d Inf.'s AO northwest of Chu Lai. The "Old Guard" accounted for six enemy soldiers killed and captured two enemy suspects.

While on operations northwest of Chu Lai, the 4th Bn., 3d Inf.'s recon element engaged a group of Viet Cong soldiers. The recon element killed five Viet Cong soldiers and detained two enemy suspects. The two detainees and two Chicom grenades were extracted to a nearby landing zone (LZ).

Company D, 4th Bn., 3d Inf., operating west of Chu Lai, engaged and killed one Viet Cong soldier.

While patrolling northwest of Chu Lai, Company A, 4th Bn., 3d Inf. found one military structure. Further search of the structure revealed a small amount of enemy rucksack containing clothing, one NVA pistol belt and one ammo pouch. The equipment was extracted to a nearby LZ.

While working west of Chu Lai, gunships from Delta Troop 1st Squadron, 1st Ca., killed five enemy soldiers and had the "Cavalrymen" inserted on one occasion to capture eight enemy suspects.

Flying southwest of Chu Lai, Delta Troop, 1st Squadron, 1st Cav., destroyed two military structures and killed four Viet Cong soldiers. They were killed by a secondary explosion in one of the structures.

Later the same afternoon, Delta Troop engaged and destroyed one military structure and one bunker.

Later in the week, while flying northwest of Chu Lai, gunships from Delta Troop observed a group of Viet Cong soldiers evading into a treeline. An Aero Rifle team was inserted into the area and immediately captured one enemy suspect.

The detainee led the "Cavalrymen" into an enemy base camp consisting of five military structures and numerous bunkers. The "Cavalrymen" engaged one of the bunkers with hand grenades, killing one Viet Cong soldier and capturing seven more enemy suspects.

The detainees, along with a large quantity of rucksacks, NVA helmets, and one AK-47 rifle, were extracted to Chu Lai.

While flying over an area southwest of Chu Lai, a "Night-hawk" from Delta Troop engaged and destroyed one enemy sampan.

Company A, 1st Bn., 6th Inf. found one military structure with recent signs of use. Inside they found small amounts of rice, tea, potatoes, salt and coffee. The structure and food were destroyed.

Under the VIP Program, 198th Infantry Brigade infantrymen were given, by Vietnamese civilians, the following items: six artillery rounds; four mortar rounds; 32-20mm rounds; one hand grenade; one anti-personnel mine; six charges; two blasting caps; 72 anti-tank heads and 17 smoke grenades. Afterwards the munitions were destroyed.

Hide-and-seek game nets

1/6 Inf two NVA kills

By SGT Tom Boehler

CHU LAI, (198th Inf. Bde. IO) - After what seemed like a game of hide-and-seek and a couple of 150-yard dashes, 198th Brigade infantrymen killed two NVA soldiers and captured two NVA soldiers and captured two enemy weapons and supplies on a recent mission west of Chu Lai.

The elements from Company C, **1st Battalion, 6th Infantry**, was preparing to leave its night defensive position. The position was alongside a trail and one member of the element moved down the trail to retrieve the defenses he had set there.

He was in the process of dismantling the devices when he saw one enemy soldier approaching along the trail. He engaged the enemy with small arms fire. The "Regulars" swept the area and found that the enemy had evaded, but three rucksacks had been left behind. The rucksacks each contained 80 pounds of rice.

As most of the element completed checking the area, they heard firing on the other side of the NDP (night defensive position) where a small observation post had been left. The infantrymen raced to the scene of the firing to find that the OP had spotted and engaged two more enemy. These enemy had also evaded into thick vegetation.

"After we searched that area and found nothing, I went down to where we had left another OP, just past where we had found the rucksacks," said Specialist Four David Stupski (Ware, Mass.), the assistant machine gunner. "I had been there only about 15 minutes when I saw an NVA soldier emerge from the elephant grass. He spotted us and was about to fire when I dropped him with my M-16."

Upon hearing the firing the "regulars" ran back the 150 yards they had just covered. They arrived to find one dead NVA soldier along with an AK-50 rifle and a rucksack containing two Chicom hand grenades, ten pounds of rice, tobacco, candy and assorted food stuffs.

"While they were searching the body I moved farther down the trail to a security position," said Specialist Four Lee Gutierrez (Pueblo, Colo.), the machine gunner. "I was there only a short while when I saw another enemy walking right down the middle of the trail. I fired on him with my machine gun and killed him."

The second enemy was carrying an AK-47 and a rucksack containing two Chicom hand grenades. 12 cans of condensed milk and other supplies. The weapons and all supplies were extracted to a nearby landing zone.

The General Answers You

EDITORS NOTE: Our Southern Cross reporter recently interviewed Major General Frederick J. Kroesen and asked him some questions the average soldier is concerned about. The following are the question and responses from the general. More questions and answers will be continued next week.

By SP4 William Hutchison

REPORTER: Rumors are circulating regarding the Americal Division standing down in the near future. Has the division been given any time-frame for standdown?

GENERAL: As of this date, I hasten to say this is the 14th Day of August, there has been no public announcement of any standdown scheduled for the division or any element of it. It would be naive to think that, with a continuing reduction required in the U.S. Army forces here in Vietnam, that the Americal Division would not be affected in some way by the required reduction to meet the president's goal of 100,000 by the first of December. However, there is no way for me to determine or indicate which of the major units that are still in Vietnam would be affected by this requirement for continuing reduction.

REPORTER: How long will it take to complete the inactivation of the division, once we are given word?

GENERAL: Any speculation to the time required for inactivating the division must consider a number of factors, such as the ability of the depots to accept equipment for turn-in, the availability of aircraft or ships for personnel movement and the ability of the government of Vietnam to take over control of the installations that we now have. All these things can be done over a period of time or be done in an expedited fashion. All of them have a normal processing time which I think will allow for an orderly, well coordinated turn-in and turn-over of the division's assets. Perhaps the most important factor will be the security of the division and its remaining personnel as the phase-down occurs. This of course, is affected by the capability of the enemy, the ARVN and other friendly forces in the area, so I would have to estimate that a period of 90 to 120 days would be adequate to accomplish the inactivation of the division, given the enemy situation we have in the area now, given the normal processing time we would like to have to turn in the equipment and ship out personnel.

REPORTER: What effect will the division's going home have on the personnel presently assigned?

GENERAL: I would presume that any change in the Division's status is going to have very little affect on personnel who are now assigned. Except for those people whose DEROS is almost upon them. I think the rest of us will be transferred to other units or other assignments and we will still complete our year in Vietnam. We have a number of veterans of other units who were transferred into the division from the 1st Brigade, 5th Mech., and the 173d Airborne Brigade, when their units went home, and I think all of us in the division can look forward to the same kind of thing. When we inactivated or reduced to zero strength in the 4/21st and 5/46th Inf. those personnel were merely reassigned to other units.

I would anticipate that this is what is going to happen to those of us in the division if we are to be inactivated.

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The General Answers You

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REPORTER: A medic assigned to the 1/52nd Inf. asked a question concerning individual standdown of the units within the division. He wanted to know why the division makes no definite statement on a unit's standdown until the last possible moment, therefore allowing rumors to circulate.

GENERAL: Withholding announcement about standdown dates is almost entirely a matter of security. That is, it is concerned with the safety of the troops involved. Any unit is more vulnerable to enemy action when it is moving and when movement is coupled with the turn-in of weapons and equipment, vulnerability manyfold. If we inform everybody ahead of time, we also inform the enemy, and we are going to invite his attack when we are at our weakest moment. Now, in addition to the security problem, there is also the psychological letdown that we have to guard against when we make an announcement. If, for example, we say that the 1/52nd Inf. is going home next week and leave LZ Stinson, it is rather doubtful that people would be concerned about the bunkers that need to be maintained and upgraded. Most of us would be more apt to take a chance on the old sandbags for another week, and that is a chance that might cost somebody his life. Furthermore, any decrease in our operations which interdict enemy infiltration routes would allow him to concentrate his forces or

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build up his supplies, increasing his capabilities to launch attacks against our units and installations. So I hope that every man in the division will realize that if I do not announce a standdown schedule, it is only because the safety and the security of the division is my first responsibility. This is not only my responsibility, but it is General Abrams', General McCaffrey's, and General Dolvin's responsibility as well-to insure that the security of the forces are the paramount consideration.

REPORTER: Much has been said about the Americal Division in the press-most of it not so good. How would you evaluate the job which we have done here in Vietnam?

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GENERAL: I have said many times since coming here, and I honestly believe, that the Americal Division can be measured against any other division that has ever been in Vietnam. Use any measurement criteria that you desire, use any statistics, use any standards and you will find that this division will never suffer by comparison. The division knows how to do everything it is called upon to do and it does it well. It does it professionally and it does it thoroughly. Unfortunately, when we make mistakes we are very spectacular about them. The reputation of the whole division has suffered because of the actions of a very few. We cannot escape a collective responsibility for those mistakes, but we can take a justifiable pride in what the division has done here. The Americal Division was born in a very difficult time in 1967 when the U.S. Marines needed help; when Quang Tin and Quang Ngai Provinces were almost lost. The second and third NVA Divisions and local VC controlled almost the whole area. There is no more difficult task than organizing a division in combat-developing the procedures, techniques, and teamwork and fighting the enemy at the same time; but this was done and it was done well. If you don't believe it, ask the NCOs and the officers who are here on their second and maybe third tours, and you will find that although they have a tremendous loyalty for the units they fought with first, they will also admit to a great respect for the Americal Division and the way we do things. I think this division has every right to be completely proud of the record it had established here, and I will stack the division up against any in the United States Army today.

REPORTER: How effective are the troops who are presently serving under the "Southern Cross"?

GENERAL: I think our troops are as effective as any I have served with before and any that would hope to serve with in the future. I think our troops come into this war better trained than any it has been my experience to serve with in previous wars. I have always admired the American infantryman, but I think I admire the American infantryman in this war more than I did in the previous wars. Because he had come to us better trained and for some reason, regardless of the feelings that we seem to have in the United States against this war, we still seem to have a well-motivated soldier who comes over here to do the job his country sent him to do; and I have great faith in the way they are doing it and the way I believe they will continue to do it.

REPORTER: We all recognize that the division is plagued by several problems, one of them is drugs. How serious a problem do drugs present?

GENERAL: I think that drugs are an extremely serious problem. They are the most serious problem in the world for those who are addicted to drugs, addicted to heroin in particular. They seem to remain unaware or uncaring and refuse to believe that they are destroying themselves. Drugs are almost as serious for the habitual users who refuse to believe that they will become addicted. I have a great deal of compassion and sympathy for those people but I continue to hold each of them individually responsible for the condition in which he finds himself. My primary concern as the commander of the division, is the man's ability or inability to perform his mission, to accept a responsibility for his duty, and failure to do this, thereby places another man's life in danger. For this there can be no excuse and nor forgiveness for the drug user.

(Continued)

The General Answers You

(Continued)

REPORTER: Do you see any differences between the use of marijuana and heroin as far as their legality is concerned?

GENERAL: I consider the use of marijuana and the use of alcohol in the same vein. When they incapacitate a man or make him unable to perform his mission, they are no different than heroin, and if they endanger other peoples' lives because they incapacitate an individual, I feel that individual should be dealt with very harshly.

REPORTER: Another problem is the lack of personnel, especially in the line units. What is being done to bring the Division back up to strength?

GENERAL: The shortage of personnel we have been experiencing for the last couple of months was caused by some major personnel management mistakes that had been by a heavy normal DEROS of personnel during the summer months, and then by some personnel policies which were adopted when the division was overstrength and we transferred individuals from their combat assignment into non-combat rear area assignments. I believe that in the past month, we have corrected some of these mistakes, we've changed some of the policies and we hope to overcome this shortage. I expect now that the problem is known we will be receiving additional personnel replacements through the USARV replacement channels and that our personnel strength will improve markedly by the end of August.

REPORTER: Secretary of Defense Melvin R. Laird made a statement to the press on August 4, in which he said the Army's combat role in Vietnam was virtually ended. In coming soldiers holding combat MOSs would like to know what his statement means in terms of what they will be doing in the field?

(Continued)

The General Answers You

(Continued)

GENERAL: This is a very important question because I feel that is essential that every soldier in this division understand what his role and his mission is during the coming months. Mr. Laird's statement is a true reflection of the fact that the mission of driving the NVA forces out of Vietnam has been taken over by the ARVNS. U.S. forces are no longer engaging in the large scale nick-named operations which were once targeted against the enemy and which required long periods of combat against the enemy's main forces. Unfortunately, this change does not mean that U.S. soldiers no longer have to fight. We must continue to protect ourselves and we still have the mission of assisting to protect and provide security to the Vietnamese population, in our area of operation. We just cannot do this by sitting in a defensive position on a firebase and hoping the enemy will not attack. Six years of experience in Vietnam has taught us that we must stay on patrol to keep the enemy from concentrating his forces, building up his supplies and preparing detailed plans for attacking our positions. If we do not prevent these things, it is almost certainty that these attacks will take place, and they will be very costly to us. So, for the combat forces of the division, the future is one of patrolling the mountain area looking for caches, working with the RF and PF to provide them with the best training we can give them, and staying alert for the enemy who is still out there and still has the mission of our destruction. Many people choose to interpret this as offensive operations and they are determined to say that we are conducting offensive operations when secretary Laird said we will not. I maintain that if the policeman on the beat in the small town in the United States or the policeman in a patrol car is on offensive operations, then I would have to admit that we are on offensive operations. But in fact I don't believe that. I believe the policeman on the beat, rather than being out seeking a criminal to destroy, is out on his beat as a preventative measure, attempting to insure that a criminal entering his beat does not have an opportunity to commit a crime. I liken our current operations and missions to the operations of the police force in your home town.

Next week more question will be answered by Major General Kroesen. If you feel you have a pertinent question to be answered call the Division Information Office at 3212 or 2414 or write: Information Office, 23d Inf. Div. APO SF 96374. All questions will be considered.

The General Answers ...

EDITORS NOTE: The following is a continuation of questions asked by a SOUTHERN CROSS reporter and answers of Major General Frederick J. Kroesen during an August 14th interview.

By SP4 William Hutchison

REPORTER: From your observations here at the 233d Infantry Division and MACV, can you give us a progress report on the Vietnamization program?

GENERAL: Well my personal opinion is that Vietnamization is working quite well. I base this on the change in the situation that I see at this time compared to the situation that I knew when I was here in 1968 and 1969. I believe the RFs and PFs have responded very well to their responsibilities for securing the populated areas. I think that Quang Tin in particular has developed outstanding capabilities to deal with the enemy without U.S assistance. I think this shows that it can be done and identifies the way in which the other provinces will accomplish the same ends. I think the 2nd ARVN Division in the two southern provinces of our tactical area of interest is fully capable of maintaining control of these provinces against enemy forces who are located here. The 2nd ARVN Division is aggressive and confident of its ability, I think it will provide all the security required if and when the Americal departs. I also think the 51st Infantry Regiment is a fine organization in Quang Nam Province. It is faced with a larger enemy thrust; therefore it still has a more difficult job to do. The one qualification that has to be made in any consideration of a military situation is that if the enemy builds up his forces in the area again, if he reinforces and moves in those kinds of units which he had here three and four years ago, then the 2nd ARVN Division will have to be reinforced by other ARVN forces. I think that a re-disposition of the ARVN forces in that case is a matter of normal military operations. I personally believe that Vietnamization has [e]very chance of success and that you can look forward to the ARVN giving a good account of themselves in the future.

REPORTER: In talking with the members of the 1/6th Infantry, I uncovered a problem which seems to be undermining morale there. In the words of one of these individuals, "We are currently pulling four ambushed and eight OPs while in Chu Lai for retrain. In order to sustain this mission we spend no time in Chu Lai at night. If this mission is so important to the defense of Chu Lai, why not assign one company this mission as a primary mission and rotate among the battalion?"

GENERAL: I believe this problem may have been solved already because as a result of our review of the requirements for security and Chu Lai Defense Command recently. Colonel Smith and I decided that an additional rifle company would be assigned the mission of securing the Chu Lai area. This should relieve a rifle company from having to pull that kind of assignment.

REPORTER: The "grunt" does not seem to be getting the support he needs and so richly deserves. For one, promotion allocations are sporadic. R&Rs are difficult to get for certain dates and those in the rear areas seem to get priority. Men within 30 days of DEROS are not receiving their orders, and can do nothing about getting them. Newspapers, Sundry Packs and clothing do not seem to be able to find their way down to the man in the bush in the proper quantity and with any regularity. When in the rear they are hassled about uniforms something they have little to do with, dirty boots, haircuts and hats—an issue item they are often forced to purchase from civilians. What can be done to improve the lot of the infantryman?

GENERAL: This almost sounds like a question I planted, because if there is anything I would like to talk about it is the lot of the infantryman and the requirement for every other person in this division to provide the best possible support for him that we can get. If the infantrymen in this command

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The General Answers You

(Continued from page 1)

are not receiving the best possible support, I can only pledge to them that I have already tried to establish with all the commanders and all of the staff officers in this organization, that their primary purpose is to provide all of the necessities, all of the requirements, and the best support possible of the infantry troops that are in the field. If I have not made that clear by this time, I intend to bend every effort to insure that it is clear to every one of them in the future. However, I also have to say to every infantryman, that the infantry in this war has to learn the same lesson that all previous infantrymen have learned in every war that has ever been fought. They carry the brunt of the combat requirement. They suffer the greatest number of casualties. They live the dirty portion of the war,

where man to man combat is an essential ingredient....there is no way in which we can promise an elimination of the trials or the requirements that an infantryman must face in a combat situation. I can only pledge to them that my efforts will be to provide the greatest possible support, service and concern for their welfare that I can possible provide. I am sincerely concerned with the welfare of every single infantryman that we have in the field and with every soldier that we have in the division. If any of the charges listed in your question are true, that is, an unfair allocation of R&R, or a failure to provide Sundry Packs, I can promise my personal attention toward correcting the situation.

NOTE: The SOUTHERN CROSS will continue to pose questions to Major General Kroesen in the near future. Persons who feel they have a pertinent question which could be answered may submit the question to the Information Office, Americal Division, APO 96374, or call 3212/2414 during normal duty hours. All serious questions will receive serious considerations.

198th Bde kills 11

CHU LAI (198th Inf. Bde. IO) - Action was light recently in the 198th Infantry Brigade AO as infantrymen in the Chu Lai Defense Command killed 11 enemy soldiers and captured three enemy weapons.

Major action occurred in the 4th Battalion, 3d Infantry's AO northwest of Chu Lai. The "Old Guard" killed eight enemy and captured three weapons.

While on patrol northwest of Chu Lai, Company D, 4th Bn., 3d Inf. engaged a small group of VC soldiers, killing one. Infantrymen found and destroyed three military structures, 25 pounds of potatoes and one Chicom grenade.

Patrolling in the same area, Company D found two rucksacks containing 75 pounds of rice and 15 cans of fish. After searching the area, the "Old Guard" found and engaged one military structure with small arms fire, killing one VC soldier. Captured in action was 300 pounds of various military supplies. All equipment was extracted to a nearby LZ.

Later the same day Company D killed one VC soldier and captured one rucksack while operating northwest of Chu Lai. The rucksack was extracted to a firebase.

Operating west of Chu Lai, Company D found and destroyed an enemy basecamp consisting of 23 hootches, one mess hall and two latrines.

Company B, 4th Bn., 3d Inf., operating northwest of Chu Lai, had two mechanical ambushes detonate, resulting in two VC soldiers killed. Captured in the action was two AK-37 rifles, one rucksack, 50 pounds of rice, two Chicom grenades, one pistol belt and some medical supplies. The equipment was extracted to Chu Lai.

Company B, working in the same area, engaged and killed one NVA soldier. Captured and extracted to a nearby LZ was one pistol with two full magazines.

While working in an area later that day, Company B had a mechanical ambush detonate. A search of the area found two dead VC soldiers, one rucksack, one pistol belt, 30 pounds of rice and one hammock. The find was extracted to an LZ.

Company C, 4th Bn., 3d Inf., working northwest of Chu Lai, found 13 military structures. A further search revealed a desk and chair, three bamboo bunks, medical supplies, cooking utensils and a math book. The items were extracted to an LZ and the military structures were destroyed.

Other action occurred in the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry's AO southwest of Chu Lai. The "Regulars" accounted for two enemy soldiers killed.

A Recon element from the 1st Bn., 6th Inf., operating southwest of Chu Lai engaged and killed two VC soldiers.

While operating southwest of Chu Lai, Company D, 1st Bn., 6th Inf., found and destroyed three military structures.

The Chu Lai Defense Command guards observed a group of water sappers swimming off shore. A perimeter helicopter was called and engaged the enemy, killing one. Captured and destroyed was one hand grenade.

Bud, 'Regulars' find trail, net four NVA.

By SP4 William Hutchison

CHU LAI (23d Inf. Div. IO) - The "Regulars of Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry know it pays to keep their eyes open and pay attention to scout dogs.

Through the combined efforts of Bud, a scout dog from the 57th Infantry Platoon, his quick reacting handler and the ever-ready "Regulars", a camouflaged trail yielded two NVA soldiers killed and two wounded.

In the mountains near Tra Bong, an element of Company A was on a routine patrol under the direction of their company commander, Captain Jose Gomez (New Bedford, Mass.). Up front was Specialist Four Gary Schuler (Haywood, Calif.) and his scout dog Bud. They were checking out a trail when a side trail was discovered by Staff Sergeant Eldon Kinke, (Houston).

"It looked like just a pile of brush at first, but when the cover was pulled away, you could tell the enemy had made an attempt to hide their trail," remarked Finke.

The patrol then proceeded cautiously up the trail. After moving about 500 meters, they found some cooked rice scattered about the trail, and some footprints. About 150 meters further Bud alerted and the patrol stopped. Up ahead stood a well-concealed hootch.

Silently Finke signaled for the CO to come up. When he arrived, the lead group split up. Schuler and Gomez went to the left while Finke and Specialist Four Chet Ackerman (Sterling, Mich.) proceeded around the right side of the hootch.

"As we proceeded to the left, I spotted an AK-47 leaning against the wall. You could even hear them talking. Then the dog handler spotted a big NVA soldier and opened fire-wounding him. Then Finke, on the other side fired," explained Gomez.

Finke and Ackerman saw the NVA soldier the handler wounded, then Finke spotted another on the run and brought him down with a quick burst of M-16 fire. Ackerman, meanwhile, swung into the hootch and fired-wounding an NVA soldier who had been in the hammock inside.

The two wounded soldiers were searched, along with the surrounding area, producing two AK-47 assault weapons, one B40 rocket, ten Chicom hand grenades and two medical kits. When questioned, the wounded soldiers revealed that one more member of their group was due back shortly.

Keeping their eyes open, the "grunts" continued their search into the surrounding area, discovering another smaller hootch and a quantity of ammunition.

Meanwhile Gomez, Schuler and Bud were still at the first hootch. Schuler was sitting near Bud.

"Suddenly I noticed that the dog was quite nervous, he was alerting on something," stated Gomez. "The dog handler and I turned and saw a small figure approach, the handler fired a shot and the NVA broke. I opened up and got him."

After the two wounded, one severely, were treated by the patrol's medic, Specialist Four Robert Hoovier (Pittsburgh), they were extracted to the 91st Evacuation Hospital.

Later, when the NVA soldiers were questioned, they were found to be a platoon sergeant and a doctor of a recon element of a Sapper Battalion.

**Teamwork nets 11
for 198th, 176th**

CHU LAI, (198th Inf. Bde. IO) - Action was light recently as infantrymen from the 198th Infantry Brigade and gunships from the 176th Aviation killed 11 enemy soldiers and captured one enemy suspect and one pistol.

Most of the action occurred in the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry's area of operation (A) southwest of Chu Lai. The "Regulars" killed five enemy soldiers and captured one unknown type pistol.

While on operations southwest of Chu Lai, a recon element from the 1st Bn., 6th Inf., engaged a group of VC soldiers. A search of the area revealed four VC soldiers killed.

While operating in the same area, Company A, 1st Bn., 6th Inf., engaged a small group of VC soldiers, killing one and capturing a pistol which was extracted to a nearby LZ (Landing Zone).

Patrolling in an area southwest of Chu Lai, Company A, 1st Bn., 6th Inf., found and destroyed a base camp area consisting of 25 military structures protected by rocks and trees.

Other action occurred in the 4th Battalion, 3d Infantry's AO northwest of Chu Lai. The "Old Guard" killed two enemy soldiers and captured one enemy suspect.

Company C, 4th Bn., 3d Inf., on an operation northwest of Chu Lai, had a mechanical ambush detonate. A search of the area revealed two dead NVA soldiers and two NVA pistol belts. The pistol belts were extracted to an LZ.

While on a patrol northwest of Chu Lai, Company B, 4th Bn., 3d Inf., found and destroyed a base camp area consisting of 18 fighting positions of various sizes, six outdoor latrines with frames made of railroad ties. The perimeter measured 100 by 75 meters and was estimated to be about nine months old.

Company D, 4th Bn., 3d Inf., operating northwest of Chu Lai captured one enemy suspect. He was extracted to Chu Lai for questioning.

While flying over an area southwest of Chu Lai, the 176th Aviation engaged a small group of VC soldiers, killing one. The next day in the same general area gunships from the 176th Aviation observed and engaged an unknown number of VC soldiers, resulting in three enemy killed.

Final division standdown scheduled at Ft. Lewis

By MSG Bill Pickett

CHU LAI (Special) – The actual standdown of the 23d Infantry Division will not be accomplished until the last days of this month when the division command group will accompany the colors to Ft. Lewis, Wash., for the official deactivation of the unit and the retirement of the colors.

That action will bring to a close an enormous redeployment task which began in earnest with the announcement of the standdown of the 3d Battalion, 18th Artillery and the 71st Assault Helicopter Company on Sept. 8.

Planning for the entire operation began much earlier under the supervision of the Keystone Operations Center, whose personnel were responsible for the coordination and scheduling of all standdown activities.

A personnel out-processing center was established adjacent to the Chu Lai Airfield, and this operation, although deterred one day when Typhoon Hester leveled the center, averaged 200 persons per day through its doors, destined for reassignment in-country or return to CONUS for further assignment or ETS.

Also in September, units of the 23d Medical Battalion, and maintenance and engineer companies began standdown, many utilizing the facilities of the Division Combat Center or the former 27th Surgical Hospital area through which most of the division members would pass during their standdown period. These locations were provided [to] exchange and club facilities to serve Americal soldiers during their standdown.

On Sept. 17, H Troop, 17th Cavalry began its standdown, and during October most maneuver elements of the division also began their standdown operations.

It was during this period that Task Force Americal began to take shape under the command of Colonel Robert J. Malloy, former DISCOM commander. Mission of Task Force Americal (TFA) was to prevent the enemy from establishing bases from which to rocket Chu Lai Combat Base and to keep the enemy from massing troops for attack.

Major units standing down during October included 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry and 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry on Oct. 5, and 3d Battalion, 1st Infantry and the 123d Assault Support Helicopter Company [Note this must be an error. 132nd Assault Support Helicopter Company (Hercules) may have been the correct unit.] Oct 7.

The 11th Brigade and its 1st Battalion, 52d Infantry began standdown on Oct. 10. Two aviation battalions, the 14th Combat Aviation Battalion and 123d Aviation Battalion, went into standdown on Oct. 14.

Between Oct. 15 and 18, the 4th Battalion, 3d Infantry; 174th Assault Helicopter Company and 23d Medical Battalion, minus, commenced standdown.

Headquarters and Headquarters Company of the 198th Infantry Brigade began standdown Oct. 19, followed on Oct. 22 by 23d Administrative Company and on Oct. 23 by the 16th Combat Aviation Group.

Between Oct. 24 and 30, those units of Division Artillery which had not begun standdown were returned to rear areas to begin processing and on Oct 30, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery of Division Artillery closed out its mission as it received standdown instructions.

The 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry—which had been replaced in the mountains west of Chu Lai by the 3d Battalion, 21st infantry maneuver element to commence standdown. When it was ordered to the rear on the last day of October.

Division support units, including the 23d Supply and Transportation Battalion, 26th Engineer Battalion, 723d Maintenance Battalion and Division Support Command began standdown during the first week in November.

Division Headquarters and Headquarters Company was the final unit to conduct standdown activities, and as the colors are escorted to CONUS last this month, only the 196th Infantry Brigade, under the command of Brigadier General Joseph C. McDonough, remains.

Historian comment: There are many reports on file with information about the actions of the 1/6th Inf. Bn. The compilation of articles did not select from these reports. However, I will add this report to give you an idea of what might be found in the ADVA historical data base for reporting.

This was one item in a box of materials from Dan Young and the 1-52d Group.
Hats off to the 1-52nd!

There are two at least versions of the same combat action report. I only transcribed what appeared to be an enhanced version that had extra flowery wording to describe the relationships between the Marine Corps and Army units. This copy also seemed to be the more clear copy to read from. Related to Task Force Miracle there will be a separate file for TF Miracle transcribed soon.

Transcribed by Leslie Hines ADVA historian, Vietnam era for the year 2001.
Edited by sons: Joshua and Timothy Hines April 7, 2001.

Disposition Form (AR 340-15)

AVDF-GC Combat Action Report

To: Chief of Staff (Nels Parson) from ACoS, G3 Date 8 Mar 68

MAJ Bittrich/rsv/545

1. PURPOSE: To circulate Combat Action Report to appropriate commanders and staff for review.

2. DISCUSSION:

a. In accordance with paragraph 3a (5), Americal Division Regulation 335-8, dated 28 Jan 68, the following Combat Action Report is forwarded for review.

"Battle for Lo Giang" (TAB A)

b. One copy of this report has been forwarded to the Historian for inclusion in appropriate historical files.

3. RECOMMENDATION: That the attached Combat Action Report be circulated for review within the Command Section.

(Signed)
JESMOND D. BALMER, JR.
LTC, GS
ACoS, G3

CONFIDENTIAL
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY MAJ McDonnell/vdf
HEADQUARTERS 1ST BATTALION, 6TH UNITED STATES INFANTRY
198TH INFANTRY BRIGADE (LIGHT)
APO San Francisco 96219

AVDF-BCNX

23 February 1968

SUBJECT: Combat Action Report (Battle for Lo Giang)

THRU: Commanding Officer
196th Inf Bde (TF Miracle)
Americal Division
APO San Francisco 96256

TO: Commanding General
Americal Division
ATTN: AVDF (DOT)
APO San Francisco 96374

The following numbered paragraphs correspond with and are in compliance with the required paragraphs and paragraph headings contained in Appendix I to Americal Division Regulation 335-8, dated 28 January 1968.

1. TF Miracle - Search and Destroy vicinity Southern Danang City Republic of Vietnam.
2. 071515 - 120800 February 1968.
3. Vicinity Lo Giang, RVN (BT 025705)
4. 1-6 Inf, 198th Inf Bde (Light), AMCAL Div, OPCON TF Miracle 8-12 February 1968.
5. LTC William J. Baxley Jr., CO, 1-6 Inf, 198th LIB
MAJ Joseph M. McDonnell, S-3, 1-6 Inf, 198th LIB
Captain Francis X. Brennan, CO, A1-6, 198th LIB
Captain Dan A. Prather, CO, B1-6, 198th LIB
Captain Max D. Bradley, CO, C1-6, 198th LIB
Captain James T. Price, CO, E1-6, 198th LIB
Captain Elvis J. Farrel, CO, D1-14 Arty, 198th LIB
1LT Peter Hesser, CO, G2-3 Mar Regt, 3rd Marine Div (081200-081500 Feb 1968)
6. 1-6 Inf Command and Control Group
A1-6 Inf
B1-6 Inf
C1-6 Inf
E1-6 Inf
Hqs Co (-) 1-6 Inf
D1-14 Arty (Prov)
1-51 Sig Platoon (-)
198th PIO Section (-)
7. Supporting Forces:
 - a. D1-14 Arty (Prov). This Battery was assigned as the DS Battery for the 1-6 Inf. Although the Battery was not operational during the main battle for Lo Giang, it moved into a fighting position immediately after arriving at LZ 410 on 081600 Feb 1968. The Battery fought with distinction for the remainder of the TF Miracle Operation and continually provided immediate close in and H and I Fire.

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Declassified after 12 years

b. 2-3 Mar Regt and 1st Mar Div Arty (105, 155mm How-vic LZ 410). Each battery of six howitzers were continually employed with outstanding effectiveness.

c. 1st Mar Div Air Wing. All sorties were immediate. The cooperation and skill of this Marine Aviation Unit was outstanding and their immediate response to the tactical necessity for air strikes significantly enhanced the success of "The Regulars" at Lo Giang.

d. MAG 16 Air Group. Numerous helicopter resupply and Medivac sorties were accomplished. The Marine aviators continually flew into the battlefield to dust off wounded personnel and resupply the companies in contact. The actions of the MAG 16 aviators were in keeping with the high-est traditions of the US Marine Corps and exemplified the mutual respect and confidence that the Marine Corps and Army personnel had for each other during the Battle for Lo Giang.

e. 176th Aviation Company (AMCAL). "The Minutemen" furnished a command and control helicopter for "The Regulars" on a continuous basis from 081430 - 121200 Feb 1968. Numerous sorties were flown in all categories (VR, resupply, C and C, dustoff, etc), and the courage, skill and desire to excel on the part of the Minutemen Pilots significantly contributed to the success of the 1-6 Infantry at Lo Giang.

8. The First Marine Division had reliable intelligence reports that the Military Installations in the vicinity of Danang would be attacked by mortar/rocket fire or by a massive ground attack or a combination of the two. Exact locations of enemy units immediately South of Danang were unknown but in view of the concerted effort of VC/NVA units attacking major installations throughout Vietnam it was believed that an attack was eminent. The enemy force destroyed by the 1-6 Infantry was positively identified as the 60th Main Force Viet Cong Battalion (60-70% NVA soldiers) with the 370th NVA Headquarters Company attached, of the 1st NVA Regiment, 2nd NVA Division. The strength of the enemy force that engaged the 1-6 Inf was estimated to be 800 men. Actual body count was 266 and there was positive evidence that over 300 dead or wounded were removed from the battle field by the enemy battalion. Enemy dead, in addition to the bodies found at the scene of the battle were found on a radius of four kilometers from the village of Lo Giang for three days subsequent to the main engagement. Ninety bodies were found lying in stagnant water by Marine Corps elements on 10 Feb 1968 at BT 044704. These bodies were found west of the 1-6 AO boundary and were not included in the enemy casualty figures at Lo Giang. The absence of any fighting at this location rendered credence to the belief that the 60th Battalion retreated in platoon sized elements east and South-west of Lo Giang with their dead and wounded. It is pointed out that on 9 Feb 1968, elements of the 2-1 Infantry became heavily engaged with an estimated two companies at BT 001687. It is believed that these enemy units were part of the 60th Battalion retreating from Lo Giang. The 60th Battalion was well led and therefore thoroughly disciplined. They continued to fight after massive artillery and air attacks and launched two assaults in the open against Alpha Company. Their soldiers were completely equipped for sustained ground contact and their combat equipment included combat packs, pistol belts, canteens, ponchos, first aid packets, ammunition containers, protective masks and cleaning equipment. Their weaponry included AK47, SKS, 160 and 81mm mortars, M-60 MG, RPG MG, M-1 carbines, M-1 rifles, RPG, M-16 rifles, 45 cal pistols, shotguns, CS canisters and Chicom grenades. The terrain in the vicinity of Lo Giang was flat and dominated by semi-flooded rice paddies with a rice crop approximately four feet high. All the rice paddies were laced with dikes in typical Vietnamese fashion. The rice and the dikes provided both sides with average cover and concealment. The enemy force, deployed in a defensive posture on the north-western edge of Lo Giang, was dug in along a tree line and in a trench.

The 1-6 Infantry elements, continually on the offensive had little cover from the continuous enemy rocket and mortar attacks. The enemy did not employ mines or anti-personnel booby traps and there were no significant man made or natural obstacles at the scene of the main battle. Observation and fields of fire on the main battlefield were excellent in view of the flat terrain and the warm clear weather. Observation of the village was limited due to the tree line surrounding Lo Giang. Further details concerning the significance of intelligence to include terrain factors are included in the narrative and portrayed on the attached overlays.

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9. The 1-6 Infantry mission provided by the 1st Marine Division on 07 Feb 1968 was as follows: 1-6 Infantry search and destroy during the period 072000 - 082000 February 1968 from the vicinity Landing Zone 410 to vicinity BT035725 in order to destroy enemy forces in the assigned area of operations. Further planning guidance included the positioning of blocking forces south of the Danang Airfield with the mission of denying the enemy the use of the southern approaches to Danang. When the TF Miracle Headquarters was activated at approximately 081500 February 1968 the 1-6 Infantry was ordered to continue to attack against the enemy battalion located in Lo Giang during the period 081500 February 1968 to 091500 February 1968, with an ultimate objective of destroying all enemy units in the area and to search and destroy in the Battalion AO on order.

10. The concept of operations initially provided for Companies A and C to search and destroy from Landing Zone 410 to the vicinity of BT 035725 during the period 7-10 Feb 1968 with the organic artillery of the First Marine Division, and the First Marine Air Wing and Mag 16 providing fire support. When the remaining companies were airlifted to LZ 410 they were ordered to reinforce Companies A and C. The Direct Support Battery, D1-14 Arty (Prov) was not scheduled to arrive until the afternoon of 8 Feb 1968. Companies A and C were ordered to secure the island formed by the tributaries of the Song Cau Do and Song Vinh Dien and the Reconnaissance Platoon was ordered to secure the southern boundary of the AO vicinity BT 001665. The initial concept was changed as noted in paragraph 11 (narrative) by the engagement of the 60th Main Force Viet Cong Regiment at Lo Giang. Paragraph 11 contains a detailed analysis of the entire concept of operations for the period 7-12 Feb 1968.

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11. EXECUTION: During the period 29 Jan to 7 Feb 1968 intelligence sources at the 3rd MAF Hq Danang RVN indicated that elements of the 2nd NVA Division were closing on the city of Danang and were preparing for an attack on American Units and installations in that city. On 29 Jan 1968 the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry received an order to be prepared to deploy one company within 60 minutes and the Battalion minus within 120 minutes to the 1st Marine Division Area of Operations. Extensive preparations were made to insure the rapid and efficient move of "The Regulars" from their assigned Area of Operations and at the same time continue offensive operations in the Chu Lai area. All elements were placed on alert and companies were ordered to maneuver "light" in the Chu Lai area and continually select and maneuver close to pick up zones. Alpha Company was designated as the sixty minute alert unit and closed the Battalion Rear Base at Landing Zone Gator on 2 Feb 1968. All combat elements continued to search and destroy in the 6th Infantry area of operations while on an alert status with Alpha Company concentrating on Cordon and Search and night patrolling operations in and around the village complexes in the Chu Lai area. On 7 Feb 1968 the new Delta Company Packet arrived in Chu Lai from CONUS and the Battalion Commander went to the Americal Replacement Company to welcome the new "Regulars". Returning from Chu Lai, the Battalion Commander stopped momentarily at LZ Gator to drop off the Battalion S-3 and continued to the Western Part of the Battalion Area of Operations to issue a new order to Bravo Company that had Combat Assaulted to BT 443026 on 6 Feb 1968. Enroute to the Bravo Company area the Battalion Commander received an order from the Brigade Commander to land at Landing Zone Chippewa BS 486968 (the 1-6 forward fire base) to receive an order on the Brigade secure net. The order required LTC Baxley to deploy a minimum of two rifle companies and a command and control group to LZ 410 AT 991678 the forward command post of the 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines, 1st Marine Division, and the Battalion (-) as soon as possible depending on aircraft availability and light data. LTC Baxley was further ordered to proceed immediately to the Americal Forward TOC at LZ Baldy BT131458 and receive a detailed order from Major General Samuel W. Koster, CG Americal Division. LTC Baxley directed Major Joseph M. McDonnell, Bath New York, to coordinate aircraft requirements for the extraction of all maneuver units from the AO to LZ Gator and to execute the Battalion air movement plan for the movement of the entire Battalion from LZ Gator to LZ 410. LTC William J. Baxley Jr., Dillon South Carolina, Major Robert L. Hunt, Huntsville Alabama, the Bn XO, Lt Donald W. Thomas, Sewickley Pa., the Battalion S-3 Air, and SP4 Lemont C. Sanders, East Point Georgia, departed via the Battalion Command Control helicopter for LZ Baldy at 071515 Feb 1968. The helicopter developed engine trouble and because of a total power failure made a forced landing at Gator OP #5 BS 567978. Destroyer 890 a Command and Control helicopter of the 198th Infantry Brigade, extracted the command and control group and transported them to LZ Baldy for an order and briefing by MG Koster. LTC Baxley was informed that the Battalion was under the operational control of the 1st Marine Division pending the formation and arrival of Task Force Miracle. The Battalion command and control group departed LZ Baldy and arrived at the 1st Marine Division Hqs at 071630 and received a briefing from COL Graham G-3 and the other principal staff officers. General Robertson, CG 1st Marine Division ordered LTC Baxley to move Companies A & C to the field as soon as possible in order to secure an area surrounded by the Song Cau Do River tributaries center of mass BT035725. The first elements of the 1-6 Infantry arrived at LZ 410 via Marine air at 071700. At LZ Gator preparations were made for the extraction of all maneuver elements from the field. Echo Company minus was deployed in and around the Binh Son Bridge complex, BS 597927, the second Platoon of Echo Company was in position on the Nui Hang Ba plateau BS 504997 saturating the area with squad sized patrols in an

attempt to locate enemy rocket locations. The Echo Company Mortar Platoon was in position at LZ Chippewa supporting the forward fire base. Bravo Company minus was conducting a search and destroy operation near the Reconnaissance Zone vicinity BS 445015. The 3rd Platoon of Bravo Company was located at LZ Chippewa BS 485968 conducting security missions for the defense of the Battalion's forward fire base. Alpha Company was on a strip alert at LZ Gator. Charlie Company having returned from an extensive period of search and destroy missions (4-22 Jan OPCODE 196th Light Infantry Brigade, 22 Jan - 6 Feb OPCODE 1-46 Inf) was staging at LZ Gator in preparation for further combat operations in the Chu Lai Area. All elements were immediately ordered to secure preplanned pick up zones and were in position for extraction within twelve minutes. At 071558 four Marine CH 46 and

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two Marine CH 53 helicopters arrived at LZ Gator to move elements of the 6th Infantry to LZ 410. Simultaneous with the arrival of the Marine helicopters one Army CH47 and seven UH1D helicopters arrived to extract the field elements of the 6th Infantry from the AO to LZ Gator for further air movement. The operation was characterized by an outstanding and concerted effort on the part of all unit commanders and staff officers. The air movement plans were executed without delay and the operation was a complete success. The priority of extraction from the AO by UH1D was 2nd Platoon Echo Company, followed by Bravo (-). Priority of extraction by CH47 was, 3rd Platoon Bravo Company, Commo Platoon and forward CP Group followed by the Echo Mortar Platoon and one sortie of forward TOC equipment and communication. Echo Company (-) was extracted from the Binh Son Bridge by vehicle. At 1600 Alpha Company plus six TOC personnel were lifted off the Gator PZ enroute to LZ 410. At 1605 the entire second platoon of Echo Company was touching down at the Gator administrative pad after having been extracted from the field. At the same time CPT Dan Prather, Lubbock Texas was making final preparations for the extraction of his company and CPT James T. Price, Lenori North Carolina, was closing his company to LZ Gator by vehicle. The first sortie by the CH47 touched down at the Gator Administrative pad with the third Platoon of Bravo Company at 071612 and returned to LZ Chippewa to complete the final extraction of the Command Group and the Echo Mortar Platoon. Charlie Company arrived at the Gator Administrative pad followed by the second CH47 sortie carrying the communication platoon and forward CP personnel. By 1700 all personnel and equipment located at LZ Chippewa and the Bravo Company field location were extracted and were standing by at the Gator pick up zone. At 071702 four CH 46 and two CH53 Marine helicopters returned to LZ Gator and lifted the entire Charlie Company and ten personnel of Hqs Company. With the extraction of Charlie completed, Echo and Bravo Companies moved into position on the pick up zone. Anticipating the deployment of the entire Battalion to Danang and the engagement of a more well equipped enemy force under varying tactical and terrain conditions, all personnel were ordered to deploy with flak jackets and gas masks and all companies had previously palletted a three day supply of rations and ammunition. The requirement for protective masks and flak jackets proved extremely beneficial as will be noted in this report. Alpha Company arrived at LZ 410 at 071735 and was received and briefed by the Staff of the Second Battalion, Third Marines. At the same time, LTC Baxley and his advance staff were being briefed at the First Marine Division Command Post. Of immediate concern to the Battalion Staff was the disposition of friendly forces. The locations of Marine Corps units were easily obtainable, conversely, the location of RF/PF and ARVN units were a minor problem. It was pointed out that one company of the 51st ARVN Regiment and two PF Platoons were deployed in the area that the 1-6 was ordered to initially secure. The initial Area of Operations designated for the 1-6 Inf was void of American units except for Echo-4, a fourteen man Marine Corps CAP post at BT 028704 and until the 7th of February was believed to be a pacified area free of main force or NVA activity. Initially maps were not available at the First Marine Corps Hqs and the 3rd Marine Hqs. The 1-6 and 198th Inf Bde (LT) had anticipated the map requirements and all companies had a minimum of 16 sets. LTC Baxley and his staff arrived at LZ 410 at 171745 Feb 1968 and began planning for combat operations. The officers and men of the 3rd Marine Regimental Command Post offered all their resources to assist the 1-6 Inf. With one company at LZ 410 LTC Baxley awaited the arrival of the remainder of his Battalion.

At 1745 Charlie Company touched down at LZ 410 and received an area briefing from the staff of the 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regimental Staff. Immediately subsequent to Charlie Company's arrival, LTC Baxley, CPT

Francis X. Brennan, Boston Mass, and CPT Bradley, sat down in a ditch near LZ 410 to discuss the impending operation. At the same time CPT Price moved his company on to the pick up zone at LZ Gator to await the return of the Marine aircraft. LTC Baxley explained his mission and the concept of operations to Captains Brennan and Bradley. The briefing was preliminary and the details of the operation were delayed until the arrival of the rest of the battalion and a further briefing by the 3rd Marine Regimental Staff. At this point of the operation the deployment of the Battalion and the assignment of Company objectives was predicated on whether or not the entire Battalion could be airlifted to LZ 410 before night fall. At LZ Gator four CH46 aircraft arrived at 071912 and lifted the Reconnaissance Platoon and first Platoon of Echo Company. These two Platoons arrived at

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LZ 410 at 071845. At 071840 two CH53 aircraft arrived at LZ Gator to lift out Bravo Company. On their arrival at Gator a fire fight between CAPL-6 a Marine Corps CAP Post, (1.5 km south of Gator) and a Viet Cong squad erupted. The aircraft commanders decided to attempt to land without lights in view of the ground fire and were unsuccessful because of the terrain and light conditions. It was decided therefore to delay the airlift until

080730 Feb 1968. Meanwhile LTC Baxley was preparing his battalion minus for combat at Landing Zone 410. One site were Companies A (131 personnel), C (128 personnel), E (-) (56 personnel) and a command and control group (10 personnel) or a total of 325 officers and men. Artillery and air support would be provided initially by the First Marine Division. After receiving a thorough tactical briefing on the southern Danang Area and an outstanding terrain analysis by the staff of the 3rd Marine Regiment, LTC Baxley finalized his plans and issued an order to his unit commanders. The order directed Alpha and Charlie Companies to search and destroy North and West in the AO with a mission of securing an objective center of mass BT 035725. The Reconnaissance Platoon Commanded by Second Lieutenant Thomas Bradbury, Charlottesville Virginia, was ordered to move to and secure an area located at BT 998664. US Marine Corps and RF/PF guides were ordered to guide all the Battalion elements to their start points for the operation. At 072200 Feb 1968 CPT Brennan moved his company from LZ 410 along a pre-planned route that provided for check points at BT993648 (CP #1), BT 994699 (CP #2), BT 016707 (CP #3) and a night defensive position in a graveyard BT 022714.

At 072200 Feb 1968 CPT Brennan reported receiving sniper fire from check point #1. Alpha Company returned the fire with negative results. On reaching check point #2, Alpha Company again reported receiving sniper fire and again at check point three more incoming rounds were received by the Company. On all occasions the fire was from the west, small caliber and harassing in nature with negative results on either side. Alpha Company closed to a preplanned night defensive position in a graveyard BT 022714 on 08155 Feb 1968. See Overlay #1.

CPT Bradley moved his company out of the Landing Zone perimeter at 072230 and followed the same route as Alpha as far as check point #2. At check point two Charlie Company moved south and east as previously planned on an azimuth of 145 degrees to a night defensive position in a graveyard at BT 005694. During his movement to his night defensive position, CPT Bradley also reported receiving light sniper from CP #2. It should be noted that the fire received by Alpha and Charlie Companies may have been delivered by RF/PF units located at CP #1 and CP #2. These incidents were anticipated notwithstanding the use of guides. It is believed that the absence of casualties on either side was a result of the thorough orientation provided to Captains Brennan and Bradley and their sound application of stringent control and coordination of their maneuver elements.

Charlie company arrived at its night defensive position at 080215 Feb 1968. The Reconnaissance Platoon departed Landing Zone 410 at 072300 and followed a route marked by check point #1 BT 988664, to a night defensive position at BT 998663. The movement of the platoon was without incident and the night position was closed and secured at 080157 Feb 1968. The first platoon of Echo Company remained at Landing Zone 410 and secured the perimeter.

With three maneuver elements in night defensive positions, the Battalion Staff in coordination with liaison officers of the 3rd Marine Regiment continued its planning for an anticipated engagement with Main Force Viet Cong or NVA units. The operations order directed the CPT Brennan move his company and search and destroy at first light on the morning of 8 Feb

1968 from his night location across a bridge at BT025719 to the village of Thon Con Daw BT 035725. CPT Bradley was directed to move his Charlie Company at first light from his night location to Alpha Company's night location and then follow Alpha Company across the bridge to the Thon Con Daw village. The locations of the enemy units were vague at general at this point of the operation, however, the First Marine Division believed that an enemy force was in the vicinity of Thon Con Daw and preparing to mortar or rocket the military installations in Danang. The Reconnaissance Platoon was ordered to patrol the southwestern portion of the Area of Operations and locate enemy units. The Platoon Leader was further directed to close Landing Zone 410 NLT 080900 and rejoin Echo Company for a company size search and destroy operation that would commence at 081300 Feb 1968. See Overlay #2.

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At Landing Zone 410 all elements were reporting negative situation reports from their night locations, on 080337 Feb 1968, seven 82MM mortar rounds hit Landing Zone 410 and wounded eight US Marine Corps personnel and rendered slight damage to two buildings, one of them, the Battalion Aid Station. Attempts to locate the mortar positions were futile and except for the initial volley the mortar fire ceased.

The next activity occurred at 080602 Feb 1968 when the US Marine CAP post Echo 4 reported receiving heavy M-16 fire from BT 027699 and reported a suspected enemy mortar position at BT 027699. Marine armed helicopters were ordered to assist Echo 4 and their action ceased all enemy fire. The helicopters were hit by ground fire, however, there were no casualties and structural damage was minor. During this action four VC bodies were retrieved and all had web gear with CS grenades. All 1-6 elements were alerted of the enemy CS capability.

At LZ Gator, the second platoon of Echo Company, Bravo Company, the Echo mortar platoon and Headquarters Company minus moved to a closed the Gator PZ by 080730 Feb 1968. The first aircraft arrived at 080810 Feb 1968 and began lifting the remainder of the Battalion Units to LZ 410. Two platoons of Bravo, the remainder of Headquarters Company and sixteen sorties of equipment were prepared for extraction at LZ Gator. The Marine helicopters continued airlifting the rest of the Battalion and by 081050 all remaining combat elements had arrived at Landing Zone 410. The Marines continued to fly in the Battalion supplies and equipment throughout the day and by 081530 had lifted 52,000 lbs of ammunition, rations and other equipment to Landing Zone 410. Men and equipment were being airlifted from Gator on a continued basis while the battle of Lo Giang was taking place as will be pointed [out] later in this report. The cooperation, skill, and reliability of the US Marine Corps helicopter pilots was outstanding and their actions significantly enhanced the rapid movement to contact of the 1-6 Infantry.

In view of the mortar attack, small arms fire and the build up of significant intelligence reports, LTC Baxley ordered Captain Price to deploy his entire company around Landing Zone 410 as a perimeter defense force. Captain Price was also directed to be prepared to assemble his force in fifteen minutes as the Battalion reaction force in the event Companies A or C became heavily engaged with the enemy. Captain Prather continued to prepare his company for combat and went to the Tactical Operations Center to receive his operations order.

In view of the contact at the Marine CAP Post (Echo 4) Company C received a mission change and CPT Bradley was ordered to move from his night defensive position to a location center of mass BT 025725 (Lo Giang Village). Anticipating that an enemy force (size undetermined at this point) was located in Lo Giang, LTC Baxley instructed CPT Brennan to remain at BT 023714 and stand ready to assist Charlie Company in the event of enemy contact. AT 080710 Charlie Company moved on an azimuth of 55 degrees from his night location BT 005645.

Charlie Company moved 1500 meters without incident between the hours of 0715 and 0815. At 0820 the Reconnaissance Platoon closed LZ 410 with negative results from their mission. Alpha Company, now oriented toward the village of Lo Giang reported receiving small arms fire from BT 026705 at 080826 Feb 1968. The Company returned the fire with negative results. At 080857 Feb 1968 CPT Brennan reported that the people of Lo Giang were moving out of the village on an azimuth of 45 degrees from the village proper. At this point it was becoming apparent that a sizable enemy force

was located in Lo Giang and Charlie Company was alerted that contact was eminent. Alpha Company began firing 81MM mortar fire into the northwestern edge of the village at 080915 Feb 1968 and immediately called for Artillery support. Charlie Company moving north east across Highway One reported automatic weapons fire from the northeast at 080940 Feb 1968. The enemy element engaging Charlie Company was believed to be located in a pagoda at BT 022724. This same pagoda would play a large role in the major battle for Lo Giang later in the day. As Charlie Company maneuvered to the west the incoming fire increased in intensity and Captain Bradley realized that he had a major fight insueing with either Main Force Viet Cong or North Vietnamese Army unit. Meanwhile LTC Baxley and Major McDonnell were attempting to obtain a command and control helicopter to no avail. The First Marine Division did not have a C and C helicopter available. The gunships

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requested earlier had not arrived on station and maximum efforts were being made to scramble them. At 081015 Charlie Company reported two personnel WIA and requested a Medivac. Charlie Company was now located at BT 018707 and under heavy automatic weapon fire. At 081100 Feb 1968 Charlie Company reported four more casualties and a Marine Medivac arrived a few moments later and evacuated all wounded personnel. The Medivac was escorted by two gunships and the gunships remained on station to assist the Company. At 081132 Feb 1968 Alpha Company came under heavy automatic weapon fire from the village of Lo Giang BT 025706. With the action in Charlie Company's area subsiding due the intense fire of Captain Bradley's troops and the supporting gunships, it appeared that the enemy turned their attention to CPT Brennan's Alpha Company. CPT Brennan was directed to maneuver toward Lo Giang instead of continuing with his previously assigned mission. The weapons platoon of Alpha Company began to pound the northwestern edge of Lo Giang and preplanned Artillery missions were fired in the same area.

At this point of the action Echo 4 reported a heavy attack on their location by elements of the NVA. With three separate units now under attack LTC Baxley ordered Captain Prather to move his company by trucks to BT 015695, dismount and search and destroy on an azimuth of 45 degrees from the dismount point. Prather's mission was to assist with the attack on Lo Giang and link up with Marine CAP post Echo 4.

At Landing Zone 410 LTC Davis, Commanding Officer of the Second Battalion, Third Marine Regiment informed LTC Baxley that Golf Company of the Third Marine was located at LZ 410 and could be placed under the OPCON of the 1/6 Inf if deemed necessary. LTC Baxley accepted the offer and Golf Company, now OPCON to the 1/6 Inf, was ordered to move by truck to BT 018689. After dismounting, Golf Company was ordered to parallel the movement of Bravo Company with the Sui Man Quan River as the company boundary. See Overlay #4.

Captain Brennan meanwhile, was maneuvering his forces toward Lo Giang while receiving intense automatic weapons fire. At 081136 Alpha Company reported secondary explosions in Lo Giang as a result of the constant mortar fire by the weapons platoon. Attacking generally to the southeast on an azimuth of 145 degrees, the first and second platoons were on line, with the first platoon trailing, first platoon center of mass BT 023710, second platoon center of mass BT 026709, third platoon center of mass BT 023707 and the weapons platoon in the graveyard at BT 023714. The terrain to the front of Alpha Company was flat and dominated by rice paddies with rice approximately four feet high. Approximately 450 meters to the front of Alpha Company and along a northeast-southwest line running from BT 029708 to a pagoda at BT 021704 was a tree line and it was on this line that the personnel of Alpha Company thought the enemy force was deployed. Unknown at this time to Alpha Company was a trench about 100 meters north of and paralleling the tree line. The trench was obscured from the view of Alpha Company by the density of the rice. See Overlay #5. Alpha Company attacked the village at 081235 and received heavy mortar fire at 081248 about 100 meters north of the trench. At this time a tremendous volume of enemy rocket, mortar, machine gun, RPG and rifle fire erupted from the trench. Alpha Company returned the fire and a furious fight developed when the NVA soldiers charged out of the trench and the village. The officers and men of Alpha Company later reported that the enemy leaders were easily identifiable as they were moving behind groups of seven to ten men using hand and arm signals to direct their units. In a matter of seconds Alpha Company and two companies of a unit positively identified as the 60th Main Force Viet Cong Battalion (60-70% NVA soldiers) First NVA Regiment, 2nd NVA Division with the 370th Hqs Company, were in a hand to hand battle in the rice paddy immediately northwest of Lo Giang. During the heat of the battle, CPT Brennan continued to call in massive Artillery fire on the

village. During the initial heavy contact, Alpha Company killed seventy-eight NVA soldiers and suffered 10 KHA and 22 WHA. Captain Brennan continually reported his situation to Major McDonnell and LTC Baxley. In the view of the size of the enemy force and the intense volume of enemy fire LTC Baxley ordered Captain Brennan to pull his first and second platoons back on line with his first platoon. This deployment would provide Alpha Company the time needed to reorganize and remain within the minimum safety distance for the employment of tactical air. Captain Brennan maneuvered his forces to the location of the first platoon while Major McDonnell and LTC Baxley coordinated with the Aviation Officer of the 3rd Marine Regiment. While

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the jet aircraft were being assembled plans were being assembled plans were being made for another attack on Lo Giang. LTC Baxley directed CPT Brennan to attack Lo Giang immediately subsequent to the lifting of Artillery fire and eight sorties of tactical air. Alpha Company was removing all wounded personnel back to the graveyard, a relatively secure dustoff area while action built up in the Bravo and Charlie Company locations. It is pointed out that the Battalion was still without a command and control helicopter despite the fact that three companies were now heavily engaged with an NVA Unit.

Charlie Company, having dusted off six wounded personnel and receiving only light sporadic sniper fire, renewed its eastern movement toward Lo Giang. At 081320 the Company received heavy automatic weapon fire and again maneuvered toward the enemy. At the same time Alpha Company was receiving intense mortar fire while awaiting the arrival of TAC Air. Gunships were called on station and repeatedly attacked the entire village complex of Lo Giang. Despite the heavy volume of fire of the armed helicopters and the continued artillery fire prior to the arrival of the gunships, the NVA Battalion continued to bring heavy fire on Alpha and Charlie Companies. At 081415 the jet aircraft arrived on station and dropped a tremendous volume of mixed ordnance on Lo Giang. After eight sorties the enemy continued to be an effective fighting force and the ground battle resumed. Alpha Company having located the enemy positions maneuvered once again toward Lo Giang. Again the 60th Battalion made a fantastic and fanatical open attack from the trench and tree line. This time Captain Brennan was ready. With machine guns on either flank and preplanned mortar data computed for attacking the trench and tree line, Alpha Company destroyed the enemy force in the open and the enemy body count was now 152. The 60th Battalion was still able to fight however and fighting continued until 081600 Feb 68.

Charlie Company, still maneuvering to Lo Giang, came under a tremendous mortar attack at BT 018698 and all the company officers were wounded by 081530 Feb 1968. The Company was ordered to move away from the enemy mortars to a location West of HWY #1 at BT 015695. At 081500 contact with Captain Brennan was broken and Major McDonnell was communicating with Second Lieutenant William L. Wendover, Orange California, the first platoon leader of Alpha Company. Captain Brennan was unable to make radio contact again until 081600 because he had received a severe gunshot wound and his two RTOs were critically wounded and both radios were destroyed.

Until 081430 the Battalion did not have a Command and Control helicopter. When the Command and Control helicopter arrived it was used for the next two hours for medivac and resupply. The Medivac situation was serious at 1500 hours. Marine Corps Medivac were available only for the critically wounded and Alpha Company had twenty eight wounded, Charlie Company seventeen. The Command and Control helicopter pilots WO-1 Edward A. Fitzsimmons and First Lieutenant David R. Ewing of the "Minutemen", 176th AML Company flew 21 sorties during the period 081430 Feb 1968. Without hesitation they continually flew into the battlefield and evacuated thirty-one wounded and resupplied all the companies. Without the courage and skill of Mr. Fitzsimmons and Lt Ewing it is doubtful if all the wounded would have been evacuated prior to darkness on the night of 8 Feb 1968.

With Companies A and B fighting a determined enemy West and North of Lo Giang, Bravo Company and Golf Company were moving as planned. Lt Hesser reported light sniper fire from BT 023694 at 081450 Feb 1968 and CPT Prather reported a similar incident from BT 022694. The two companies continued to move however with negative results. At 081500 Feb 1968 OPCON of the 1-6 Inf passed from the CG 1st Marine Division to the Commanding Officer Task Force Miracle. At the same time COL Graham G-3, 1st Marine Division called LTC Baxley and informed him that G 2-3 Marines was needed

to search and destroy a location center of mass BT 034687. It was reported that 1000 Viet Cong were at this location with a mission of reinforcing the 60th Battalion at Lo Giang. Golf Company was relieved OPCON to 1-6 Inf at 081510 Feb 1968 and broke contact in order to move to the east side of the Song Vinh Diem River. Prior to breaking contact however, Golf Company killed 8 Viet Cong soldiers. The reported enemy force was located on 9 Feb 1968 and Golf and Foxtrot Companies of the 2-3 Marines killed 107 Viet Cong at BT 031698.

On 081532 Feb 1968 Bravo Company reported a severe enemy mortar attack on all company positions. Directing his company to maneuver against the

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enemy with the primary mission of locating the enemy mortar platoon, CPT Prather continued his determined efforts to reach Echo 4 and relieve the pressure on Alpha Company. At 081615 Bravo Company Mortars zeroed in on the enemy mortar platoon. Moving under the friendly mortar fire, Bravo Company overran the enemy mortar platoon and killed thirty NVA soldiers at BT 023697. During their action Bravo company had 2 WHA. Alpha Company was continuing to destroy the enemy force at Lo Giang and at the same time remove and dust off all sounded personnel. The majority of the Alpha Company casualties were in the second platoon. This platoon commanded by Second Lieutenant Joseph B. Bowman attacked a heavily fortified enemy position at BT 027706. Lt Bowman and his Platoon Sergeant John R. Poso were killed and eleven other enlisted men were KHA and nineteen WHA. The wounded of the second platoon continued to engage the enemy until ordered back to the graveyard by the Company Commander. AT 081600 Captain Brennan joined his first platoon after crawling the length of the battlefield, retrieving wounded personnel and giving verbal orders to his command. Again establishing radio contact, Brennan was directed to move his elements to the graveyard as LTC Baxley made plans for another massive air and artillery attack on Lo Giang. All indications at this point of the battle indicated that the 60th Battalion was routed from Lo Giang and was retreating Southeast to the Song Vinh Diem River. Their actions enhanced LTC Baxley's plans as LTC Davis maneuvered his Marines to the vicinity of Man Quan, BT 031682. Bravo Company now receiving only light fire was directed to move to and link up with Charlie Company. This plan and the ensuing orders were discussed in detail by LTC Baxley, Major McDonnell and LTC Davis. With the enemy routed and retreating, Bravo and Alpha Companies had to maneuver away from Lo Giang to avoid being hit by the planned artillery and air. In addition, Charlie Company now had twenty-seven WHA including all officers, one KHA and two MHA. Marine Medivac and the 1-6 Inf Command and control helicopter were now evacuating the wounded from Charlie Company. Mr Cool (Captain Bradley) was the last dustoff from Charlie Company and he directed PSG Rovero to take command of the Company pending the arrival of Captain John Hurtado, the Battalion S-2. The extraction of Captain Bradley, the insertion of Captain Hurtado and temporary command and control of Charlie Company by PSG Romero had been previously directed by LTC Baxley. Captain Bradley was dusted off at 081655 and Captain Hurtado was inserted and took command of the Company at 081705 Feb 1968.

In Alpha Company's area (the graveyard BT 022713) the command and control helicopter was lifting off all wounded and bringing in supplies. CPT Brennan was the last dust off at 081705 and Lt Wendover was placed in command of the Company. Alpha Company suffered thirty-five WHA and fourteen KHA during the battle and as a result LTC Baxley removed Echo Company from the perimeter defense of LZ 410 and ordered CPT Price to move his Company to Alpha Company's location. Echo Company joined Alpha Company at 081745 and the two companies policed the battlefield and began preparations for a night defensive position. Artillery and Air were continually pounding the vicinity of Lo Giang while Alpha and Echo Companies located at BT 022712 and Bravo and Charlie Companies located at BT 014697 were reorganizing for the night. Verified reports of enemy dead were now being forwarded to the Task Force Miracle Command Post. As a result of the Lo Giang Battle on 8 Feb 1968, the Battalion killed 266 enemy soldiers. The company results are as follows: A - 207, B - 37, C - 14 and Golf Company 2-3 Marines - 8. Ninety per-cent of the bodies had complete web gear to include combat packs. Over 100 weapons were counted by Alpha Company. In this connection it should be pointed out that only 21 weapons eventually arrived at the Command Post of the 1-6 Inf due to the confusion that existed when the battlefield was being policed. Enemy equipment was evacuated to several locations (1-6 Inf CP, 2-3 Mar CP, TF Miracle CP etc.).

During the battle for Lo Giang the 1st Marine Division executed a hot extraction of the entire Echo 4 unit utilizing CH46 helicopters escorted by four gunships. The extraction was completed at approximately 081550 Feb 1968. Just prior to the extraction a fourteen man Marine force led by a Captain attempted to reach Echo 4 location. At 081610 this force informed the 2-3 Marines that they were being overrun and were not heard from again. Alpha Company found thirteen of them dead and one wounded while sweeping through Lo Giang on the afternoon of 9 Feb 1968.

The casualty figures were confirmed by all companies at 082000 Feb 1968. The casualty breakdown follows: Company A 14 KHA 35 WHA and 4 MHA, Company B 2 WHA, Company C 1 KHA 27 WHA 2 MHA.

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During the evening of 8 Feb 1968, the CO of TASK FORCE MIRACLE gave LTC Baxley an operations order for 9 Feb 1968. See Overlay #6. The Battalion order provided for the companies Alpha and Echo to make a combined search and destroy through the village of Lo Giang to the Suoi Man Quan River. Bravo Company was ordered to search and destroy to the village of Lam Lac (2) BT 025698. Charlie Company was ordered to search and destroy along a route on Bravo Company's right flank and on reaching Lam Lac (2) continue to Tung Lam (1).

At 081947 Feb 1968 Echo Company reported receiving fire from an armed helicopter and required a dust off for two enlisted men. At the same time one soldier from Alpha Company was critically wounded by an enemy sniper. An immediate investigation of the accidental shooting revealed that a fire light mission (one flare ship, two gunships) was screening the Song Cau Do river and received permission to fire on the south bank of the river from an element north of TF Miracle and 2-3 Marine boundary. In addition the aircraft were utilizing frequency 48.90 rather than the announced 40.60 Marine Corps air ground frequency. CPT Price and Major McDonnell were unable to communicate with the aircraft until 082000 when communication was finally established on the UHF air guard frequency, all three personnel were dusted off by 082010 Feb 1968. During the period 082011 Feb 1968 to 090751 Feb 1968 all elements reported negative situation reports.

At 090751 Echo and Alpha Companies were executing a combined search and destroy toward the village of Lo Giang and the forward elements of Echo Company reported fire from the enemy soldiers in Lo Giang. The point man of Echo Company killed one of them, the other disappeared in the village. While moving through the battlefield Echo Company continually reported evidence of blood trails and paths through the rice where the enemy obviously dragged their dead away during the night. Near a pagoda at BT 022704 Alpha Company found the bodies of 43 NVA soldiers with web gear and packs. These bodies were not in the main battlefield and were not previously counted. At the same location Echo elements found one AK-47, one NVA gas mask, 52 Chicom grenades, 1500 rounds of assorted ammunition and two damaged PRC-25 radios believed to be and later confirmed as belonging to Alpha Company. Alpha Company had delivered intense mortar and automatic weapons fire on the pagoda during the late afternoon of 8 Feb 1968 as the battle for Lo Giang was nearing its conclusion.

On 090930 Feb 1968 Charlie Company found three LAW, one M-60 MG, and a box of documents at BT 022688. At the same time Bravo Company found one of the missing Charlie Company personnel at BT 022692 in light shock but otherwise unhurt. A few moments later the remains of the other missing in action soldier were found at approximately the same location.

Echo and Alpha Companies continuing to search and destroy found two piles of mixed NVA and American equipment at BT 025706. The piles were approximately four feet high and twelve feet in diameter. Ninety percent of the equipment was NVA web gear with items too numerous to mention in this report. Now it was becoming obvious that the enemy had been soundly defeated as it is unlike an NVA or Viet Cong unit to leave bodies, weapons and equipment on the battlefield.

Echo Company reported to the TOC at 091025 that they found the remains of the four MHA of Alpha Company in the village of Lo Giang. At this point all Battalion MHA were found and evacuated.

At 091204 Feb 1968 a 1/4 ton truck carrying two 1-6 Inf TOC personnel was attacked by an enemy AK-47 at BT 995675. This attack proved to be a prelude to a major battle between elements of the Second of the First Infantry and an NVA company that raged for nine hours at BT 985675.

On 091210 Feb 1968, Charlie Company found the bodies of seven NVA soldiers with web gear and green uniforms. On the uniforms was a patch 4" long and 1" wide with numerals 370. It was later determined that the patches symbolized the 370th Hqs Company of the 1st NVA Regiment. At

081230 Feb 1968 Bravo Company reported finding uniformed bodies of four NVA soldiers with a green and red patch bearing the numerals 60. TF Miracle and 1st Marine Division Intelligence personnel later verified

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that the enemy force at Lo Giang was the 60th Battalion 1st NVA Regiment, 2nd NVA Division. The bodies were located at BT 027699.

The next significant activity on the ninth of February occurred at 1405 at location BT 026698. At this location Bravo Company observed, located and killed an NVA soldier wearing a green uniform with complete web gear and had on five Chicom grenades.

On 091435 Feb 1968, Echo Company located one M-1 rifle, two M-1 carbines, one RPG MG, fifty Chicom grenades, several sets of NVA web gear and one NVA gas mask at BT 025705.

Alpha and Echo Companies were ordered to discontinue the search of Lo Giang and proceed to the island formed by the tributaries of the Song Cau Do and Song Vinh Diem, center of mass BT 035725. This location was selected based on intelligence sources that indicated enemy activity on the island. Alpha and Echo established night defensive positions by 091830 and submitted ambush and patrol plans to the Battalion TOC.

Bravo and Charlie Companies discontinued their search and destroy missions at 091730 and were ordered to proceed to coordinate BT 025715 and establish night defensive positions. LTC Baxley ordered Captains Prather and Hurtado to be prepared to react to an attack on Alpha and Echo Companies, maintain continual surveillance of the Lo Giang Battlefield since enemy personnel and discarded equipment remained in the area and report enemy rocket or mortar flashes. An extensive H and I program was scheduled for the night.

Negative situation reports were submitted during the remainder of the evening. During the day the 198th Inf Brigade (Light) forwarded forty four replacements (more were assigned later) to the Battalion. Since the replacements arrived late in the afternoon and in view of the shortage of personnel to man the perimeter, they were organized into a provisional force and assigned to the perimeter defense command. The defense of Landing Zone 410 was of utmost importance on the night of 9 Feb 1968. The 2-1 Infantry continued to be heavily engaged with an NVA force within 600 meters of Landing Zone 410. At 092000 the S-3 of TF Miracle called Major McDonnell and requested a twenty man security force to assist with a night vehicular supply of ammunition for the 2-1 Infantry. This operation confined to Highway One continued for the duration of the night and the security force returned to the perimeter without incident at 100530 Feb 1968. This force made repeated trips from the ASP to the scene of bitter fighting without sustaining a casualty.

Task Force Miracle ordered the 1-6 Infantry to conduct company sized search and destroy missions on 10 Feb 1968. At this point in the operation it was believed that the enemy force was defeated in detail and remnants of the 60th Battalion were located throughout the AO in squad or fire team sized units attempting to escape and evade.

LTC Baxley's order (see Overlay #8) directed Alpha and Echo Companies to sweep the Island BT 035725. The Bravo and Charlie Company Commanders were ordered to search and destroy, mutually supporting each other to the Song Bau Xau BT 020676. This maneuver was deemed necessary as the enemy force engaged by the 2-1 Infantry on 9 Feb 1968 was believed to be withdrawing to the Northeast or in the direction of the Bravo and Charlie night defensive positions. On arriving at the river the two Companies were assigned objectives for an attack on two locations along the Southern AO boundary. See Overlay #8. The Southern most portion of the 1-6 Inf AO had not been previously searched and it was believed that the villages of Qua Giang #1 and Bo Mung #1 were Viet Cong havens.

At 100700 the 1-6 TOC was informed that the 2-3 Marines planned to execute a gas attack in a Viet Cong unit located at BT 033687. The 1-6 maneuver Companies were alerted and no difficulties were anticipated since all personnel were carrying protective masks.

At 100710 all maneuver Companies commenced to search and destroy as ordered. Charlie Company found eight NVA bodies complete with webb gear and one AK47 on 100828 Feb 1968 at location BT 030706. Two damaged B40 rockets found at the same location were destroyed in place. CPT Hurtado

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also reported that one of the bodies was suspected to be of Chinese Extraction. An MI and Medical Team from TF Miracle examined the body and concluded that it was not of Vietnamese origin and most probably the remains were NOUNG.

At 100852 the TF S-2 indicated that an enemy force was located at Thon Khue village BT 038716. Captain Price the Echo Company Commander reported suspected enemy fire from the same location at 100900 Feb 1968. He believed that the enemy was firing at CH46 aircraft executing resupply flights to LZ 410. Echo and Alpha Companies were ordered to move to the village and the Battery Commander of Delta, First of the 14th Artillery was ordered to lay his Howitzers on Thon Khue. Marine gunships were standing on strip alert at the Danang Airfield. Echo and Alpha Companies crossed the Xom Hao An Bridge BT 039717 and closed the outskirts of the village and found two LAW, one of them expended, at BT 035716. Concluding the operation at Thon Khue with negative contact Echo and Alpha Companies were directed to search and clear west to Highway #1. At 101155 Feb 1968 Alpha Company reported that the people of Xom Hoa An BT 032718 were moving rapidly out of the village. Since a similar situation existed prior to the Battle for Lo Giang, LTC Baxley directed Alpha Company to return to the island, crossing the Xom Hoa An Bridge, and attack the village. Echo Company was ordered to deploy on the south side of the Song Cau Do River from BT 032716 to BT 032715 and support Alpha Company's attack by fire. Delta Battery 1-14 shifted the Battery direction of fire to Xom Hoa An and Marine Gunships were again on alert. Immediate air strikes were planned in the event of "Another Lo Giang." Alpha Company moved into the village and found an RF Platoon that had temporarily stopped in the village for a noon meal. The Company approached the village utilizing reconnaissance fire from Delta Battery. An investigation of this incident revealed that the people of Xom Hoa An anticipated another battle due to the presence of American Troops in the area. Although an interpreter interrogated many of the villagers they could not or would not reveal any information concerning Viet Cong locations or activities. Echo and Alpha Companies did not have any further significant enemy activity during the rest of the day. Echo Company closed a night location at BT 025717 on 101745 Feb 1968 and Alpha Company reported a night location at BT 035715 on 101750 Feb 1968. These night locations prevented enemy units or individual personnel from attempting to exfiltrate from the Lo Giang vicinity across the bridges at BT 026719 and BT 039717.

Bravo and Charlie Companies continuing their missions had negative contact. Charlie Company found nine additional bodies at BT 026073. The bodies were in brown uniforms with webb gear containing several magazines of AK47 ammunition.

Bravo Company closed BT 015622 on 101755 and established a night defensive position as ordered. Charlie Company, after searching objective two, returned to the Mieu Dong #1 Bridge site at BT 016675. LTC Baxley directed CPT Hurtado to deploy his Company around the bridge site and assist the PF Platoon, regularly assigned as the bridge defense force.

With little or no contact in the AO during the entire day, it was concluded that the NVA elements had enough of the Lo Giang area. LTC Baxley now anticipating the return of local force Viet Cong elements, ordered a minimum of four ambushes and one rat patrol per company.

Results for 10 Feb 1968: 1 AK47, nine magazines, AK47 ammunition, 2 B-40 rockets, 15 sets of webb gear. Friendly losses: none.

On the evening of 10 Feb 1968 it was obvious that the TF Miracle TAOR was void of NVA or Main Force Viet Cong elements. With the enemy soundly defeated it was anticipated that local force Viet Cong units would return

to the area and resume terrorist activities. The TF Commander directed that extensive saturation patrolling and search and clear operations be conducted throughout the TAOR. LTC Baxley ordered Alpha Company to search and clear to the vicinity of Lo Giang and execute a detailed search of the area. Bravo Company, located South of Qua Giang (1) was ordered to conduct saturation patrols in grid square BT0166. Charlie Company was ordered to search and clear from Mieu Dong Bridge BT 016675 to the vicinity of Tien Tac (1) and search the village. Echo Company was directed to search and clear from the Company's night defensive position into the village of Phong

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Te (2). All maneuver elements commenced operations on 110710 Feb 1968.

Echo Company found eight Chicom grenades at BT 017707 and destroyed them in place. Charlie Company reported location two Chicom grenades at BT 022683 on 110830 Feb 1968.

At 111000 Feb 1968 Charlie Company found prepared mortar positions and four 82mm mortar rounds in the village of Co Man BT 025687. It is believed that some of the mortar fire delivered on Alpha and Charlie Companies during the Battle for Lo Giang originated from Co Man. The 82mm mortar rounds were destroyed in place. Approximately 100 meters NE of the mortar positions, soldiers from Charlie Company located and destroyed three anti-personnel mines made with beer cans packed with C-4. Thirty minutes later at BT 026688 Charlie Company personnel located a 4' x 4' box of green uniforms, two aluminum canteens, a brief case full of documents, and a trench system with fire lanes and fighting positions.

Echo Company elements found two RPG MG, eight M-79 rds, two hand flares, twenty four Chicom grenades, two NVA pistol belts, two NVA canteens, 1 NVA gas mask within a 100 meter radius of BT 022709. In addition several items of webb gear, too numerous to list, were found at the same location.

At BT025694 Charlie Company personnel located twenty nine Chicom grenades, eight RPG rockets with boosters, four AK47 magazines, one AK47 rifle, one BAR magazine, and one Winchester 12 gauge shotgun.

Alpha Company searching the Eastern side of the village of Lo Giang located a tremendous amount of ammunition at BT 027704 on 111145 Feb 1968. The ammunition included: 240 60mm mortar rounds, 48 M-26 fragmentation grenades, 576 12 gauge shot gun shells, 50 claymore mines, 3,500 cal 45 pistol rounds, 847 30 cal rds, 2,000 rounds AK47 and 200 Chicom grenades. In the same vicinity, the locations of the enemy mortar platoons that supported the 60th Battalion during the Battle for Lo Giang were discovered. The imprints of the base plates were easily identified as were ammunition pits. For the remainder of the day Alpha Company continued to find enemy equipment in the Lo Giang area. All significant captured equipment is listed in paragraph eight above.

Bravo Company conducted squad sized saturation patrolling as ordered with negative contact, negative findings. The Company closed the pre-planned night defensive position at BT 013671 on 111745 Feb 1968, deployed four squad sized ambushes and one "rat" patrol. Echo Company continued to search and clear without incident and closed to a night location at BT 001704 on 111810 Feb 1968.

Except for the findings mentioned above the search and clear operation of Charlie Company concluded on 111800 Feb 1968 at BT 027693 with further results.

Alpha Company after being provided a Marine Corps Force to secure the ammunition found in Lo Giang continued to search and clear to coordinate BT 022712. The Company established a night defensive position on 111745 Feb 1968 at this location and deployed four ambush patrols and on "rat" patrol.

On the evening of 11 Feb 1968 LTC Baxley was given a warning order to be prepared to extract all maneuver elements from the area of operations for further deployment to LZ Baldy under the OPCON of the 3rd Brigade 4th Infantry Division Task Force. All companies were alerted and air-movement plans were made for a heliborne movement to LZ Baldy. This warning order terminated the operation as it was executed as an operations order on 12 February 1968. The 1st Battalion of the Sixth United States Infantry had completed its assigned mission and the NVA threat to the city of Danang had ended.

12. A. Enemy Equipment and Personnel Losses:

- (1) Personnel - 266 KIA
- (2) Weapons actually evacuated to 1-6 CP (numerous weapons were evacuated to TF Miracle CP and 3rd Marine Regiment CP)

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- (a) AK47 - 13
- (b) SKS rifle - 4
- (c) RPG - 6
- (d) 60mm - 2
- (e) 82mm - 2
- (f) RPD MG - 6
- (g) M-60 MG - 3
- (h) M-1 carbine - 2
- (i) M-1 rifle - 1
- (j) Shotgun - 1
- (3) Equipment:
 - (a) Uniforms - 268
 - (b) Hammocks - 13
 - (c) Protective Masks - 75
 - (d) Webb Gear - 203 sets assorted gear (canteens, packs, etc.)
 - (e) Helmets (PYTH type) - 34
 - (f) Uniforms separate from bodies - 16
 - (g) Pistol Belts - 201
 - (h) Numerous documents and personal wallets
 - (i) 5 tons of Rice
- (4) Ammunition:
 - (a) 150,000 rounds cal 7.62
 - (b) 847 rounds cal 30
 - (c) 3,900 rounds cal 45
 - (d) 1,000 Chicom Grenades
 - (e) 4 rounds of 82mm mortar
 - (f) 48 M-26 grenades
 - (g) 576 rounds 12 ga shotgun
 - (h) 4,500 rounds AK47
 - (i) 240 rounds 60mm mortar
 - (j) 50 claymore mines
 - (k) 3 Bangalor Torpedoes
 - (l) 2 B-40 rockets

B. Friendly Personnel and Equipment Losses:

- (1) Personnel - 22 KHA, 68 WHA
- (2) Equipment:
 - (a) Six complete sets of webb gear
 - (b) Fifteen ruck sacks
 - (c) 2 PRC 25 radios (destroyed in combat)
- (3) Weapons
 - (1) 1 LAW
 - (2) 1 cal 45 pistol
 - (3) 3 M-79 grenade launchers
 - (4) 7 M-16 rifles

13. Administrative Matters

a. Supply: The battalion, anticipating deployment to Danang had pre-packed a three day supply of Class I and V. The initial supply of Class V was depleted by 081500 Feb 1968 as a result of the intense fighting at Lo Giang. The First Marine Division continually airlifted all classes of supply from Danang to LZ 410. The service platoon of the 1-6 Infantry and the support personnel of the 2-3 Marines served together during the duration of the operation and achieved outstanding results. All supplies were air lifted to the 1-6 Infantry units. The troops carried two times the normal basic load and in three platoons the soldiers were carrying four basic loads. Normal TOE weapons were employed with special emphasis on the use of CS. Although gas was not employed, all personnel were equipped with protective masks and CS grenades. The Battalion, cognizant of the

NVA use of CS, was prepared to withstand a gas attack or use CS as an offensive weapon if necessary.

b. Maintenance: No significant maintenance problems were encountered since the Battalion deployed to LZ 410 with combat elements only. Normal first echelon maintenance of weapons and equipment was accomplished on the battlefield as required.

c. Casualties: The unit Medics displayed outstanding courage and proficiency during the entire battle. Casualties were immediately treated in the battlefield and evacuated by Marine and Army Helicopters

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to field hospitals in the vicinity of Danang. The evacuation procedures were initially delayed due to a shortage of aircraft, however, all casualties were evacuated as rapidly as possible and the Medivac portion of the operation was excellent.

d. Transportation: At the CP area sufficient transportation for supply and administration was not available. This situation was due to the fact that except for three 1/4 ton radio jeeps, all organic transportation remained at the rear support base. Marine Corps vehicles assisted with alleviating this problem. Tactical transportation was provided by Marine and Army air.

e. Communications: Some problems were noted with radio communications most notable, was the override of the Marine Corps and 1-6 Infantry frequencies. During the battle 2-3 Marines provided communications assistance and restricted radio traffic on Marine frequencies to a minimum. The use of the PRC-25 amplifiers would have assisted the operation. These devices have not been received by the battalion although 6 of them are authorized by TOE. It is believed that additional radio equipment is needed for a light Infantry battalion in Viet Nam. The TOE does not provide sufficient equipment to command maneuver elements and two fire bases simultaneously.

14. Special Equipment Techniques: Although flak jackets are not considered special equipment their significance during the battle for Lo Giang should be included under this paragraph. Prior to deploying to Danang LTC Baxley ordered all personnel to wear flak jackets during the operation. On analysis of fifty three WHA revealed the following data:

<u>Location of Wounds</u>	<u>Number of Personnel</u>
Head	5
Neck	1
Arms	20
Torso waist up	4
Torso waist down	13
Legs	<u>10</u>
	53

Only 4% of the wounds were in the torso waist up category. It is believed that the wearing of flak jackets precluded many serious injuries or deaths. In addition to the above statistics, numerous personnel reported damage to their flak jackets from enemy rockets and mortars without sustaining injury.

15. Commanders Analysis: The entire operation was characterized by outstanding coordination and cooperation between maneuver elements from two different US Army Infantry Brigades and two separate branches of the service. The urgency of the operation precluded detailed planning and staff coordination between the 1st Marine Division and the 1-6 Infantry and the Task Force Miracle Staff and the 1-6 Infantry Staff. The cooperation on the part of all commanders and staffs alleviated many problems that would normally be peculiar to this type of operation. The necessity of effecting maximum liaison and understanding was apparent on receipt of the initial order from Major General Koster. The variations of standing operating procedures among the maneuver Battalions and Controlling Headquarters could have presented many problems. The 1-6 Inf staff maintained continual liaison with the units indicated above and made maximum effort to coordinate with the supporting units. The guidance and orders received from the Commanders and Staffs of the First Marine Division and Task Force Miracle were outstanding. Non combatants presented few problems during the operation. As noted

in paragraph 11 the preponderance of the civilian populace vacated in the area prior to the Battle. Normal civilian traffic continued on HWY #1, however, and several civilians actually stopped on the road and observed the fighting. Innocent civilians found wounded, and there were only a few, received immediate treatment from company medics and were evacuated by helicopter as soon as possible. During the two days subsequent to the Battle for Lo Giang all companies provided medical services in the many villages that were searched.

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16. Recommendations:

a. Battalions placed under the OPCON of another service should immediately provide for a temporary augmentation in the number of command and control staff personnel. 1-6 Infantry used twice the number of authorized radio/telephone operators, liaison officers and operations sergeants. These additional staff personnel were a necessity due to the number of radio nets monitored, the physical liaison required and the myriad of new SOPs that had to be initiated.

b. The direct support artillery battery should be airlifted with the supported Infantry Battalion during operations of this nature.

c. An information program should be established in I Corps to familiarize Marine and Army Field Commanders and Staffs on the command, control, fire support, air support and logistical support policies and procedures employed by each of the respective services.

13 Incl WILLIAM J. BAXLEY JR.
Operations Overlays 1-12 LTC, Infantry
Map of AO Commanding

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One map of the area in which the battle was fought (south of Danang) was provided. No positions are marked on the map, but you can locate the hamlets mentioned in the report. 12 overlay copies accompanied the documentation.

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CONFIDENTIAL
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 198TH INFANTRY BRIGADE (LT)
APO San Francisco 96219

AVDF-BCC

12 March 1968

SUBJECT: Combat Action Report (Battle for Lo Giang)

TO: SEE DISTRIBUTION

The following addendum is comments on Psychological Operations and will become part of paragraph 15 "Commanders' Analysis" of the Combat After Action Report (Battle for Lo Giang), dated 23 February 1968.

"a. It is apparent that psychological operations were neither considered nor used in the action described in this report. Therefore the purpose of these comments will be to suggest a manner in which psychological operations could have been employed.

b. The 1-6 Infantry Battalion does not possess specialized PSYOP capabilities. However, a supporting loudspeaker team could have been employed when it became apparent that a considerable enemy force was located at LO GIANG.

c. Paragraph 8 of the report indicates that main force units comprised in large part of NVA personnel were known to be present. Although no other intelligence of especial PSYOP significance is given, several themes could have been effectively employed against these groups. A few themes are listed below:

(1) Soldiers of NVA, this is a war for Communism fostered by your leaders, it is not your war.

(2) The South Vietnamese want peace; they do not welcome you here.

(3) You cannot win against all the arms of the GVN and its allies. You can only die in an unmarked grave.

(4) If your leaders order you to attack, run (in a prescribed direction, perhaps to one side), throw away your arms, and come over to the allies where you will be treated fairly and well.

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NND 873541

d. The loudspeaker team could also have been used to give directions to civil populace during the follow-up search operations."

(Signed)
KENNETH A PAYANT
CPT, AGC
Asst Adjutant

Distribution: B Plus
CG, Americal 5 copies
198th S-3 10 copies

CONFIDENTIAL
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 198TH INFANTRY BRIGADE (LT)
APO San Francisco 96219

AVDF_BCC

20 March 1968

SUBJECT: Deletion of Addendum - Psyops Comments from Combat Action
Report "Battle for Lo Giang".

SEE DISTRIBUTION.

1. The Psyops addendum dated 12 March 1968, to the commander's analysis, paragraph 15, of Combat Action Report "Battle for Lo Giang" dated 23 February 1968, is rescinded.

2. The Psyops Addendum will be removed from the Combat Action Report "Battle for Lo Giang" and destroyed in accordance with AR 380-5.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

(SIGNED BY H? PEARCE FOR)
KENNETH A. PAYANT
CPT, AGC
Asst Adjutant

DISTRIBUTION:

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CG AMERICAL DIV - 5 cy

S3 198 LIB - 10 cy

Aero Scouts - Usually refers to B/123rd Avn Bn infantry platoon also known as "animals" of the Warlords. F/8th Cav of 123rd Avn Bn technically had aero scouts but they usually were referenced as an element of "Blue Ghosts".

AK-47 - Automatic rifle used by VC/NVA

AK-50 - NVA rifle

AO - Area of Operations

AWF - Automatic Weapons Fire.

Blue Ghost - F/8th Cav (Air Cav)

CAP - Combined Action Platoons (Marine program: Small groups of U.S. Marines were assigned to live in Vietnamese hamlets. They trained advised and fought with Vietnamese Popular Force soldiers in small hamlets.)

Cheiu Hoi - Open Arms program accepted enemy back to the government of South Vietnam's side.

CIDG - Montagnard self defense forces lead by allied advisors.

CSW - Crew Served Weapon (weapon requiring more than one operator.)

IW - Individual Weapon.

LF - Local Force VC

MF - Main Force VC

Medevac - helicopter ambulance for wounded (A.K.A Dustoff)

Muskets - 176th AHC gunships

Minutemen - 176th AHC slicks

M-79 - American Grenade launcher (40mm)

KBA - Killed by artillery

KHA - Killed hostile action

KIA - Killed in Action

WHA - Wounded hostile action ((E) required evacuation (M) minor wounds)

WIA - Wounded in Action

MHA - Missing hostile action.

LRRP - Long Range Recon Patrol

CIA - Captured in Action

Chicom - Chinese Communist made equipment.

RPG - Rocket propelled grenade launcher - anti-tank weapon

RPD MG - Type of 7.62mm machinegun used by VC/NVA

SAF - Small Arms Fire

SKS - Rifle used by VC/NVA

TAOR - Tactical Area of Responsibility

USEF - Unknown Size Enemy Force

USMC - United States Marine Corps

Date: Sun, 8 Apr 2001 13:57:23 -0700
Subject: Footnote to Lo Giang: John Hart
Message-ID: <20010408.135740.-1848279.0.ajay2@juno.com>

Les & Jay,

Thanks for transcribing and distributing this report. I was a rookie rifleman with about one month in B 1/6 198th when we went on Lo Giang. (No way to break in a FNG...) I was the first replacement in B Co., coming in for a guy named Mazuraki(sp?) who had been hit and sent to Japan.

There was significant contribution by the Marine Arty is mentioned in the report.

Before our Arty arrived up there and was operational, we got support from some element of the 1st Marine Div. Arty. On the first fire mission they pummelled a small outpost position that was supposed to pin us down so the NVA mortars could work us over.

In our company, we highly valued the Air & Arty support we got, and called back every credit, even if it was just supression of fire or a secondary explosion with no body count.

Someone, I think it was Cpt. Dan Prather, radioed the Marine Arty guys and credited them with several kills. They seemed somewhat astounded and very grateful that we would credit them with the kills instead of claiming them for ourselves. The enthusiasm in the Arty guy's voice was evident even over the PRC-25. The rest of the time they fired for us they were eager to lay on as many rounds as we wanted. They only supported us for a short period of time in the early part of the operation, but they really did kick some ass.

Some time later, our battalion was awarded the Valorous Unit Citation for Lo Giang.

Last year at Kokomo, I ran into a 3rd squad '60 gunner named Mike Koop, the only guy from my platoon I have seen since 1969. We went to D.C. for Veteran's Day. It was the first time he or I had been to The Wall. We left Valorous Unit Citation Badges under the names of Fidele Bastarche and Terry Oneil, two of our buddies who had been at Lo Giang, but died in Dragon Valley before the award was announced.

John Hart

According to the "Vietnam Battle Chronology" book written by David Sigler the 1/6th Inf. Bn. participated in the following named operations:

22OCT67 - Arrival in Vietnam

Operation Wheeler Wallowa
Operation Muscatine
Operation Miracle
Operation Burlington Trail
Operation Geneva Park
Operation Nantucket Beach

21NOV - Departs Vietnam

Some combat after action reports and named operation reports exist for these operations in the Americal Division historical data base.

1/6th Inf. Bn. also was used in some other operations that were not reported in the Sigler book.

The 1/6th Inf. Bn. saved DaNang a heavy assault from NVA soldiers by blocking them from passing a bridge near Lio Giang on into Da Nang. After this action as part of TF Miracle the Americal Division became known as the Miracle Division.

**SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, Task Division,
Force OREGON (Americal Division) Period Ending 31 July 1967 (U)**

.....

m. (C) From 8 to 10 June a liaison team from the newly organized 198th Inf Bde, Fort Hood, Texas, visited the staff and brigades of Task Force Oregon. Personnel comprising the team included COL James R. Waldie, LTC Frank P. Clarke, MAJ Walter Sanders and MAJ Billie T. White.

**SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, Americal
Division, Period Ending 31 October 1967 (U)**

AVDF-CG 26 November 1967

**SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 October 1967.
(RCS-CSFOR-65) (U)**

.....
5. (C) Arrival of the 198th Light Infantry Brigade. The main body of the 198th Light Infantry Brigade arrived in Chu Lai, RVN, on 22 October 1967. An in-country training program will be conducted at Duc Pho until 15 November 1967. The purpose of the program is to bring the 198th Light Infantry Brigade to maximum combat readiness in a minimum amount of time.

AVDF-CG 26 November 1967

**SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 October 1967.
(RCS-CSFOR-65) (U)**

v. (U) 23 Oct 67, 198th Light Infantry Brigade debarks
LST's at CHU LAI.

AVDF-CG 26 November 1967

**SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 October 1967.
(RCS-CSFOR-65) (U)**

8. (C) 198th LT INF BDE

HHC, 198th Lt Inf Bde

1st Bn, 6th Inf

1st Bn, 46th Inf

1st Bn, 52d Inf

1st Bn, 14th Arty

55th Engr Co

9th Spt Bn

265th MP Plt

49th Sig Plt

47th Mil Hist Det

635th MI Det

610th RRU

H Trp, 17th Cav

AVDF-CG 8 February 1968
SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 January 1968
(RCS-CSFOR-65) (U)
D. (C) Plans, Operations, and Training

1. G3 Section

a. General: AMERICAL DIVISION units conducted continuous offensive operations in assigned AO during the reporting period. Contact varied from light to heavy. The Americal Division continued Operations WHEELER/WALLOWA and initiated Operation MUSCATINE. Operations WHEELER and WALLOWA were combined on 11 November.

b. Organization. All units of the AMERICAL Division were either activated, assigned or received during the reporting period except the Division HHC which had been previously activated and organized. The Division troop list, as of 31 Jan 68, is attached as inclosure 1. the following organization actions were completed.

(1) USARV General Order 5712, 5 Nov 67, assigned the 196th and 198th Lt Inf Bdes to the Division, effective 26 Oct 1967.

.....

AVDF-CG 8 February 1968
SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 January 1968
(RCS-CSFOR-65) (U)

c. Disposition and movement of units during the period.

(1) At the beginning of the reporting period, units were conducting combat operations as follows:

.....

(c) 198th Lt Inf Bde: In-country training at Carenten, BS843371, in Duc Pho AO.

AVDF-CG

8 February 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 January 1968
(RCS-CSFOR-65) (U)

(2) AMERICAL Division initiated Operation MUSCATINE on 20 December 1967. For this operation the division assumed responsibility for combat operations in the 2d ROK Marine Brigade AO. The relief of the ROK Brigade permitted the ROK's to move north in support of the overall III MAF plan to move additional forces to meet the threat in the north. The relief of the 2d ROK Marine AO took place over a 33 day period and was completed on 22 January 1968. The **198th Lt Inf Bde** initially was assigned responsibility for Operation MUSCATINE; however the 3d Bde, 4th Infantry Division assumed responsibility for Operation Muscatine on 25 January 1968 and continued the operation through the end of the reporting period. Units operation in the MUSCATINE AO experienced difficulty with enemy mines and booby traps, and continually suffered casualties as a result. The MUSCATINE AO experienced light-to-moderate contact the majority of the time; however, several heavy contacts were reported during the period of 16-20 January 1968. Results for Operation MUSCATINE through the end of the reporting period are as follows:

<u>FRIENDLY</u>	<u>ENEMY</u>
29 KHA	447 VC KIA
119 WHA (EVAC)	7 NVA KIA
15 WHA (M)	101 IWC
	2 CSWC

AVDF-CG

7 May 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1968.
(RCS-CSFOR-65) (RI) (U).

C. Intelligence and Counterintelligence

1. (C) Quang Tin and Quang Nam

.....
d. On 8 Feb 68, the **1-6 Inf Bn (198th LIB)** and the 2-1 Inf Bn (196th LIB) were formed into "Task Force Miracle" and deployed to assist the 1st Marine Division in the defense of DaNang. The task force was airlifted within 2-3 KMs of DaNang (BT0067 - BT 0270) and immediately came in heavy contact with the 1st MF Regt, 2nd NVA Div and the 31st NVA Regt, 341st NVA Div. Moderate to heavy contact continued through 11 Feb 68 resulting in 308 EN KIA by Americal forces, 411 EN KIA by 1st Mar Div Forces, 31 C/S and 63 Ind weapons captured.

AVDF-CG

7 May 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1968.
(RCS-CSFOR-65) (RI) (U).

.....
q. On 9 APR 68, elements of the **1-6 Inf (198th LIB)** contacted an enemy force vic BT 2031 resulting in 12 VC KIA, 20 C/S and 6 Ind weapons captured and over 20,000 rds of ammunition captured or destroyed.

AVDF-CG

7 May 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1968.
(RCS-CSFOR-65) (RI) (U).

d. Disposition and movement of units during the period.

(1) At the beginning of the reporting period units were conducting combat operations as follows:

(a) 3d Bde, 4th Inf Div with 1-14th Inf, 1-35th Inf, and 2-35th Inf: Northern portion of Wheeler/Wallowa AO.

(b) 1st Sqdn, 1st Cav: Eastern portion Wheeler/Wallowa AO.

(c) 196th Inf Bde (Lt) SEP) with 2-1st Inf, 4-31st Inf, and 3-21st Inf: Southern portion of Wheeler/Wallowa AO.

(d) 198th Inf Bde (Lt) (SEP) with **1-6th**, 1-46th Inf, and 1-52d Inf: Chu Lai TAOR and a small portion of NE Muscatine AO.

(e) 11th Inf Bde (Lt) (SEP) with 3-1st Inf, 4-3d Inf, and 1-20th Inf: Duc Pho AO and Muscatine AO.

(2) Major movement of units during the period was as follows:

(a) On 3 February 1968, 4-31st Inf was airmoved from 196th Inf Bde AO to 3-4th Inf Bde, at LZ Baldy. OPCON of 4-31st Inf passed to 3-4th Inf Bde at 031100. 3d Bde, 4th Inf Div moved north into the 1st Mar Div and 2d ROK Bde area with the 1-14th Inf and 1-35th Inf to put pressure on elements of the 2d NVA Division.

(b) On 6 Feb 68, Americal Division was tasked by III MAF to provide a two battalion TF to become OPCON to 1st MAR Div to conduct operations in Da Nang area. **1-6th Inf** from the 198th Inf Bde and 2-1st Inf from the 196th Inf Bde under control of TF Miracle (Provisional TF from 196th headquarters personnel) moved north vic of Da Nang. The force remained OPCON to the 1st Marine Div during the period 7-12 Feb 68. Two battalions returned on 12 Feb 68, with **both units** initially being placed OPCON to 3d Bde, 4th Inf Div.

(c) During the period 12-14 Feb, there was a realignment of forces in the Wheeler/Wallowa AO. The 3d Bde, 4th Inf Division shifted emphasis of combat operations to the west conducting operations with the 4-31st Inf, 1-14th Inf, 1-35th Inf, and **1-6th Inf**. The 196th Inf Bde also shifted forces and concentrated operations in the western portion of the AO conducting operations with the 2-35th Inf, 2-1st Inf, and 3-21st Inf.

(d) On the 15th of February elements of the 3d Bde 82d ABN began to arrive in Chu Lai for a period of combat orientation training prior to a move north to the Hue, Phu Bai area. The brigade remained in the Americal AO until March and cleared the AO on 6 March 1968.

(e) On 17 Feb 68 the 1-35th Inf of the 3d Bde, 4th Inf Div prepared to move south from Americal AO. 1-35th Inf cleared Americal AO on 18 February 1968 p[assign OPCON to 2d Bde, 1st Cav Div (AM) in II CTZ.

(f) On 25 February 1968, the 3d Bde, 4th Inf Div with the 1-14th Inf, prepared to move south to the 2d Bde, 1st Cav Div (AM). On 27 Feb 68, the 3d Bde, 4th Inf Div's AO in Wheeler/Wallowa passed to the 196th Inf Bde and the 4-31st Inf and **1-6th Inf** passed OPCON to 196th Inf Bde. On 29 Feb 68, the 3d Bde, 4th Inf Div with the 1-14th Inf cleared the Americal AO to the II CTZ.

AVDF-CG

7 May 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1968.

(RCS-CSFOR-65) (RI) (U).

o. On 8 April 68, two major named operations were initiated, Operation Burlington Trail and Operation Norfolk Victory. **1-6th Inf** was airmoved from LZ Baldy (BT133453) to vic Tam Ky coming under control of the 198th Inf Bde. The 1-52d Inf was airmoved from the Chu Lai TAOR to LZ Baldy coming under control of the 196th Inf Bde. The 1-20th Inf combat assaulted into area NW of Song Ve Valley, west of Quang Ngai City initiating Operation Norfolk Victory.

.....

(s) On 20 April 68, the 198th Inf Bde assumed control of Operation Wheeler/Wallowa from the 196th Inf Bde, conducting operations in the area with the 1-52d Inf (-), 1-20th Inf, and **1-6th Inf**. TF Roach, a provisional headquarters consisting of assets from the 198th Inf Bde, assumed control of the Chu Lai TAOR. The 5-46th Inf and 1-46th Inf were placed under its control.

AVDF-CG

7 May 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1968.

(RCS-CSFOR-65) (RI) (U).

(3) Operation Burlington Trail began at 0815H April 1968. It is an operation to open the road from Tam Ky to Tien Phouc, neutralize base area 117, locate and destroy NVA/VC forces in the area, and extend GVN control in the area. The operation is being conducted in conjunction with the 6th ARVN REGT of the 2d ARVN Division, elements of the CIDG forces from Tien Phouc Special Forces Camp and the 3d Trp of the 4th ARVN Cav Sqdn. The 1st Sqdn, 1st Cav, **1-6th Inf (-)** and elements of the 1-46th Inf are the Americal forces participating. The road was opened to 2 1/2 ton vehicle traffic going from Tam Ky to Tien Phouc. On 18 April 1968 the road was officially opened when a 2d ARVN Div, 50 vehicle convoy, moved from Tam Ky to Tien Phouc and returned, closing at 1810H. Ground action has been light to moderate in the operation. On 19 April 1968 at 1610H vic of BT209140, B-1-1 Cav, F Trp-8th Cav, and C-1-6th Inf engaged an estimated VC platoon. Results of the engagement were 25 VC KIA (C), and 5 IWC. There has been frequent mortaring of friendly units in night defensive positions. Results of Operation Burlington Trail during the reporting period were:

FRND
15 KHA
86 WHA(E)
38 WHA(M)

ENEMY
226 VC KIA(C)
6 NVA KIA(C)
61 IWC
26 CSWC

AVDF-GC

7 August 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1968
(RCS-CSFOR-65) (RI) (U)

.....

(5) On 8 May, elements of **1-6 Inf** made contact with an unk size enemy unit in the vic of NUI HOAC Ridge (BT 056 226). Contacts with 3d NVA Regt continued in this area until 26 May, with elements of 1/1 Cav also in contact with the 3d Regt in the vic of BT 787 300. The results of these contacts were 365 NVA KIA, 67 IWC, and 21 CSWC.

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(10) On 27 May, Hau Duc SF/CIDG FOB received a heavy mortar attack. 200 rds of mortar fire and SA/AW fire were received throughout the day. It is believed that this attack was conducted by the 70 MF Bn to cover the movement of the 1 MF Regt, 2 NVA Div Base Area 117. Documents captured on 30 May by **1-6 Inf** vic BT 244 122, indicated that the 1 MF Regt, 2 NVA Div had moved into Base Area 117. Scattered contact continued in this area until approx 9 Jun when eight B-52 strikes were put into the area. As a result of operations in Base Area 117, the 1 MF Regt moved to the south and west.

(11) On 31 May, Quang Tin (P) HQ in Tam Ky received six 122mm rockets with no casualties. Elements of **1-6 Inf** Vic BT 225 085? captured a PW from the 74 Bn, who confirmed reports that the 74 MF Bn had received 250 NVA soldiers after the TET Offensive.

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(26) On 12 Jul, **A/1-6 Inf** vic BS 337 148 and BS 347 and 147 spotted a VC Co and platoon. At BS 555 815, a gunship and a FAC observed approx 100 people who broke up and moved SE when they observed the A/C. At BS 472 475, R/1-20 Inf observed 67 VC moving SE in groups of 2-4 carrying heavy packs and four hvy wpns.

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7 August 1968

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(7) USARV General Order 3602, 26 July 68, assigned the 1st Battalion 82d Artillery.

(8) USARPAC General Order 278, 29 May 68, reorganized the 3d Military History Detachment under MTOE 20-017E PAC 1/68 effective 16 June 1968.

(9) USARPAC General Order 292, 14 June 68, amended USARPAC GO 300, 2 Dec 67, as reads HQ an MAIN SPT CO, 723d MAINT BN to read HQ CO A, 723 MAINT BN.

(10) USARPAC General Order 303, 17 June 68, reorganized the 156th Signal Platoon under MTOE 11-38E PAC 1/68 effective 25 June 68.

(11) USARPAC General Order 311, 20 June 68, reorganized the 3d Bn, 18th Arty under MTOE's 6-436G; 6-437G; 6-439G; PAC 1/68 effective 1 July 68.

c. Disposition and movement of units during the period.

(1) At the beginning of the reporting period units were conducting combat operations as follows:

(a) 196th Inf BDE(lt) with 2-1st Inf, 4-31st Inf and 3-21st Inf: OPCON to Provisional Corps Vietnam conducted operations in the vicinity of Hue-Phu Bai.

(b) 198th Inf Bde (Lt) with 1-52d Inf (-), 1-20th Inf, and **1-6th Inf**: Conducting operation WHEELER/WALLOWA and Opn BURLINGTON TRAIL.

(c) TF Roach with 5/46th Inf and 1-46th Inf: Conducting operations in the CHU LAI TAOR.

(d) 11th Inf Bde (Lt) with the 3-1st Inf, 4-3d Inf, and 4-21st Inf: Conducting Operation MUSCATINE and conducting operations in the DUC PHO AO.

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(2) Major movement of units during the period was as follows:

(a) On 8 May 68, because of enemy buildup in the WHEELER/WALLOWA Area, two infantry companies and an artillery battery were moved from DUC PHO AO to WHEELER/WALLOWA area (A/4-21st Inf, D/3-1 Inf and B/6? 11th Artillery).

(b) On 10 May 68, because of a mission to reinforce KHAM DUC SF Camp, A/1-46 Inf from Operation BURLINGTON TRAIL and the 2-1 Inf from the Camp Evans area moved to KHAM DUC. This initiated Operation GOLDEN VALLEY.

(c) On 12 May 68, 2-1 Inf with A/1-46th Inf were extracted from Kham Duc. The 2-1 Inf returned to Operation WHEELER/WALLOWA with A/1-46th Inf returning to Operation BURLINGTON TRAIL. Operation GOLDEN VALLEY terminated this date.

(d) On 13 May 68, 196th Inf Bde (Lt) began movement back to LZ BALDY from PCV. The 4-31 Inf returned to WHEELER/WALLOWA area (FSB WEST). The 198th Inf Bde moved back to CHU LAI TAOR. TF Roach was disbanded.

(e) On 14 May 68, 196th Inf Bde (Lt) assumed control of Operation WHEELER/WALLOWA.

(f) On 29 May 68, because of enemy build-up in Tam Ky-Tien Phuoc area, **1-6 Inf** moved from Operation WHEELER/WALLOWA to Operation Burlington Trail.

(g) On 1 June 68, 1-52 Inf began movement from Operation WHEELER/WALLOWA to Operation BURLINGTON TRAIL. Movement completed on 2 Jun 68.

(h) On 8 Jun 68, 1-46 Inf began to move from CHU LAI TAOR to Operation BURLINGTON TRAIL to replace **1-6 Inf**. On 9 Jun 68, move was complete with 1-46 Inf conducting operations in BURLINGTON TRAIL and **1-6th Inf** conducting operations in the CHU LAI TAOR.

(i) On 13 Jun 68, 1-20th Inf began movement from WHEELER/WALLOWA AO to DUC PHO AO. The 4-21 Inf moved from DUC PHO AO to WHEELER/WALLOWA AO replacing 2-1 Inf at LZ BALDY. 2-1 Inf moved to LZ ROSS (BT027342). All moves complete on 15 Jun 68.

(j) On 16 Jun 68, 1-52 Inf began movement from BURLINGTON TRAIL AO to the CHU LAI TAOR to replace the 5-46th Inf for VANCE CANYON operation. The movement was completed on 20 Jun 68.

(k) On 19 Jun 68, Operation CHATTAHOOCHEE SWAMP was initiated with 3-1 Inf conducting a battalion (-) combat assault into the area southwest of Quang Ngai City, vicinity HA THANH Special Forces Camp. The 1-20th Inf assumed responsibility for the DUC PHO AO.

(l) On 20 Jun 68, Operation VANCE CANYON was initiated with the 5-46th Inf conducting a battalion size combat assault into the area vicinity TraaBong [sic] Special Forces Camp. The 1-52 Inf assumed responsibility for the southern portion of the CHU LAI TAOR with base at LZ GATOR, relieving the 5-46th Inf for the operation.

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(4) Operation BURLINGTON TRAIL continued throughout the reporting period. The period was characterized by light to moderate contact. During the latter part of May and the early part of June the enemy began to build up his forces in the area and the 198th Inf Bde was reinforced in the area with two battalions (1-6 Inf and the 1-52 Inf). Moderate contact was made during the early part of June with a resulting B-52 airstrikes being employed on 8 June 1968 vicinity Base area 117. Contact continued light with the exception of one contact on 23 Jul 68. From 8 Jun 68, to the end of the reporting period with the 1-52 Inf moving from the BURLINGTON TRAIL AO to the CHU LAI AO during the period 16-20 Jun 68. On 23 Jul 68, A/1-1 beginning at 0822H became engaged with an unknown size NVA element. The engagement continued throughout the day until 1855H. The results of that contact were 68 NVA KIA (C), 8 IWC, 2 CSWC, 2 US WHA (E) and 3 WHA (M). Results of Operations BURLINGTON TRAIL during the period 1 May 68, to 31 Jul 68 were as follows:

FRND

44 US KHA

253 US WHA (EVAC)

91 US WHA (MINOR)

ENEMY LOSSES

163 VC KIA (C)

203 NVA KIA (C)

238 IWC

35 CSWC

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7 November 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 October 1968.
(RCS-CSFOR-65)(RI)(U)

c. Disposition and Movement of units during the reporting period.

(1) At the beginning of the reporting period Americal units were conducting combat operations as follows:

(a) 196th Inf Bde (LT) with 4-21 and 3-21 Inf: Conducted operations in Wheeler/Wallowa.

(b) 198th Inf Bde (LT) with 1-46, **1-6** and 1-52 Inf: Conducted operations in the Burlington Trail AO and the Chu Lai TAOR.

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AVDF-GC

10 February 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 January 1969
(RCS-CSFOR-65) (RI) (U)

c. Disposition and Movement:

(1) At the beginning of the reporting period, Americal units were conducting combat operations as follows:

(a) 196th Inf Bde (Lt) with 2-1, 3-21, 4-31 and 4-21 Inf Bns conducted combat operations in the Wheeler/Wallowa AO.

(b) 198th Inf Bde (Lt) with 1-46, 1-52, 5-46, and **1-6 Inf Bns** conducted combat operation in Operation Burlington Trail and the Chu Lai TAOR.

AVDF_HL

10 May 1969

SUBJECT: Operation Report for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1969

A. Command

1. (C) Background The Americal Division continued extensive combat operations during the reporting period. Enemy contacts were light through moderate in the Tactical Area of Operational Interest (TAOI) until 23 February 1969 when a significant increase in contacts was noted as a result of the Post-Tet Offensive. After several heavy contacts the level gradually decreased throughout March and in April indications were that the enemy was training and refitting for a second increase in activity during the 10-19 May 1969 period.

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(3) Operation by AO:

(b) Chu Lai TAOR: Americal Division forces conducted combat operations in the Chu Lai TAOR from 1 February 69 to 18 March 69 reporting light contact with enemy forces. **1-6th Inf** operated in the northern and central sectors of the TAOR securing lines of communications and bridge sites supporting Ly Tin District Headquarters, and conducted small unit patrols and ambushes to interdict mortar/rocket attacks by elements of the 78th VCMF (Rocket) Bn against Chu Lai Base. Starting on 23 February 69, with the commencement of the post-TET offensive and lasting for approximately one month, Chu Lai received eleven attacks by indirect fire. Only the attack on 23 March 69, when 6 A-4 fighters were destroyed, resulted in any major damage to the base and airfield. Operations by **1-6th Inf** were credited with minimizing the effects of the attacks for constant patrolling, supported by elements of F Troop 8th Cav, forced enemy elements to operate from hastily prepared positions and precluded any exploitation of the attacks by enemy forces. In the southern Chu Lai TAOR, 4-21st Inf with elements of the 6th ARVN Regt conducted a pre-emptive operation in the Horseshoe (area north of the Song Tra Khuc River C/M BS2076) to deny 81st VCLF Battalion elements the use of the area as a base from which to launch attacks against Quang Ngai City. Beginning at the end of January 69, a series of coordinated combat patrols were conducted by the Americal/2d ARVN Division Task Force: 4-21st Inf, conducting reconnaissance in force and detailed search operations, swept from the north towards blocking positions held by 6th ARVN Regt forces. On 5 February 69, 4-21 Inf, supported by C/1 82d Arty, engaged and killed 26 VC operating north of the ARVN blocking positions. On 11 February 69, operations were terminated having removed the immediate danger of an attack on Quang Ngai. Contacts in the Chu Lai TAOR remained light during and after the post-TET offensive as enemy forces tended to limit their activities to attacks by indirect fire on US/FVN/ARVN installations. On 18 March 69, operations were concluded in the Chu Lai TAOR and its area incorporated into Operation Geneva Park.

Results of operations in the Chu Lai TAOR for the reporting period areas follows:

<u>Friendly</u>	<u>Enemy</u>
38 US KIA	289 VC KIA(C)
220 US WIA	18 DET
	78 IWC
	31 CSWC

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SUBJECT: Operation Report for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1969

(b) Operation Geneva Park: Operation Geneva Park, conducted by the 198th Inf Bde and 6th ARVN Regt, was initiated on 18 March 69 in the central sector of the Americal/2d ARVN AO to secure major lines of communication and locate and destroy enemy forces attempting to attack Quang Ngai and/or the Chu Lai Base complex. **1-6th Inf Bn** was utilized for security missions in the rocket belt vicinity Chu Lai Base, targeting elements of the 409th and 78th VCMF Rocket Bns. Extensive small unit patrols and ambushes were utilized with a concentrated H & I (Harassing and Interdiction) program of pre-planned artillery strikes. Lines of communication were secured by roving patrols and mine sweep teams continued to operate to prevent interdiction of major highways. In the southern portion of the Operation Geneva Park OZ, 4-3d Inf, in conjunction with 2/6 and 1/6 ARVN Bns, conducted a pre-emptive operation from 4 April to 10 April 69, targeting suspected elements of the 81st VCLF Bn operating north of the Song Tra Khuc River. Operations began with combat air assaults by 4-3d Inf into the Horseshoe (C/M BS6376) where they joined with elements of the 2/6 ARVN Bn, operating on parallel axis, the combined Americal/ARVN force maneuvered west to the Nui Ne Mountains (C/M BS8079), reporting light contact as enemy forces avoided contact and evaded to the west. A second pre-emptive operation was conducted on the western Batangan Peninsula from 11 April 69 to 18 April 69 targeting elements of the 48th VCLF Bn suspected of attempting to infiltrate into the Russell Beach Area. B Co and recon plat/5-46th Inf combat air assaulted to vic BS6985 and BS7082 blocking the two major avenues of approach into the Batangan Peninsula proper. Elements of 1/5 and 2/6 ARVN maneuvered north from the Song Tra Khuc River towards the Americal positions. In two sharp small unit engagements, over 15 VC were killed and the threat to the pacification operations destroyed as the VC evaded from the area. For the remainder of the period, contact with enemy forces remained light as enemy forces avoided engagement with Americal troops. Results of combat operations in Operation Geneva Park during the period are as follows:

Friendly

13 US KIA
97 US WIA(E)

Enemy

159 VC KIA(C)
1 NVA KIA(C)
100 DET
1 PW/VC
22 CIV DEF
86 IN CIV
17 IWC

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10 May 1969

SUBJECT: Operation Report for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1969

3. (C) Movement:

a. At the beginning of the reporting period, Americal units were conducting combat operations as follows:

(1) 196th Inf Bde with 1-46th Inf, 3-21st Inf, 4-31st Inf and 2-1st Inf (-) conducted combat operations in the Oregon AO; 2 Co's 2-1st Inf continued operations in Operation Fayette Canyon.

(2) **Task Force Cooksey** conducted combat operations in the Chu Lai TAOR with **1-6th Inf** and 1-52d Inf and continued Operation Russell Beach with A/1-1 Cav, USMC BLT/26, 5,46th Inf and 4-3d Inf.

(3) 1-1 Cav (-) conducted combat operations in the Oregon AO.

(4) 11th Inf Bde conducted combat operations in the Duc Pho AO with 1-20th Inf and 3-1st Inf; and continued Operation Vernon Lake II with 4-21st Inf.

b. Major movements of units during the reporting period were as follows:

(1) On 4 February 69, A/1-1 Cav was relieved OPCON Task Force Cooksey and returned to Hawk Hill.

(2) On 6 February 69, USMC BLT/26 was relieved OPCON Task Force Cooksey and returned to Da Nang.

(3) On 8 February 69, **Task Force Cooksey** was terminated and its assets reverted to 198th Inf Bde.

(4) On 23 February 69, the two company task force from 2-1st Inf was moved out of Operation Fayette Canyon when that operation was suspended.

(5) On 9 March 69, 1-52d Inf became OPCON to the 196th Inf Bde and conducted operations vicinity Tien Phuoc and, later, LZ Baldy.

(6) On 25 March 69, A/1-1 Cav became OPCON to the 11th Inf Bde and conducted operations vicinity of Quang Ngai City on 28 March 69, A/1-1 Cav was relieved OPCON 11th Inf Bde and returned to Hawk Hill.

(7) On 20 April 69, 1-52d Inf was relieved OPCON 198th Inf Bde and air moved to Operation Iron Mountain, returning to the control of the 11th Inf Bde.

AVDF_HL

10 May 1969

SUBJECT: Operation Report for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1969E. Significant Recent Developments:

(1) This reporting period has seen a major reorganization of civil affairs activities in the Chu Lai area and the advent of a coordinated effort to better acquaint ourselves with the needs of the immediate area around Chu Lai Base.

(2) As a result of this realignment direct CA responsibilities have been assigned to the following villages:

Ky Chanh - MAG 12 Binh Thang - 5-46th Bn

Ky Khtong - 26th Eng Binh Nghia - DIVARTY

Ky Sanh - 1-6th Bn Binh Sa - MAG 13

Ky Lien - 9th Eng Binh Thanh - 1st CAG

Ky Ha - MASS-3 & 9th Eng Binh Phuong - MCB-58

Ky Hoa - 6-56th Arty Cu Lao Re - MCB-58

Ky Xuan - DISCOM

h. Ly Tin Community Relations Council.

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10 August 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1969.

c. Battalion Commanders.

(1) 1st Bn, 20 Inf. LTC Robert E. Wilson assumed command from Major Wayne C. Harrington on 14 July 1969.

(2) 4th Bn, 3d Inf. LTC Robert N. Fernandes assumed command from LTC Albert J. Smith on 18 June 1969.

(3) 1st Bn, 46th Inf. LTC Craig G. Coverdale assumed command from LTC George R. Underhill on 14 June 1969.

(4) 2d Bn, 1st Inf. LTC Clarence P. Campbell assumed command from LTC Sinclair L. Melner on 19 May 1969.

(5) 3d Bn, 21st Inf. LTC Eli P. Howard assumed command from LTC John N. Brandenburg on 15 July 1969.

(6) 4th Bn, 31st Inf. LTC Cecil N. Henry assumed command from LTC Robert B. Longino on 4 July 1969.

(7) **1st Bn, 6th Inf.** LTC Thomas J. Ambrose assumed command from LTC Albert J. Dombrosky on 2 June 1969.

(8) 5th Bn, 46th Inf. LTC Julian F. Wagner assumed command from LTC Alfred Barnes on 24 May 1969.

AVDF-GCLO

10 August 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1969.

(b) Operation Geneva Park: Operation Geneva Park continued throughout the reporting period concentrating on the security of major lines of communication and the destruction of enemy forces attempting to attack Quang Ngai City and/or the Chu Lai Base Complex. 1-6 Inf was utilized for security measures in the Rocket Belt vicinity Chu Lai Base, targeting elements of 409th and 78th VCMF Rocket Bns. Saturation patrolling and extensive night-time ambush operations combined with a heavy concentration of pre-planned H and I fires and utilization of sensor devices severely inhibited enemy attempts to shell the base complex. A total of 7 attacks by indirect fire were launched against Chu Lai during the reporting period resulting in extremely light damage and very few casualties. During the period 8 through 19 July, 1-6 reinforced by D/3-21 Inf and B/5-46 Inf, initiated a preemptive operation in the B Cong Mountains to the west of the Chu Lai Rocket Belt. This operation was designed to destroy suspected VCLF troop concentrations, base camps and staging areas. Contact with enemy forces remained very light as the enemy exfiltrated the area avoiding combat. On 9 July, 1-6 uncovered a large enemy base camp and hospital complex located vicinity BS339969. The area contained several large huts, pens for livestock and an elaborate piped in water system. The complex was destroyed. Following the conclusion of this operation, 1-6 returned to its normal FCA (Fire Control Area) and continued defensive security operations north and west of Chu Lai. 5-46 Infantry, while conducting operation Russell Beach, continued extensive combat operations in the vicinity of Binh Son District Headquarters supporting pacification operations and securing lines of communication. From 27 June to 5 July 69, 5-46 Inf utilizing 3 maneuver companies conducted operations in the Nui Lnoi Mountains exploiting and Arc Light Strike. On 29 July, B5-46 discovered and NVA hospital complex located vicinity BS401803. Twelve NVA KIA were found, 4 wounded NVA were captured and a large stock of miscellaneous medical supplies was captured and evacuated. Continuing their systematic combat patrols, B company operating vic BS401801 discovered 66 enemy graves containing 50 NVA KIA and 16 VC KIA. Following the conclusion of this operation, 5-46 Inf increased its support of pacification operations and made preparations for the initiation of Operation Nantucket Beach. 1-52 Inf conducted extensive reconnaissance in force operations and detailed searches in the southern portion of the Geneva Park OZ north of the Song Tra Khuc River. These operations were designed to interdict enemy avenues of approach to Quang Ngai City and to secure the area for accelerated pacification operations. A number of sharp contacts were made with enemy forces who were unable to make any in-roads in the area. On 31 May 69, B/1-52 Inf and F Trp 8th Cav (air) conducted a series of Eagle Flight Operations. These flights were designed to disrupt small groups of VCMF/NVA forces attempting to infiltrate the Triangle area south of LZ Stinson. One platoon from B/1-52 Inf and F Trp 8th Cav (Air) conducted a number of rapid seeps throughout the area from BS4876 to BS5779 killing 43 VC/NVA in one day of operation. The effectiveness of this operation in terms of demoralizing the enemy and rapidly decreasing infiltration efforts in the area has led to the planning of similar such operations in the future. Beginning on July and continuing until the end of the reporting period, 1-52 Inf in conjunction with 26th Engr Bn and ARVN Engrs conducted land clearing operations north of the Song Tra Khuc River (C/M BS5776). The purpose of this operation was to remove mines and unexploded ordnance from the area, destroy enemy bunker complexes and restore the area to effective use by the GVN controlled population. By the end of the reporting period, the equivalent of 2 grid squares of land had been effectively cleared and made available for civilian use. Results of operations in the Geneva Park OZ during the reporting period area as follows:

<u>FRND</u>	<u>ENEMY</u>
79 US KIA	358 VC KIA(C)
424 US WIA(E)	157 NVA KIA
34 US WIA(M)	327 DET
	1 PW/VC
	5 PS/NVA
	13 CH/VC
	2 CH/VC
	127 CIV DEF
	171 IN CIV
	64 IWC & 15 CSWC

AVDF-GCLO

10 August 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1969.

d. Special Campaign: During the period 22 July - 29 July 1969, a PSYOP Campaign was conducted in conjunction with the 6th Bn, 56th Arty (Hawk) redeployment. The entire campaign was jointly planned and conducted by Ly Tin District, Quang Tin (P), VIS and Americal personnel. It was determined that the main aspirations of the people were security, economic well being and ferry boat services. LTC Ambrose, CO, 1-6th Inf, 198th Inf Bde, spoke to the people of four hamlets in Ky Hoa Village about the reasons for redeployment. He also assured the villagers that security would be maintained and their economic well being was of great concern, and maximum efforts would be made to insure their economic well being. The people were very impressed because a LTC was interested in them and would take the time to discuss their problems and aspirations. A movie team has been employed on four occasions in support of the PSYOP redeployment campaign. It is believed that the participation of high ranking officials in PSYOP campaigns in conjunction with troop redeployment adds credibility to the program and serves to reassure the people that security will be maintained.

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AVDF-GCDO

10 November 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 October 1969.

(6) Enemy units in Quang Tin (P) continued their harassing attacks against US installations during 14-20 September. Elements of the 1st MF and 3d NVA Regts continued to conduct their activities in the LZ Siberia-West-Center area. Throughout this period LZ Center received 68 mixed mortar rounds, LZ West received 13 mixed mortar rounds and LZ Siberia received 40 rounds mixed mortar. Following these attacks, it is believed that the 1st MF Regt relocated its forces along the Hiep Duc/Duc Duc (D) border line vic AT7930. The last week of September showed a sharp decrease in enemy initiated activity as enemy units were successful in their attempts to avoid significant contact with Americal Forces. On 22 September, B/3-21st Inf, 196th Inf Bde engaged an UNSEF vic BT0423 resulting in 15 NVA KIA. This contact was believed to have been with elements of the 2d Bn, 3d NVA Regt. Following this contact, the 2d Bn, 3d NVA Regt relocated vic BT0927. Also on 22 September, the 176th Avn engaged and killed 10 NVA vic BT0322. The only US installation subjected to an attack by fire in late September was LZ West which received 23x82mm mortar rounds throughout the period 21-27 September. From 29 September to 1 October, elements of the **1-6th Inf, 198th Inf Bde** operating vic BT3111 found and destroyed the following: 35xRPG rounds, 45x60mm mortar rounds, 101xChiCom H/Grenades, 31xhomemade H/Grenades, 61xM-79 rounds, 3xclaymore mines, 23xhomemade mines, 16xstructures, 13xbunkers, numerous blasting caps, small arms ammunition, medical supplies and radio equipment; D/1-46th Inf, on 29 Sep, received 25 rounds of 60mm mortar fire vic BT1622. During the month of September, Americal Forces accounted for 366 VC/NVA KIA. Enemy units directed 325 mixed mortar rounds against US installations.

(7) After suffering heavy casualties during the months of August and September 1969, VC/NVA Forces in October faced numerous problems such as food shortages, morale difficulties, and a need for new replacements. Due to this, enemy units returned to their more secure base areas with the mission of resupplying and retraining for future offensive activities. Contact with enemy forces was limited to widely scattered encounters mainly with squad-size units. Throughout the month, enemy disposition remained relatively the same with no major moves occurring. The 1st MF Regt Hqs moved to vic ZC 1926 while the 40th Bn continued to operate vic AT7930 and the 60th and 90th Bns operated vic AT8627 and AT8532, respectively. The 3d NVA Regt Hqs and the 1st Bn continued to operate in northern Tien Phuoc (D) vic BT0020 and BT0921 while the 2d and 3d Bns operated in southern Thang Binh (D) vic BT0927 and BT0126. Reports have given the 3d NVA Regt the mission of providing protection for rice gathering parties that are operating in Thang Binh and Tam Ky Districts. After providing support for the 1st MF Regt in attacks during August and September, the GK-33 NVA Mortar Bn, 2d NVA Div moved to vic AT9133 and has operated at this location since 30 September. On 5 October C/1-46th Inf operating vic BT218121 found a VC/NVA base camp that consisted of 7xhuts, 2xbunkers, 5xIW, 12xChiCom H/Grenades, 1xsewing machine, miscellaneous equipment and documents. On 10 October, F/8 Cav engaged 5 NVA and 1 VC vic BT1231. Results were 5 NVA and 1 VC KIA, 3xpacks, 1xChiCom H/Grenade, miscellaneous equipment and documents CIA, 2xstructures and 2xbunkers destroyed. On 11 October, LZ Siberia received 47x82mm mortar rounds. On 14 October, LZ Center received 12x82mm mortar rounds. Elements of 2-5 ARVN on 19 Oct, vic BT189110, found 5x1W, 1x122mm rocket, 4xA/T rifle grenades, 1xmachine used to make H/Grenades and 7,000 rounds of small arms ammunition. Also on 19 October, vic BT312062, **C/1-6th Inf** found and destroyed 60x60mm mortar rounds, 2x10 lb explosive charges, 10xmortar charges, 15xChiCom H/Grenades, 17xRPG rounds and evacuated miscellaneous documents and pictures. D/1-46th Inf on 22 October, destroyed a total of 20xstructures, 2xcaves and miscellaneous military equipment vic BT1800. On the same day, F/8 Cav destroyed 25 structures vic AT9610. On 29 October, the CLDC received 4x122mm rockets resulting in minor damage to a UH-1H and a 5-ton vehicle. During the month of October 1969, Americal Forces accounted for 165 VC/NVA KIA. Enemy units expended approximately 154 mixed mortar rounds against US installations.

(b) **Operation Geneva Park:** Operation Geneva Park continued throughout the reporting period concentrating on the security of major lines of communication and the destruction of enemy forces attempting to attack Quang Ngai City and/or the Chu Lai complex. **1-6 Infantry** was utilized for security measure in the Rocket Belt around Chu Lai, targeting elements of the 409th Sapper and 78th VCMF Rocket Bn. Saturation patrolling and extensive night ambush operations combined with a heavy concentration of preplanned air strikes and scheduled artillery fires plus utilization of sensor devices severely inhibited enemy attempts to shell the Chu Lai complex. Only two indirect fire attacks were launched against the Chu Lai complex during the reporting period resulting in light damage and very few casualties. On 11 August 1969 at 0015H, C/1-52 Infantry vicinity BS517812 engaged 35 VC resulting in 5 VC KIA. FSB Stinson vic BS538824 at 0120H on 12 August received eighteen 82mm mortar rounds resulting in 1 US KIA, 2 US WIA(E) and one 81mm mortar tube damaged. At 0133H, Headquarters Battery, 1-14 Artillery on FSB Bayonet vic BT549016 received 20-25 mixed 60/82mm mortar rounds resulting in 1 VC KIA, 1 IWC and 1 US WIA(E). On 13 August, 1-52 Infantry with 26th Engineers and 6th ARVN Engineers began a land clearing operation north of the Song Tra Khuc (River) vicinity of BS5476. On the morning of 14 August, the Chu Lai Defense Command received moderate damage when two 122mm rockets impacted in the Chu Lai POL dump. The last half of the month of August passed with no significant enemy contact. The first part of September also saw no significant enemy contacts. The three day cease fire was observed without incident. The third reactive operation in the Americal Division TAOI was initiated on 13 September as an estimated force of 2 NVA Companies launched a series of attacks on AN Phong Village and OP George (vicinity BS474864). CAP 1-3-9 and Regional forces from Binh Son City successfully repulsed the enemy attack (Reference paragraph B(4)). At 1750H on the same day, D/1st Squadron 1st Cavalry and 176th aviation, flying in support of the 198th Infantry Brigade, engaged and killed 58 NVA in the vicinity of BS474864. On 15 September at 1720H, south of Hau Duc in the vicinity of BS0690, A,B, and C/5-46 Infantry conducted a bomb damage assessment (BDA) through 20 September finding 8 crew-served weapons. On 18 September at 1730H A/1-52 Infantry engaged an unknown size NVA force in the vicinity of BS443846 and killed 22 NVA. During the remainder of the month, there was little enemy activity. On 29 September, elements of **1-6 Infantry** conducted an operation with 3/6 ARVN Battalion in the vicinity of BT3310. Their objective was to clear the area northeast of Ky Tra CRFZ. The operation met little enemy resistance and terminated on 3 October. On 27 September, the land clearing north of the Song Tra Khuc (River) terminated having cleared 3 square kilometers. On 15 October at 1745H, B/1-52 Infantry in the vicinity of BS487848 detonated a mine killing 1 US and wounding 6. Three days later, elements of **1-6 Infantry** and the 6th ARVN Regiment returned to the area around Ky Tra CFZ to conduct combat operations. Little enemy resistance was met and the operation terminated 2 days later. At 0700H on 25 October R/1-52 Infantry engaged an unknown size VC force in the vicinity of BS595822 with small arms and automatic weapons fire plus a heavy concentration of artillery. By 0900H A/1-52 had combat air assaulted 1 platoon into the area of contact to provide reinforcements. Friendly losses were 1 US KIA while enemy losses were 6 VC KIA, 6 individual weapons and 1 crew-served weapon captured. On 26 October, H Troop 17th Cavalry in the vicinity of BS481772 at 0900H engaged an NVA squad. The results were 10 NVA KIA, 7 individual weapons and 1 crew-served weapon captured. On 30 October, the second rocket attack against the Chu Lai complex occurred as four 122mm rockets impacted within the defensive perimeter causing light damage and 1 minor casualty. Operations conducted during the month of October met only scattered resistance as the reporting period came to a close. Operation Nantucket Beach was conducted within the Geneva Park AO by 5-46 Infantry and the 6th ARVN Regiment. From 5 August to 12 August, a rice denial operation in anticipation of the beginning of the harvest season was conducted. On 12 August, FSB Dottie (vicinity BS630855) with 2/6 ARVN Battalion, A/1st Squadron 1st Cavalry, B/26th Engineers, D/3-82 Arty and A/1-14 Arty in a night defensive posture received an unknown number and type of mortar rounds plus a sapper attack that was successfully repelled with 2/6 ARVN Battalion accounting for 16 of the 20 VC KIA and capturing 8 individual weapons.

(Continued)

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AVDF-GCDO

10 November 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 October 1969.

Americal Division losses were 4 US WIA(E). On 25 August, elements of 5-46 Infantry discovered a salt cache and began a four day operation to evacuate all the salt and distribute it to the nearby villages. By 29 August, 282 tons of salt were placed in the hands of the Vietnamese civilians. To further support the pacification program in the Nantucket Beach AO, one ARVN Battalion and one US Infantry company with engineer support opened and secured the Quang Ngai/Batangan Peninsula Road. On 23 September at 1030H, D/1-1 Cavalry vicinity BS795851 engaged 12 VC killing 5. On 5 October, an extensive pacification operation was conducted with Popular and Regional forces in three hamlets vicinity BS6879. On the same day at 2240H, B/5-46 Infantry in a night defensive position was engaged by an UNSEF. They received heavy small arms and automatic weapons fire plus a barrage of mortars resulting in 4 US KIA and 15 US WIA(E). Operations conducted throughout the reporting period continued with no significant enemy contacts. Totals for the reporting period for Operation Nantucket Beach were as follows:

<u>FRND</u>	<u>ENEMY</u>
12 US KIA	65 VC KIA
69 US WIA(E)	6 NVA KIA
20 US WIA(M)	38 DET
	1 PW/NVA
	4 CH/VC
	35 CIV DEF
	18 IN CIV
	20 IWC

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AVDF-GCDO

10 November 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 October 1969.

29 Sept 69 - **A/1-6 Inf** found anti-American leaflets tacked to trees and a tunnel complete with enemy propaganda, printing plates and equipment.

AVDF-HL

10 May 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report -- Lessons Learned, Americal Division, Period
Ending 31 January 1970, (RCS-CSFOR-65) (R2) (U)

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(9) On 25 Jan, CLDC received 8 122mm rockets. Counter-battery from hills 76 and 270, was fired and **C/1-6 Inf**, engaged the enemy vic BT453022 resulting in 3 VC KIA and 3 IWC. Documents taken from one of the KIA identified the 78th MF Rocket Bn as the unit in contact. Also on 25 Jan the 39th ARVN Rangers engaged an UNSEF vic BT198502 resulting in 43 VC K??, 1 VC, 2 IW, and 55 ChiCom H/Grenades CIA. B/1-46 Inf, vic BT271021, found and destroyed 15 RPG rounds, 400 ChiCom H/Grenades, 700 ChiCom H/Grenade charges, 100 feet of fuze, 20 electric blasting caps, 6 RPG propellant sticks and evacuated 1 IW and 1 US protective mask on 26 Jan. On the 27th, CIDG from Tien Phuoc engaged an estimated platoon believed to be from the 72d LF Bn, vic BT133013, resulting in 2 NVA KIA, 1 NVA, 2 IW, 12 82mm mortar rounds, and 2 packs CIA. LZ Young received 4 82mm mortar rounds, with NCD. B/3-21 Inf, vic BT091259, on 29 Jan, engaged an estimated 45 NVA, probably from the 2d Bn, 3d Regt, resulting in 6 NVA KIA, 1 NVA, 1 IW, 9 packs, and 450 lbs of rice CIA. On 30 Jan, B/1-1 Cav, vic BT219169, received 6 RPG rounds and SA fire from an unidentified UNSEF. Fire was returned resulting in 5 VC KIA and minor US casualties. F/8th Cav and 71st Avn, in support of 4-5 ARVN, vic BT2047, engaged an UNSEF resulting in 18 NVA KIA. 4-5 ARVN, that contact, accounted for 7 NVA KIA, 2 VC KIA, 3 NVA, 9 VC, 6 IW, 1 compass and documents CIA and 2 Hoi Chanh. During January, Americal Forces accounted for 414 VC/NVA KIA. Enemy units expended 163 mixed mortar and rocket rounds against US installations and NDP's.

AVDF-HL

10 May 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report -- Lessons Learned, Americal Division, Period
Ending 31 January 1970, (RCS-CSFOR-65) (R2) (U)

(2) **Operation Geneva Park** continued throughout the reporting period concentrating on the security of major lines of communication and the destruction of enemy forces attempting to attack Quang Ngai City and/or the Chu Lai base complex. **1-6th Infantry** searched the Rocket Pocket around Chu Lai, targeting elements of the 78th Rocket Battalion (VCMF). Saturation patrolling, extensive night ambushes, preplanned air strikes, scheduled artillery fires, and sensor devices severely inhibited enemy attempts to shell the Chu Lai base complex. There was only one indirect fire attack launched against the Chu Lai base complex during the reporting period. Eight 122mm rockets were fired at the base on 25 January causing only minor damage and one casualty. **C/1-6th Infantry**, having observed the enemy launch site, conducted a combat assault into the area where they engaged several VC. Three VC were killed, three weapons captured, and two US were killed. During the month of November only two significant contacts were made. On 18 November at 0900 hours, 176th Aviation Company, flying in support of the 198th Infantry Brigade, engaged an estimated platoon of VC in the vicinity of BS325667, killing 10. Five days at 1820 hours, Recon Platoon, 1-52d Infantry in the vicinity of BS524865 engaged an unknown size VC force in a brief battle supported by aviation and artillery. US forces suffered only 2 wounded during the contact, killed 6 VC and captured two more. The month of

December also saw little enemy contact as only two significant incidents, were noted. On the 2nd of December, D Troop, 1-1st Cavalry, flying in support of the 198th Infantry Brigade, engaged an estimated squad of VC and 1100 Hours and killed 6 in the vicinity of BS486819. At 1730 hours on December in the vicinity of BS4110794, B/1-52d Infantry engaged an unknown size NVA force in a two hour battle. Final results were 12 NVA killed, 5 individual weapons captured, and two US wounded. No significant enemy contacts were reported and only scattered resistance was met as the reporting period came to a close. Results for Operation Geneva Par for the reporting period are:

<u>FRND</u>	<u>ENEMY</u>
15 US KIA	125 VCKIA
777 US WIA(E)	68 NVA KIA
27 US WIA(M)	203 DET
	4 PW/VC
	5 PW/NVA
	6 CH/VC
	0 CH/NVA
	115 CIV DEF
	54 IN CIV
	34 IWC
	1 CSWC

AVDF-HL

10 May 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report -- Lessons Learned, Americal Division, Period
Ending 30 April 1970, (RCS-CSFOR-65) (R2) (U)

(2) **Operation Geneva Park** continued throughout the reporting period as the 198th Infantry Brigade and 6th ARVN Regiment concentrated on the security of major lines of communication and the destruction of enemy forces attempting to attack Quang Ngai City and/or the Chu Lai base complex. Activity was light as American units searched the Rocket Pocket around Chu Lai, targeting against elements of the 78th Rocket Battalion (VCMF). Saturation patrolling, extensive night ambushes, preplanned air strikes, scheduled artillery fires, and sensor devices severely inhibited enemy attempts to attack the populated areas. Action began early on 1 Feb as A/1-52 on LZ Stinson received 40-50 60mm and 81mm mortar rounds in a predawn attack. US losses were 1 KIA, 12 WIA(E), and 10 WIA(M). At the same time, B/1-52 at BS590812 received mortar, RPG and small arms fire from an unknown size enemy force. They returned fire killing 6 NVA and capturing 2 NVA, 3 individual weapons and 2 crew served weapons. US losses were 2 KIA, 9 WIA(E) and 11 WIA(M). Thereafter the enemy sought to avoid contact and his frequent moves enabled US Artillery to observe and engage him on numerous occasions. On 4 Feb, **D/1-6** detonated an unknown type of mine at BT435035 with 1 US KIA and 4 US WIA(E). D/1-14 Arty engaged and killed 6 VC at BS466768. On 12 Feb, Recon and A/1-52 at BS534769 killed 6 VC without loss. On 15 Feb, D/1-14 Arty killed 11 VC at BS477771, and on 17 Feb, they added 5 more at BS541764. The next day B/1-82 Arty engaged an unknown size enemy force at BS454744, killing 13 VC. On 20 Feb, D/1-14 Arty and B and D Batteries of 1-82 Arty massed their fires to kill 29 VC at BS550745 and BS552791. On 22 Feb, H/17 Cav detonated a 1000 pound bomb rigged as a mine, with 5 US KIA and 1 US WIA(E). The next night F/8 Cav (Night Hawk) engaged an unknown size enemy force at BS431761, killing 17 VC. On the last day of the month the Aero Rifle Platoon from D/1-1 Cav killed 9 NVA at BS478773 and detained 9 enemy. March began quietly with the first significant incident reported on 8 Mar when H/17 Cav suffered 6 WIA(E) from a 250 pound bomb rigged as a mine. D/1-14 Arty continued to inflict losses on the enemy as they engaged an enemy mortar position at BS515767 and killed 11 VC. The next significant contact was not until 18 Mar when D/1-14 again engaged the enemy, killing 7 VC at BS4667744. **On 22 Mar, 5-46 Infantry Battalion replaced 1-6 Infantry Battalion in the Geneva Park operation.** The final contact was on 30 Mar, as D/1-1 Cav engaged and killed 5 VC at BT405793. C/1-52 inserted 1 platoon to develop the situation and the infantrymen accounted for 4 more VC before the enemy was able to escape. The enemy began April with pre-dawn attacks on LZ Fat City, LZ Gator and LZ Bayonet. US losses were 2 KIA, 22 WIA(E) and 2 WIA(M). Known enemy losses were 4 killed and 1 captured. Thereafter the enemy was able to avoid serious contact until 10 April when D/1-1 Cav pinned a 10 man VC force and killed 5 of them at BS171871. The enemy's closing effort was to fire 3 rockets of an unknown type into the Chu Lai Base Area on the night of 30 April. No casualties or damages were sustained. The results for Operation Geneva Park for the period were:

<u>FRND</u>	<u>Enemy</u>
24 US KIA	392 VC KIA
184 US WIA (E)	51 NVA KIA
34 US WIA(M)	4 PW/VC
0 US MIA	3 PW/NVA
	10 CH/VC
	0 CH/NVA
	125 CIV DEF
	60 IN CIV
	53 IWC
	3 CSWC

AVDF-HL

10 May 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report -- Lessons Learned, Americal Division, Period
Ending 30 April 1970, (RCS-CSFOR-65) (R2) (U)

(3) **Operation Nantucket Beach** was conducted on the Batangan Peninsula in the 198th Infantry Brigade TAOI by elements of the 6th ARVN Regiment and 5-46 Infantry Battalion from 1 Feb to 22 Mar and **1-6 Infantry Battalion** from 22 Mar to 30 Apr. Constant pacification operations in addition to search and clear operations were conducted throughout the reporting period in support of the GVN Pacification Program. Contact remained light and scattered as numerous casualty producing booby traps and mine incidents were reported. One large scale combined operation was conducted by **1-6 Infantry Battalion**, H/17 Cav, and elements of 1-1 Cav working with 4th ARVN and 6th ARVN Regiments. Contact was light and scattered for the American units but the ARVN forces were able to eliminate a large number of enemy and much of his material. On 5 Feb, H/17 Cav and R/5-46, vicinity BS655550, lost 6 US WIA(E) and 1 US WIA(M) to an unknown type of mine, for the only significant incident of the month. On 2 Mar B/5-46 at BS697816 had 5 men wounded and evacuated in an enemy mortar attack. One man suffered minor injuries. A/1-82 Arty caught an enemy force in the open on 7 Mar, killing 9 VC at BT735775. On 13 Mar **A/1-6** operating in the Nantucket Beach AO, detonated 2 booby trapped 105mm rounds at BS753852. Results were 1 US KIA and 5 US WIA(E). The next day C/1-6 was the victim of another 105mm round booby trap at BS758842 as 2 US were killed and 12 US were wounded and evacuated. On 22 Mar, **1-6 Infantry Battalion** replaced 5-46 Infantry Battalion in Operating Nantucket Beach. On 24 Mar, H/17 Cav had 5 WIA(E) from a 40 pound mine at BS690926. On 9 Apr, A/1-82 Arty engaged an estimated 45 VC, killing 12 of the enemy. A/1-14 Arty added 4 more VC KBA on 11 Apr when they engaged 20 VC at BS697900. On 12 Apr, **D/1-6** had 7 US WIA(E) from and M-16 Anti-Personnel mine. Activity slowed even further after this. On 17 Apr B/1-6 found 5 individual weapons at BS707816. The next significant incident occurred on 26 Apr when A/1-1 Cav detonated a 25 pound nitro-starch mine. Results were 1 US KIA and 6 US WIA(E). Then days later **R/1-6** suffered 5 WIA(E) from two booby traps at BS702894. Results for the reporting period for Operation Nantucket Beach were:

FRND

Enemy

12 US KIA	107 VC KIA
167 US WIA (E)	7 NVA KIA
13 US WIA(M)	129 DET
0 US MIA	1 PW/VC
	1 PW/NVA
	7 CH/VC
	0 CH/NVA
	75 CIV DEP
	126 IN CIV
	47 IWC
	2 CSWC

AVDF-HL

10 May 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report -- Lessons Learned, Americal Division, Period
Ending 30 April 1970, (RCS-CSFOR-65) (R2) (U)

(e) Land Clearing VAN THIEN TARGET HAMLET: Company B deployed 3 D-7E dozers, one with a Rome Plow, to clear land in the vicinity of BS705805 in support of the **1-6 Infantry pacification hamlet fortification project**. During the period 16-23 April 1970, 845,000 square meters were cleared and 1 mine, 6 booby traps, and 170 bunkers were destroyed. There were no casualties.

AVDF-HL

10 August 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report -- Lessons Learned, Americal Division, Period
Ending 31 July 1970, (RCS-CSFOR-65) (R2) (U)

2. (U) Command Changes.

a. General Officers.

Brigadier General E. L. Powell, ADC (M), departed the command on 28 July 1970 and was replaced as ADC (M) by Brigadier General T.C. Mataxis.

b. Brigade Commanders.

(1) LTC (P) E. L. Kennedy assumed command of the 196th Inf Bde on 1 May 1970 from Colonel J. M. Lee.

(2) Colonel W. B. Richardson assumed command of the 198th Inf Bde on 12 July 1970 from Colonel J. Clemons.

c. Colonels. CONFIDENTIAL

(1) Colonel J. L. Insani became the Chief of Staff on 5 June 1970 replacing Colonel (P) A. G. Hume.

(2) Colonel B.S. Silver assumed command of the 16th Combat Aviation Group on June 1970 from Colonel D. L. Townsend.

d. Battalion Changes.

(1) 2d Bn, 1st Inf. LTC A. H. Coleman assumed command from LTC F. A. Nerone on 10 May 1970.

(2) 5th Bn, 46th Inf. LTC H. J. Wreszynski assumed command from LTC M. C. Snyder on 10 May 1970.

(3) 4th Bn, 3d Inf. LTC P. D. Grimm assumed command from LTC S. V. Wielga on 12 May 1970.

(4) 4th Bn, 31st Inf. LTC T. A. Breen assumed command from LTC K.I. Skaer on 14 June 1970.

(5) 1st Bn, 6th Inf. LTC F. F. Woerner assumed command from LTC H. N. Schwarzkopf on 7 July 1970.

AVDF-HL

10 August 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report -- Lessons Learned, Americal Division, Period
Ending 31 July 1970, (RCS-CSFOR-65) (R2) (U)

(11) From 21 June to the end of the month several caches were found and there were two significant attacks by fire. On 21 June, R/4 ARVN, vic BS 282645, found and evacuated 250 B40 rockets, 30 60mm mortar rds, 30 82mm mortar rounds and two cases of radio batteries. A/1-46 Inf, BS 691839, on 20 and 21 June found and evacuated a total of 12,635 lbs of rice. The first attack by fire occurred on 23 June when RF #238, vic BS 725895, received 32 82mm mortar rounds from an UnSEF. The second attack by fire came the following day when C/4-21 Inf, vic BS 885288, received 10 82mm mortar rounds from an UNSEF with NCD. On 26 June, B/1-6 Inf, vic BS 684824, found and evacuated a cache which consisted of 15,000 lbs of rice. The last cache of the month was found on 29 June when C/1-20 Inf, vic BS 746439, found and evacuated 10,000 lbs of rice.

AVDF-HL

10 August 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report -- Lessons Learned, Americal Division, Period
Ending 31 July 1970, (RCS-CSFOR-65) (R2) (U)

(3) Operation Nantucket Beach was conducted on the Batangan Peninsula in the 198th Infantry TAOR by elements of the 6th ARVN Regiment and the **1-6 Infantry**. Constant operations were conducted throughout the reporting period in support of the GVN pacification program. Contact remained light and scattered as numerous casualty producing boobytraps and mines were reported.

On 5 May H/17 Cav detonated a booby trap at BS720820 and lost 1 US KIA and 5 US WIA(E). On 11 May A/1-82 Arty pounded an enemy force at BS736780, killing 8 VC. On the morning of 28 May **B/1-6 Inf** entered a heavily mined area and detonated 4 mines or boobytraps before they could be extracted. Total losses were 2 US KIA and 30 US WIA(E). On 11 June **A/1-6 Inf** ambushed an unknown sized enemy force at BS728796, killing 6 VC with no friendly casualties. The next day **C/1-6 Inf** engaged 6 VC at BS716836, killing 5 of the enemy and capturing 4 individual weapons. On 26 June D/1-82 Arty engaged 40 VC at BS672995 and killed 5 of the enemy. Action remained sporadic for nearly a month until 21 July when **B/1-6 Inf** killed 2 VC at BS689855 while suffering 1 US WIA(E) and 2 US WIA(M). Total results for Operations Nantucket Beach for the period were:

FRND

9 KIA
95 WIA(E)

ENEMY

79 KIA
1 PW/VC
1 RTNEE/VC
22 CIV DEF
43 IN CIV
19 IWC
1 CSWC

AVDF-HL 15 November 1970
 SUBJECT: Operational Report--Lessons Learned, 23d Infantry Division, Period
 Ending 31 October 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2) (U)

(3) **Operation Nantucket Beach** was conducted on the Batangan Peninsula in the 198th Infantry Brigade TAOR by elements of the 6th ARVN Regiment and the **1-6 Infantry** targeted against elements of the 48th Local Force Bn. Operations were conducted on a continuing basis throughout the reporting period in support of the GVN pacification program. Contact remained light and scattered as numerous casualty-producing boobytraps and mines were reported. Operation Nantucket Beach saw light action until 11 Aug when **A/1-6** detonated an unknown type mine resulting in 13 US WIA (E) at BS 703904. On 30 Aug at BS 639966, 176th Avn engaged 15 VC killing 6. Light action prevailed until the 20th of Sep when **C/1-6** ambushed 7 VC at BS 687806 killing 4, detaining 1 WIA and capturing 1 individual weapons. Operation Nantucket Beach again saw light action until the 19th of Oct. One US was killed and three wounded when **B/1-6** detonated an unknown type boobytrap. At 1815H on 27 Oct, **HHC/1-6** received fourteen rounds of 82mm mortar. All rounds impacted to the East and West of the perimeter. There were no further significant activities for the remainder of the reporting period. Results for Operation Nantucket Beach for the reporting period were:

<u>US</u>	<u>ENEMY</u>
2 KIA	105 KIA (CONF)
81 WIA (E)	0 KIA (PROB)
1 WIA (M)	1 DET
0 MIA	16 PW/VC
	0 PW/NVA
	18 RTNEE/VC
	0 RTNEE/NVA
	40 CIV DEF
	41 IN CIV
	31 IWC
	0 CSWC

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AVDF-HL 15 November 1970
 SUBJECT: Operational Report--Lessons Learned, 23d Infantry Division, Period
 Ending 31 October 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2) (U)

4. During the period 6-12 Oct, B/26 supported by HHC/26 and elements of **1-6 Inf Bn** cleared and constructed a berm vic Dai Loc, BS 570014, for a PF outpost. The outpost will provide security for the valley settlements in the area as well as the planned road construction into Stinson.

AVDF-HL

15 May 1971

**SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, 23d Infantry Division
(Americal), Period Ending 30 April 1971, RCS CSFOR - 65 (R3) (U)**

6. (U) Command Changes.

a. The following command changes have been made during the time frame 1 November 1970 through 30 April 1971:

(1) Generals.

(a) MG James L. Baldwin assumed command of the 23d Infantry Division, vice MG Albert E. Milloy on 23 November 1970.

(b) BG B. K. Gorwitz assumed duties as Assistant Division Commander/Support, vice BG R. L. Atteberry on March 1971.

(c) BG J. C. McDonough assumed duties as Assistant Division Commander/Maneuver, vice BG T. C. Mataxis on 21 April 1971.

(2) Colonels.

(a) COL G. P. Tilson assumed command of DISCOM on 5 March 1971, vice COL P. B. McDaniel.

(b) COL W. W. Goodwin assumed command of the 11th Inf Bde on 7 March 1971, vice COL J. L. Insani.

(c) COL C. R. Smith assumed command of the 198th Inf Bde on 19 March 1971, vice COL W. R. Richardson.

(3) Lieutenant Colonels.

(b) 2d Bn, 1st Inf, LTC H. G. Watson assumed command from LTC A. H. Coleman on 4 November 1970.

(c) 3d Bn, 1st Inf, LTC J. B. Luke assumed command from LTC C. J. Landry on 10 November 1970.

(h) 1st Bn, 20th Inf, LTC T. W. Brogan assumed command from LTC G. P. Lynch on 14 December 1970.

(i) 5th Bn, 46th Inf, LTC E. E. Passmore assumed command from LTC J. R. Henry on 19 December 1970.

(j) **1st Bn, 6th Inf**, LTC J.E. Sawey assumed command from LTC F. F. Woerner on 9 January 1971.

(k) 4th Bn, 21st Inf, LTC V. B. Sones assumed command from LTC R. A. Witter on 12 January 1971.

(o) 3d Bn, 21st Inf, LTC L. W. Roberts assumed command from LTC C. P. Saint on 19 February 1971.

(s) 4th Bn, 31st Inf, LTC H. S. Mitchell assumed command from LTC W. G. Hammill on 27 March 1971.

(t) 1st Bn, 46th Inf, LTC C. J. Tate assumed command from LTC W. P. Doyle on 30 March 1971.

(u) 1st Bn, 20th Inf, MAJ J. S. Peppers assumed command from LTC T. W. Brogan on 14 April 1971.

(v) 4th Bn, 3d Inf, LTC J. S. Shannon assumed command from LTC A. F. Coast (NBD) on 27 April 1971.

AVDF-HL

15 May 1971

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, 23d Infantry Division
(Americal), Period Ending 30 April 1971, RCS CSFOR - 65 (R3) (U)

(e) **Operation NANTUCKET BEACH** conducted in the 198th Infantry Brigade TAOR on the Batangan Peninsula by elements of the **1-6 Infantry** and the 6th ARVN Regiment to further enhance the pacification program of the GVN was terminated effective 010600H March 1971. Contact remained light and scattered as numerous casualty producing booby traps and mining incidents were reported. There were no significant activities in the NANTUCKET BEACH area for the first 16 days of the reporting period. In an engagement with 5 VC on 17 November 1970, **B/1-6 Inf** operating in the vic of BS718832 reported 4 VC KIA and 1 IWC. On 18 Nov, **D/1-6 Inf** at BS698865 engaged 3 VC resulting in 3 VC KIA, 4 IWC and 3 US WIA(E) and 5 VC detainees. No contact was reported in the AO until 21 November when an element of **C/1-6 Inf** operating in the vic of BS660871 detonated an unknown type booby trap resulting in 2 US KIA. In light and scattered contacts during the period 21-27 November, **1-6 Inf** reported a total of 2 US KIA and 4 NVA/VC KIA. Quiet reined throughout the AO until 010340H December when **C/1-6 Inf** engaged an unknown size enemy force at BS669945 and accounted for 9 VC KIA with 1 IWC. Totals for all scattered contacts during the period 28 November through 6 December were 15 VC KIA, 3 IWC, 1 US KIA, 4 US (WIA(E), and 1 US WIA(M). During the period 7 through 19 December, the **1st Bn 6th Infantry** reported a total of 10 VC/NVA KIA, 7 IWC and 5 US WIA(E). There were no significant contacts reported during this period.

While on patrol on the morning of 20 December, **A/1-6 Inf** detonated an 82mm mortar round booby trapped with a pressure release firing device in the vicinity of BS644896 resulting in 6 US soldiers WIA(E) and 2 US soldiers WIA(M). No significant contacts were reported in the AO from 21 December 1970 through 30 December 1970. There were no contacts reported on 24-25 December during the Christmas Truce Period. Division units resumed offensive operations at 1801H, 25 December 1970. On 31 December, elements of **D/1-6** while operating in the vicinity of BS679881 received small arms and M79 grenade fire sustaining 3 US WIA(E). At 1800H 31 December, the Division again assumed a defensive posture for the twenty-four hour New Years Truce period. Defensive patrols and ambushes were utilized to negate any truce violations reported in the Nantucket Beach AO. At 1801H, 1 January 1971, until 1310H, 5 January when **D/1-6** engaged 10 VC at BS673894. Results of the fire fight were 1 VC KIA, 1 IWC and 4 US WIA(E). No contacts were

reported on the 6th of January. **D/1-6** detonated an M26 hand grenade in the vicinity of BS674894 on the 7th of January. 6 US soldiers were wounded by the detonation. While operating in the area of BS720845, **A/1-6 Infantry** engaged 7 VC on the 9th of January and accounted for 6 VC KIA and 2 US WIA(E). Total results for all engagements for the period of 20 December 1970 through 10 January 1971 were 8 enemy KIA, 7 IWC and 19 US WIA(E) and 2 US WIA(M). On 11 January two contacts resulted in the death of 3 VC and 1 IWC. The first contact occurred at 0505H when **R/1-6** in the vicinity of BS682897 had a mechanical ambush detonate resulting in 1 VC KIA with 1 IWC and the other when **A/1-6** found 2 VC KBA in the vicinity of BS726854. There was no contact on the 12th and 13th. On the 14th of January at 0918H in the vicinity of BS685882, **A/1-1 Cav** detonated a booby trapped hand grenade resulting in 3 US WIA(E). The following day **D/1-6** at 1130H in the vicinity of BS654884 engaged and killed 2 VC. Light contact was reported during the 16th through the 19th of January. On 20 January **A/1-1 Cav** detonated two booby traps in the vicinity of BS682933 which resulted in 1 US KIA and 3 US WIA(E). Total results reported by the 198th Brigade for the period 11-20 January in Operation NANTUCKET BEACH were 13 VC KIA with 1 IWC, 13 VN detained, 1 US KIA and 3 US WIA(E). At about 1820H on 21 January, **D/1-1 Cavalry** inserted the "Blues" (Aero Rifle Platoon) at coordinates BS622972 where they engaged an UNSEF. The outcome of the contact was 13 VC KIA, 2 VN detained and 2 IWC. There were no friendly casualties. The following day, 22 January, **D/1-1** again made contact and a sweep of the same area and found 6 IW. **D/1-6**, at 251715H January on search and clear mission (BS657891) detonated a booby trapped "Bouncing Betty" anti-personnel mine that caused one US KIA and two US WIA(E). As a result of all contacts,

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SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, 23d Infantry Division
(Americal), Period Ending 30 April 1971, RCS CSFOR - 65 (R3) (U)

1-6 Infantry reported the following totals for the period 21 through 28 January: 16 NVA/VC KIA, 11 IWC, 1 US KIA and 5 US WIA(E). There was very light contact reported for the first six days of February. Mechanical ambushes accounted for 2 VC KIA during this period. On the 7th, **C/1-6** made contact at three separate locations, 071150H, (BS703881), 071510H (BS738842), 07165H (BS752840). At the first location **C Company** engaged 6 VC and as a result 1 VC was KIA, 1 VN detained WIA and 3 IWC with no US casualties. At the last two locations, **C Company** elements detonated two booby traps that resulted in 7 US WIA(E). At 0830 hours 8 February, while reconning an area (BS689894) H Troop, 17th Cavalry tripped a booby trapped mechanical ambush and suffered 3 US WIA(E). There were no significant contacts reported until 20 February when **D/1-6 Inf** detonated a booby trapped can of penta. The resulting explosion caused 5 US WIA(E). There were no further significant events through the end of February. Cumulative totals for all contacts during the month of February were as follows: 6 VC/NVA KIA, 6 IWC while friendly casualties totaled 27 US WIA(E). Initiated at 0601H on 23 July 1969, Operation NANTUCKET BEACH was terminated effective 010600H March 1971. Results of Operation NANTUCKET BEACH for the reporting period are:

US

5 KIA
86 WIA(E)
4 WIA(M)
0 MIA

ENEMY

91 KIA (CONF)
0 KIA (PROB)
579 DET
16 PW/VC
0 PW/NVA
13 RTNEE/VC
0 RTNEE/NVA
72 CIV DEF
29 IN CIV
48 IWC
0 CSWC

Cumulative results of Operation NANTUCKET BEACH are:

US

51 KIA
588 WIA(E)
63 WIA(M)
0 MIA

ENEMY

630 KIA (CONF)
0 KIA (PROB)
579 DET
36 PW/VC
2 PW/NVA
21 RTNEE/VC
0 RTNEE/NVA
346 CIV DEF
268 IN CIV
207 IWC
5 CSWC

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SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, 23d Infantry Division
(Americal), Period Ending 30 April 1971, RCS CSFOR - 65 (R3) (U)

(g) Effective 010600H March 1971, **Operation MIDDLESEX PEAK** was initiated under tactical control of Commanding Officer, 196th Brigade. In conjunction and close coordination with the GVN forces in the combined TAOR, emphasis is on continuous and aggressive combat operations, to increase the level of security of pacified areas along the coastal plains and to destroy main force and NVA units operating in the western portion of the AO, and to assist in rice denial operations. At 010955H, a 5 ton vehicle from A/26 Engr, BT015324, detonated a 40 pound land mine resulting in 3 USWIA(E). At 1310H vicinity BT016330 a second 5 ton vehicle from A/26 Engr Detonated a 40 pound mine resulting in 2 US WIA(E). On 4 March 1971 F/17 Cav, while operating vicinity BT177248, received 4 RPG rounds and 5 81mm mortar rounds. Friendly casualties were 1 US KIA and 5 US WIA(E). At 040705H in the area of AT818273, R/4-31 engaged 6 VC resulting in 4 VC KIA and no friendly casualties. On 5 March D/3-21 detonated a booby trapped 5 pound can of petna while searching vicinity BT215238. Detonation caused 4 US WIA(E). On 10 March A/4-31 suffered 4 US WIA(E) when a booby trapped hand grenade was detonated at AT970307. On 12 March at BT294115, B/5-46 detonated a booby trapped hand grenade resulting in 5 US WIA(E). Light and scattered contacts were reported until 16 March when C/4-31 engaged 6 VC at AT996296. 5 VC were KIA and 3 IWC with no friendly losses. D/1-46 found a weapons cache at BS096957 on 20 March consisting of 15 IWC. Results of all contacts for the period 1 March through 20 March are 68 VC/NVA KIA, 15 IWC, 2 CSWC, 1 US KIA, 52 US WIA(E) and 3 US WIA(M). On the 21st of March while patrolling in the vicinity of BT227134/230138, A/5-46 engaged an UNSEF that resulted in 5 VC/NVA KIA and 6 VN detained. US forces sustained no losses. There were no significant contacts reported until 280155H March when LZ Maryanne received a mortar and sapper ground attack. Elements of CP group, C Company, Recon and Mortars, 1-46 Inf were engaged by an UNSEF which succeeded in breaching the perimeter. Results of the attack are as follows: 12 VC/NVA KIA, 30 US KIA, 82 US WIA(E), 1 155mm Howitzer destroyed and 1 155mm Howitzer damaged. On the morning of 31 March at BT240473 elements of F/17 Cav engaged an enemy force of unknown size. During the fire fight, 11 VC/NVA were KIA. There were no friendly casualties. Results of operations for the last ten days of March were reported as: 76 VC/NVA, 14 IWC, 1 CSWC, 35 US KIA, 96 US WIA(E) and 2 US WIA(M). While conducting a search operation on 1 April in the vicinity of AS961998, D/1-46 found and arms cache consisting of 5 IWC and 1 CSWC. F/17 Cav operating in the vicinity of BT204517 found seven graves on 5 April and credited the kills to B/3-82 Artillery. On 7 April, at BT213492, elements of F/17 Cav detonated a mine resulting in 1 US KIA, 2 US WIA(E) and 2 US WIA(M). Cumulative results for the period 1-7 April were reported by the 196th Brigade as being: 23 VC/NVA KIA, 8 IWC, 1 CSWC, 24 US WIA(E) and 4 US WIA(M). Light and scattered contacts were reported through 10 April. Effective 111430H April, the 198th Brigade terminated its activities in Operation FINNEY HILL and in conjunction with the 196th Brigade commenced participation in Operation MIDDLESEX PEAK. In a series of unrelated and scattered engagements on 13 April US forces suffered 6 US WIA(E) and 1 US WIA(M). Enemy casualties were not determined. At BT205505, 15 April, elements of F/17 Cav detonated a booby trapped 60mm mortar round. There were 3 US WIA(E). In all reported engagements for the period 8 through 15 April there were 21 VC/NVA KIA, 8 IWC, 19 US WIA(E) and 1 US WIA(M). At 161730H April, C/5-46 had a mechanical ambush detonate in the vicinity of BT255081 resulting in 3 VC/NVA KIA and 2 IWC. In the 198th Brigade TAOR **R/1-6**, while patrolling in the vicinity of BS457893, detonated a 105mm round booby trapped with a trip wire firing device which resulted in 1 US KIA and 3 US WIA(E). In the 196th Brigade area of operation F/8 Cav at AT966525 received SAF resulting in 3 US WIA(E). Light and minor engagements were reported throughout the AO until the early morning of 21 April when H/17 Cav in night laager in the vicinity of AT966530 received two unknown type explosions at 0015H. 1 US KIA and 5 US WIA(E) were sustained and one M113A1 was declared a combat loss. At 0900H, 22 April **E/1-6** detonated an M16A1 mine in the vicinity of LZ Professional which resulted in 12 US WIA(E). E/1-1 Cav at AT967556 engaged an UNSEF on 23 April and received credit for 4 VC/NVA KIA and 1 IWC

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Two hours earlier at 1235H, A/1-6 engaged 5 NVA/VC at BT387006 and was credited with 4 VC/NVA KIA. In the 196th Brigade AO at LZ Stinson at 240545H April, Hq Co, 1-52 Inf received 30-40 60mm mortar rounds resulting in 7 US WIA(E) and 1 US WIA(M). At 241200H April in the vicinity of BS 355777 A/1-52 received an attack by fire with SAF, RPG and B40 rockets. US casualties were 8 US WIA(E). Enemy losses were not determined. 25 April marked the high point of activity in the combined 196th and 198th Brigades AO when in a series of sharp contacts the Brigades reported 15 VC/NVA KIA, 3 IWC and 1 CSWC while US losses were 2 KIA, 14 WIA(E) and 10 WIA(M). At 251610H, BS350784, A/1-52 received SAF and B40 rocket fire causing 5 US WIA(E) and 9 WIA(M). Return fire accounted for 2 NVA/VC KIA. at 1825H, 25 April at AT965523, A/2-1 received and returned an intense volume of small arms fire from an UNSEF. The fire fight resulted in 6 VC/NVA KIA and 1 US KIA with 5 US WIA(E). At BS577895 on 26 April a convoy from 23d S&T Bn received SAF resulting in 4 US WIA(E). F/17 Cav on 270820H April, detonated a land mine at BT035395 which resulted in the combat loss of an M113A1 with 2 US KIA and 3 US WIA(E). In the vicinity of BS353798 at 281315H April, D/1-52 engaged 4 NVA. When the contact was broken, a sweep of the area revealed 4 NVA KIA and 1 IWC. On the last day of the reporting period, 30 April, at BS348773, A/1-52 received SAF and two rounds of B40 rockets, inflicting serious wounds to 5 US personnel with 2 US suffering minor wounds. At 0825H, 20 April, at the same location, A/1-52 had received a similar attack by fire resulting in 5 US WIA(E). Total results for period 16 through 30 April for Operation MIDDLESEX PEAK were reported as: 76 VC/NVA KIA, 20 IWC, 3 CSWC, 6 US KIA, 102 US WIA(E) and 19 US WIA(M). Cumulative totals for Operation MIDDLESEX PEAK for the reporting period were:

US

45 KIA
295 WIA(E)
44 WIA(M)
0 MIA

ENEMY

274 KIA (CONF)
0 KIA (PROB)
118 DET
10 PW/VC
3 PW/NVA
4 RTNEE/VC
0 RTNEE/NVA
61 CIV DEF
9 IN CIV
83 IWC
7 CSWC

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b. The direct support unit of the 198th Infantry Brigade remained the 1st Battalion, 14th Artillery. Four howitzers of B Battery remained detached from the battalion and attached to 3-82 Artillery throughout the period. During the period 1 March to 11 April, C Battery of the battalion was detached and attached to 3-82 Artillery. During this same period, the battalion had A, B and D Batteries, 6-11 Artillery attached, thereby controlling the fires of five batteries.

(1) A Battery (with two howitzers from B Battery, 1-14 Artillery Attached) continued to provide support to **1-6 Infantry** from split positions. At the beginning of the period, four howitzers were located at Bayonet (BT558003) and four howitzers at Dottie (BS630853). On 23 December two howitzers were moved from Bayonet to Tam Ky (BT292232) to provide artillery coverage for Division convoy to Da Nang taking troops to see the Bob Hope Show. These howitzers returned to Bayonet on 25 December following closure of the convoy back to Chu Lai in the late evening of 24 December. Two howitzers were moved from Dottie to a field position (BT568000) on 19 January to provide support for eagle flights of **1-6 Infantry**, and returned to Dottie on the same day. On 17 February two howitzers were moved to Ha Thanh (BS385698) to provide support for 1-52 Infantry. On 1 March two howitzers were displaced by road from Dottie to LZ (BS753432) to provide support to 1-20 Infantry, when C Battery, 6-11 Artillery was displaced to support Operation LAMSON 719. On 6 March the two howitzers at Liz were deployed to Snoopy (BS705613) where they remained until 31 March when they returned to Dottie. At the end of the period, the battery headquarters and four howitzers were located at Bayonet, two howitzers at Dottie and two howitzers at Ha Thanh.

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While on patrol on the morning of 20 December, **A/1-6 Inf** detonated an 82mm mortar round booby trapped with a pressure release firing device in the vicinity of BS644896 resulting in 6 US soldiers WIA(E) and 2 US soldiers WIA(M). No significant contacts were reported in the AO from 21 December 1970 through 30 December 1970. There were no contacts reported on 24-25 December during the Christmas Truce Period. Division units resumed offensive operations at 1801H, 25 December 1970. On 31 December, elements of **D/1-6** while operating in the vicinity of BS679881 received small arms and M79 grenade fire sustaining 3 US WIA(E). At 1800H 31 December, the Division again assumed a defensive posture for the twenty-four hour New Years Truce period. Defensive patrols and ambushes were utilized to negate any truce violations reported in the Nantucket Beach AO. At 1801H, 1 January 1971, until 1310H, 5 January when **D/1-6** engaged 10 VC at BS673894. Results of the fire fight were 1 VC KIA, 1 IWC and 4 US WIA(E). No contacts were

reported on the 6th of January. **D/1-6** detonated an M26 hand grenade in the vicinity of BS674894 on the 7th of January. 6 US soldiers were wounded by the detonation. While operating in the area of BS720845, **A/1-6 Infantry** engaged 7 VC on the 9th of January and accounted for 6 VC KIA and 2 US WIA(E). Total results for all engagements for the period of 20 December 1970 through 10 January 1971 were 8 enemy KIA, 7 IWC and 19 US WIA(E) and 2 US WIA(M). On 11 January two contacts resulted in the death of 3 VC and 1 IWC. The first contact occurred at 0505H when **R/1-6** in the vicinity of BS682897 had a mechanical ambush detonate resulting in 1 VC KIA with 1 IWC and the other when **A/1-6** found 2 VC KBA in the vicinity of BS726854. There was no contact on the 12th and 13th. On the 14th of January at 0918H in the vicinity of BS685882, **A/1-1 Cav** detonated a booby trapped hand grenade resulting in 3 US WIA(E). The following day **D/1-6** at 1130H in the vicinity of BS654884 engaged and killed 2 VC. Light contact was reported during the 16th through the 19th of January. On 20 January **A/1-1 Cav** detonated two booby traps in the vicinity of BS682933 which resulted in 1 US KIA and 3 US WIA(E). Total results reported by the 198th Brigade for the period 11-20 January in Operation NANTUCKET BEACH were 13 VC KIA with 1 IWC, 13 VN detained, 1 US KIA and 3 US WIA(E). At about 1820H on 21 January, **D/1-1 Cavalry** inserted the "Blues" (Aero Rifle Platoon) at coordinates BS622972 where they engaged an UNSEF. The outcome of the contact was 13 VC KIA, 2 VN detained and 2 IWC. There were no friendly casualties. The following day, 22 January, **D/1-1** again made contact and a sweep of the same area and found 6 IW. **D/1-6**, at 251715H January on search and clear mission (BS657891) detonated a booby trapped "Bouncing Betty" anti-personnel mine that caused one US KIA and two US WIA(E). As a result of all contacts,

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(Americal), Period Ending 30 April 1971, RCS CSFOR - 65 (R3) (U)**

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<u>US</u>	<u>ENEMY</u>
5 KIA	91 KIA (CONF)
86 WIA(E)	0 KIA (PROB)
4 WIA(M)	579 DET
0 MIA	16 PW/VC
	0 PW/NVA
	13 RTNEE/VC
	0 RTNEE/NVA
	72 CIV DEF
	29 IN CIV
	48 IWC
	0 CSWC

Cumulative results of Operation NANTUCKET BEACH are:

<u>US</u>	<u>ENEMY</u>
51 KIA	630 KIA (CONF)
588 WIA(E)	0 KIA (PROB)
63 WIA(M)	579 DET
0 MIA	36 PW/VC
	2 PW/NVA
	21 RTNEE/VC
	0 RTNEE/NVA
	346 CIV DEF
	268 IN CIV
	207 IWC
	5 CSWC

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SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, 23d Infantry Division
(Americal), Period Ending 30 April 1971, RCS CSFOR - 65 (R3) (U)

(g) Effective 010600H March 1971, **Operation MIDDLESEX PEAK** was initiated under tactical control of Commanding Officer, 196th Brigade. In conjunction and close coordination with the GVN forces in the combined TAOR, emphasis is on continuous and aggressive combat operations, to increase the level of security of pacified areas along the coastal plains and to destroy main force and NVA units operating in the western portion of the AO, and to assist in rice denial operations. At 010955H, a 5 ton vehicle from A/26 Engr, BT015324, detonated a 40 pound land mine resulting in 3 USWIA(E). At 1310H vicinity BT016330 a second 5 ton vehicle from A/26 Engr Detonated a 40 pound mine resulting in 2 US WIA(E). On 4 March 1971 F/17 Cav, while operating vicinity BT177248, received 4 RPG rounds and 5 81mm mortar rounds. Friendly casualties were 1 US KIA and 5 US WIA(E). At 040705H in the area of AT818273, R/4-31 engaged 6 VC resulting in 4 VC KIA and no friendly casualties. On 5 March D/3-21 detonated a booby trapped 5 pound can of petna while searching vicinity BT215238. Detonation caused 4 US WIA(E). On 10 March A/4-31 suffered 4 US WIA(E) when a booby trapped hand grenade was detonated at AT970307. On 12 March at BT294115, B/5-46 detonated a booby trapped hand grenade resulting in 5 US WIA(E). Light and scattered contacts were reported until 16 March when C/4-31 engaged 6 VC at AT996296. 5 VC were KIA and 3 IWC with no friendly losses. D/1-46 found a weapons cache at BS096957 on 20 March consisting of 15 IWC. Results of all contacts for the period 1 March through 20 March are 68 VC/NVA KIA, 15 IWC, 2 CSWC, 1 US KIA, 52 US WIA(E) and 3 US WIA(M). On the 21st of March while patrolling in the vicinity of BT227134/230138, A/5-46 engaged an UNSEF that resulted in 5 VC/NVA KIA and 6 VN detained. US forces sustained no losses. There were no significant contacts reported until 280155H March when LZ Maryanne received a mortar and sapper ground attack. Elements of CP group, C Company, Recon and Mortars, 1-46 Inf were engaged by an UNSEF which succeeded in breaching the perimeter. Results of the attack are as follows: 12 VC/NVA KIA, 30 US KIA, 82 US WIA(E), 1 155mm Howitzer destroyed and 1 155mm Howitzer damaged. On the morning of 31 March at BT240473 elements of F/17 Cav engaged an enemy force of unknown size. During the fire fight, 11 VC/NVA were KIA. There were no friendly casualties. Results of operations for the last ten days of March were reported as: 76 VC/NVA, 14 IWC, 1 CSWC, 35 US KIA, 96 US WIA(E) and 2 US WIA(M). While conducting a search operation on 1 April in the vicinity of AS961998, D/1-46 found and arms cache consisting of 5 IWC and 1 CSWC. F/17 Cav operating in the vicinity of BT204517 found seven graves on 5 April and credited the kills to B/3-82 Artillery. On 7 April, at BT213492, elements of F/17 Cav detonated a mine resulting in 1 US KIA, 2 US WIA(E) and 2 US WIA(M). Cumulative results for the period 1-7 April were reported by the 196th Brigade as being: 23 VC/NVA KIA, 8 IWC, 1 CSWC, 24 US WIA(E) and 4 US WIA(M). Light and scattered contacts were reported through 10 April. Effective 111430H April, the 198th Brigade terminated its activities in Operation FINNEY HILL and in conjunction with the 196th Brigade commenced participation in Operation MIDDLESEX PEAK. In a series of unrelated and scattered engagements on 13 April US forces suffered 6 US WIA(E) and 1 US WIA(M). Enemy casualties were not determined. At BT205505, 15 April, elements of F/17 Cav detonated a booby trapped 60mm mortar round. There were 3 US WIA(E). In all reported engagements for the period 8 through 15 April there were 21 VC/NVA KIA, 8 IWC, 19 US WIA(E) and 1 US WIA(M). At 161730H April, C/5-46 had a mechanical ambush detonate in the vicinity of BT255081 resulting in 3 VC/NVA KIA and 2 IWC. In the 198th Brigade TAOR **R/1-6**, while patrolling in the vicinity of BS457893, detonated a 105mm round booby trapped with a trip wire firing device which resulted in 1 US KIA and 3 US WIA(E). In the 196th Brigade area of operation F/8 Cav at AT966525 received SAF resulting in 3 US WIA(E). Light and minor engagements were reported throughout the AO until the early morning of 21 April when H/17 Cav in night laager in the vicinity of AT966530 received two unknown type explosions at 0015H. 1 US KIA and 5 US WIA(E) were sustained and one M113A1 was declared a combat loss. At 0900H, 22 April **E/1-6** detonated an M16A1 mine in the vicinity of LZ Professional which resulted in 12 US WIA(E). E/1-1 Cav at AT967556 engaged an UNSEF on 23 April and received credit for 4 VC/NVA KIA and 1 IWC.

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Two hours earlier at 1235H, **A/1-6** engaged 5 NVA/VC at BT387006 and was credited with 4 VC/NVA KIA. In the 196th Brigade AO at LZ Stinson at 240545H April, Hq Co, 1-52 Inf received 30-40 60mm mortar rounds resulting in 7 US WIA(E) and 1 US WIA(M). At 241200H April in the vicinity of BS355777 A/1-52 received an attack by fire with SAF, RPG and B40 rockets. US casualties were 8 US WIA(E). Enemy losses were not determined. 25 April marked the high point of activity in the combined 196th and 198th Brigades AO when in a series of sharp contacts the Brigades reported 15 VC/NVA KIA, 3 IWC and 1 CSWC while US losses were 2 KIA, 14 WIA(E) and 10 WIA(M). At 251610H, BS350784, A/1-52 received SAF and B40 rocket fire causing 5 US WIA(E) and 9 WIA(M). Return fire accounted for 2 NVA/VC KIA. at 1825H, 25 April at AT965523, A/2-1 received and returned an intense volume of small arms fire from an UNSEF. The fire fight resulted in 6 VC/NVA KIA and 1 US KIA with 5 US WIA(E). At BS577895 on 26 April a convoy from 23d S&T Bn received SAF resulting in 4 US WIA(E). F/17 Cav on 270820H April, detonated a land mine at BT035395 which resulted in the combat loss of an M113A1 with 2 US KIA and 3 US WIA(E). In the vicinity of BS353798 at 281315H April, D/1-52 engaged 4 NVA. When the contact was broken, a sweep of the area revealed 4 NVA KIA and 1 IWC. On the last day of the reporting period, 30 April, at BS348773, A/1-52 received SAF and two rounds of B40 rockets, inflicting serious wounds to 5 US personnel with 2 US suffering minor wounds. At 0825H, 20 April, at the same location, A/1-52 had received a similar attack by fire resulting in 5 US WIA(E). Total results for period 16 through 30 April for Operation MIDDLESEX PEAK were reported as: 76 VC/NVA KIA, 20 IWC, 3 CSWC, 6 US KIA, 102 US WIA(E) and 19 US WIA(M). Cumulative totals for Operation MIDDLESEX PEAK for the reporting period were:

US

45 KIA
295 WIA(E)
44 WIA(M)
0 MIA

ENEMY

274 KIA (CONF)
0 KIA (PROB)
118 DET
10 PW/VC
3 PW/NVA
4 RTNEE/VC
0 RTNEE/NVA
61 CIV DEF
9 IN CIV
83 IWC
7 CSWC

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b. The direct support unit of the 198th Infantry Brigade remained the 1st Battalion, 14th Artillery. Four howitzers of B Battery remained detached from the battalion and attached to 3-82 Artillery throughout the period. During the period 1 March to 11 April, C Battery of the battalion was detached and attached to 3-82 Artillery. During this same period, the battalion had A, B and D Batteries, 6-11 Artillery attached, thereby controlling the fires of five batteries.

(1) A Battery (with two howitzers from B Battery, 1-14 Artillery Attached) continued to provide support to **1-6 Infantry** from split positions. At the beginning of the period, four howitzers were located at Bayonet (BT558003) and four howitzers at Dottie (BS630853). On 23 December two howitzers were moved from Bayonet to Tam Ky (BT292232) to provide artillery coverage for Division convoy to Da Nang taking troops to see the Bob Hope Show. These howitzers returned to Bayonet on 25 December following closure of the convoy back to Chu Lai in the late evening of 24 December. Two howitzers were moved from Dottie to a field position (BT568000) on 19 January to provide support for eagle flights of **1-6 Infantry**, and returned to Dottie on the same day. On 17 February two howitzers were moved to Ha Thanh (BS385698) to provide support for 1-52 Infantry. On 1 March two howitzers were displaced by road from Dottie to LZ (BS753432) to provide support to 1-20 Infantry, when C Battery, 6-11 Artillery was displaced to support Operation LAMSON 719. On 6 March the two howitzers at Liz were deployed to Snoopy (BS705613) where they remained until 31 March when they returned to Dottie. At the end of the period, the battery headquarters and four howitzers were located at Bayonet, two howitzers at Dottie and two howitzers at Ha Thanh.

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8. (U) Command Changes.

a. The following command changes have been made during the time from 30 April 1971 through 10 Oct 1971:

(1) Generals (a) BG B. K. Gorwitz assumed command of the 23d Infantry Division vice MG James L. Baldwin on 9 Jun 71.

(b) MG Frederick J. Kroesen assumed command of the 23d Infantry Division vice BG B. K. Gorwitz on 9 Jul 71.

(2) Colonels: (a) COL R. D. Beard assumed command of the 196th Inf Bde on 6 Jun 71, vice COL W.S. Hathaway.

(b) COL R. J. Malley assumed command of DISCOM on 3 Sep 71, vice COL G. P. Tilson.

(c) LTC W. E. Ames assumed command of DIVARTY on 16 Sep 71, vice COL J. R. Sadler.

(d) COL P. J. Lindsay assumed command of DIVARTY on 30 Sep 71, vice

LTC W. E. Ames.

(3) Lieutenant Colonels and selected Majors: (a) MAJ J. C. Broadus assumed command of the 6-11th Arty on 2 Jul 71, vice LTC G.E. Hobbs.

(b) LTC R. L. Watts assumed duties as Division G-3 on 17 Jun 71, vice LTC C.E. Saint.

(c) LTC R. G. Arnhyrn assumed command of **1-6th Inf** on 21 Jun 71, vice LTC J. E. Sawyer.

(d) LTC D. J. Delandro assumed duties as the Division Adjutant General on 4 Jul 71, vice LTC R. J. Barnhart.

(e) LTC K. E. Lewi assumed command of the 23d S&T Bn on 7 Jul 71, vice LTC S.R. Levinson.

(f) LTC R. E. Lorix assumed command of the 1st Sqdn, 1st Cav on 14 Jul 71, vice LTC G.L. Breeding.

(g) LTC J. H. Leach assumed command of the 723d Maint Bn on 15 Jul 71, vice LTC S. J. Crabtree.

(h) LTC J. Whitley assumed command of the 1-20th Inf on 19 Jul 71, vice MAJ J. S. Peppers.

(i) LTC S. Chaney assumed command of the 23d Med Bn on 27 Jul 71, vice MAJ J. J. Kent.

(j) LTC D. D. Dewey assumed duties as Division G-1 on 27 Jul 71, vice MAJ O. L. Brock.

(k) LTC F. D. McDermott assumed command of the 123d Avn Bn on 1 Aug 71, vice LTC M. Vissers.

(l) LTC J.J. Callahan assumed command of the 26th Engr Bn on 9 Aug 71, vice LTC T. Sands.

(m) LTC D. G. Mullins assumed command of the **1-6th Inf** on 14 Aug 71, vice LTC R. G. Arnhyrn.

(n) LTC F. H. Mitchell assumed command of the 2-1st Inf on 15 Aug 71, vice LTC H. G. Watson.

(o) LTC T. McClain assumed command of the 3-1st Inf on 19 Aug 71, vice LTC J. B. Luke.

(p) LTC B. J. Thaxton assumed command of the 3-18th Inf on 21 Aug 71,

vice LTC F. P. Mulvey.

(q) MAJ J. P. Real assumed duties as Division Inspector General on 28 Aug 71, vice LTC Axtman.

(r) LTC D. R. Zenk assumed duties as Division Information Officer on

5 Sep 71, vice MAJ M. J. Williams.

(s) LTC R. Negriz assumed command of the 3-21st Inf on 9 Sep 71, vice LTC L. W. Roberts.

(t) LTC W. L. Mitchell assumed command of the 4-31st Inf on 12 Sep 71, vice LTC H. S. Mitchell.

(u) MAJ G. E. Coffman assumed command of the 6-11th Arty on 12 Oct 71, vice MAJ J.C. Broadus.

(v) MAJ A. V. Hardin assumed duties as Division G-2 on 12 Jul 71, vice LTC A. B. Pursell.

(w) LTC W. C. Rolls assumed command of the 1-52d Inf on 26 Jul 71, vice MAJ C. E. Getz.

**SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 23d Infantry
Division (Americal), Period Ending 15 October 1971 (U)**

C. (C) Operations.

1. Major Engagements: Division forces were not involved in any major engagements during the six month reporting period.
2. Operations by AO:

(a) Operation **MIDDLESEX PEAK** conducted by the 198th Infantry Brigade was continued from the previous reporting period. In the first 4 days of May 71 there was light contact reported by the units in MIDDLESEX PEAK. On 5 May action increased, with an element of D/1-52 Inf, vic BS349806, engaging 5 NVA. Results of this contact were 5 NVA KIA. 3-16 Arty at 1730H engaged 3 VC vic BT177214, resulting in 3 VC KBA. On 6-9 May action again slowed as there were no significant contacts reported. B/26 Engr at 101030H, detonated an unknown type mine vic BT218227. Results of this were 2 US KIA, 8 US WIA(E). On 12 May **E/1-6 Inf**, while conducting a patrol vic T421048, engaged an UNSEF. The enemy returned fire and evaded. **E/1-6 Inf** swept the area and found 4 VC KIA. There was also 1 US WIA(E). At 151120H, an aerial observer from Div Arty, while on a VR vic BS092949, found 4 VC KIA. Cumulative results for the period 1-15 May were 16 NVA KIA, 23 VC KIA, 4 detainees and 5 IWC. Friendly casualties were: 2 US KIA, 15 US WIA(E). D/1-52 Inf on 16 May engaged an UNSEF vic BS509912, resulting in 3 VC KIA and 2 MAM detained. The 198th Bde units reported light contact on 17 May. At 0755H, an element of **B/1-6 Inf** engaged an UNSEF vic BS395979. Results of this contact were: 1 VC KIA, 1 US WIA(E). In another early morning firefight, A/1-52 Inf, vic BS552792, engaged and killed 1 VC. In two con-tacts G/75th Rangers engaged 2 VC. Results of this were: 1 VN detained, 1 VC KIA, and 1 IWC. At 1140H a UH-1H from the 116 AVN received SAF vic AS865884, resulting in 1 US WIA(E). Light contact prevailed in the 198th Bde AO on 19 May. In the only significant action reported D/1-52 Inf engaged 3 NVA vic BS350808. Results of this fire fight were: 2 NVA KIA, 2 IWC and 1 US WIA(E). On 30 May B/4-3 Inf detonated a mechanical ambush vic BT184037 resulting in 2 US WIA(E). A patrol from B/1-52 Inf engaged 1 vic BS510838, resulting in 1 VC KIA. At 1520H A/4-3 engaged and killed 2 VC vic BT184037. At 1150H a CH-47 from the 132 AHC received SAF vic AS969-732, resulting in 1 US WIA(E). Booby traps again took their toll on 21 May as A/4-3 Inf detonated one vic BT200014, resulting in 2 US WIA(E). On 22 May an OH-6A from D/1-1 Cav received SAF vic BT340083, resulting in 3 US WIA(E). At 2130H, 23 May, **Recon/1-6** and D/1-1 Cav combined to kill 3 VC in the vic of BT412026. A patrol from A/1-52 Inf detonated a B/T 81mm mortar round vic BS550822. Results of this were 1 US WIA(E) and 2 US WIA(M). 24 May saw the gunships of D/1-1 Cav and the 71st AVN combine to kill 4 VC vic BT180212. A D-7 dozer from the 59th Land Clearing Co detonated a booby trap vic BS547778, resulting in 1 US WIA(E). Operations on 26 May were dominated by the 1-52 Inf Bn. At 0800H Recon/1-52 Inf ambushed 3 VC vic BS565881 resulting in 2 VC KIA and 6 IWC. In a combined operation, C/1-52 Inf and the 116 AVN killed 6 VC and captured 1 IW, vic BS511869. On 27 May D/1-1 Cav engaged an UNSEF, vic AS832876, resulting in 4 NVA KIA. Action increased some what on 29 May, but overall action continued to be light. D/4-3 Inf reported 2 incidents, vic BS229993, and BS234994, resulting in 1 VC KIA and 2 IWC. At 1125H, a patrol from A/4-3 Inf found 8 CSW vic BS123994, resulting in 8 CSWC. C/1-52 Inf engaged 1 VC vic BS572858, re- sulting in 1 VC KIA. At 0040H a gunship from D/1-1 Cav engaged and killed 1 VC vic BS730770. C/4-3 Inf detonated a B/T, vic BT185092 and BT188096. Total results of the 2 incidents were 10 US WIA(E). On 30 May, the gunships from D/1-1 and B/123 AVN combined to kill 10 VC, vic AS977836. Cumul-ative results for the period 16-31 May were reported as: 64 EN KIA, 19 detainees, 18 IWC and 8 CSWC. US casualties were: 42 US WIA(E) and 2 US WIA(M). At 1105H 1 June, C/4-3 Inf killed 1 VC when a mechanical ambush detonated, vic BT208107. A/4-3 Inf engaged 3 VC vic BS162998 resulting in 1 VC KIA and 2 VN detained. In a contact at 0100H, A/1-52 Inf engaged an UNSEF, vic BS563818, killing 1 VC and detaining 2 VN. B/3-16 Arty killed 5 VC while firing on a suspected enemy location, vic BT203152. On 2 June at 1800H a patrol from D/4-3 Inf detained 2 VN, vic BT190024. D/1-52 Inf engaged in two fire fights at 0835H and 1650H, vic BS505856. Results of these contacts were 4 US WIA(E) and 1 US WIA(M). Action in the AO continu-ed to be light on 3 June. B/1-52 Inf detained 2 VN, vic BS491817. At 1410H, a D-7 dozer from the 59th Engr detonated a B/T 105mm round, resulting in 1 US WIA(E) and 2 US WIA(M). B/4-3 Inf at 1555H, engaged and killed 1 VC, vic BT260061. At 1510H a patrol from **A/1-6** engaged an UnSEF, vic BT438-028. Results of this fire fight were 1 VC KIA, 2 IWC and 1 VN detained. A UH-1H from the 116 AVN received SAF at 1405H vic AS977854 resulting in 1 US WIA(E). Gunships from D/1-1 engaged and killed 1 VC, vic BS731765. 198th Bde units reported light contact on 4 June.

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At 1730H, a patrol from Recon/4-3 Inf detained 1 VN, vic BT179064. In contact at 1955H, B/1-52 Inf received heavy SAF, vic BS495830, resulting in 1 US KIA and 2 US WIA(E). At 1206H, gunships from B/123 AVN engaged an UNSEF, vic AS976866 resulting in 2 VC KIA. Results for the period 1-5 June were: 14 EN KIA 14 detained, and 3 IWC. US casualties were 1 US KIA, 10 US WIA(E) and 3 US WIA(M). In the 1st Bn, 52 Inf AO on 7 June, elements of the Recon Plt at BS541817 tripped a booby trapped 82mm mortar round resulting in 4 US WIA(E). In another contact at BS353756, C/1-52 Inf engaged an UNSEF with SAF and AWF. Results of this encounter were 1 VC KIA and 3 US WIA(M). At coordinates BT423038 on June 1-6 Inf and D/1-1 Cav engaged 25 VC. In the brief fire fight, **E/1-6 Inf** received credit for 7 VC KIA and D/1-1 Cav received credit for 2 VC KIA. There were no friendly casualties. In a sweep of the same area of contact on 9 June, **C/1-6 Inf** and D/1-1 Cav found an additional 6 VC KIA. Totals for the contact are: 15 VC KIA. On 10 June **A/1-6 Inf** vic BS520924, received SAF from an UNSEF, resulting in 2 US WIA(E). B/4-3 Inf vic BT290098, received SAF, resulting in 2 US WIA(M). On 11 June, C/4-3 Inf had a mechanical ambush detonate, vic BS177975, resulting in 1 VC KIA and 1 IWC. G/75th Rangers received SAF, vic BT323061, resulting in 1 US WIA(M). On 12 June, C/4-3 Inf vic BT168006 eng 1 VC, resulting in 1 VC KIA. A/1-52 Inf, vic BS394812, engaged 2 NVA, resulting in 1 VC KIA and 1 IWC. On 13 June, D/1-1 Cav, vic BT130219, engaged 2 VC, resulting in 2 VC KIA. D/1-1 Cav again engaged 1 VC, vic BS731782, resulting in 1 VC KIA. On 14 June, 116 AVN engaged 3 VC, vic BS731782, resulting in 1 VC KIA. D/4-3 Inf on 15 June received 4 M79 rounds, resulting in 2 US WIA(E) and 1 US WIA(M). This incident occurred vic BT24110. On 17 June A/4-3 Inf vic BT135235, engaged 4 VC, resulting in 2 detainees and 1 IWC. A/1-52 Inf vic BS388806, engaged 1 VC, resulting in 1 VC KIA and 1 IWC. Gunships from the 116 AVN engaged 2 VC, vic BS397820, resulting in 2 VC KIA. On 18 June B/1-52 Inf and D/1-14 Arty, vic BS368720, received an unknown amount of mortar fire, resulting in 1 US KIA, 5 US WIA(E) and 4 US WIA(M). On 18 June D/4-3 Inf vic BT087290 had a mechanical ambush detonate, res: 1 VC KIA. A/4-3 vic BT126292 on 19 June detonated unknown type mine resulting in 2 US WIA(E). G/75 Rangers vic BT349071 received SAF and CCHG, resulting in 2 US WIA(E). On 20 June B/1-52 Inf vic BS518892 engaged 1 VC, results: 1 VC KIA. D/1-52 Inf vic BS365793 engaged 4 NVA, results: 4 NVA KIA and 2 IWC. D/1-52 vic BS365793 engaged 2 VC, results: 2 VC KIA, 1 IWC. D/1-1 vic BS177787 engaged an UNSEF, results: 1 US KIA; 1 NVA KIA. 176 AVN vic BS247605 engaged 3 VC, results: 3 VC KBG/S. On 21 June D/4-3 vic BT098267 engaged 1 VC, results: 1 VC KIA. A/4-3 vic BT135274 engaged 1 VC, results: 1 VC KIA. D/1-52 Inf vic BS356798 detonated a B/T, results: 1 US KIA, 4 US (WIA(E). Snipers E/1-52 vic BS5588444 engaged 2 VC, results: 1 VC KIA, D/1-1 vic BS172992 engaged 1 NVA, results: 1 NVA KIA. On 22 June, A/4-3 vic BT116443 had 2 mechanical ambushes detonate resulting in 2 VC KIA. Cumulative results for the period 17-22 June 71 were as follows: 22 VC/NVA KIA, 13 detained, 5 IWC, US casualties were: 3 KIA, 16 WIA(E), 4 WIA(E). There were no significant actions for the 198th on 23 June 71. Recon/4-3 at 0815H 24 June engaged 3 VC vic BT099235, resulting in 1 VC KIA, 2 VC detained and 1 IWC. **C/1-6** at BT545006 engaged 2 sappers, results: 2 VC KIA, 1 IWC and 1 CSWC. D/1-1 while on patrol engaged 3 VC vic BT273113 resulting in 3 VC KIA (credit 1 VC KIA to B/3-18 Arty and 2 VC KIA to D/1-1). there were no contacts reported on 25 June 71. On 26 June 71 A/4-3 vic BS211007 found 1 grave, results: 1 NVA KBA. On 27 June C/4-3 vic BT2561126. detonated a B/T results: 2 US WIA(E). As the dust off ship came in, his rotor-wash detonated a second B/T resulting in 1 US WIA(E).

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C/1-52 Inf vic BS515873 found 2 graves, results: 2 VC KIA. C/4-3 while on search and clear operations on 28 June, detonated a B/T vic BS256123, results: 2 US WIA(E). On 29 June A/4-3 vic BT174019 had a mechanical ambush detonate, results: 1 VC KIA. D/4-3 while on search and clear operations vic BT288068 received SAF resulting in 1 US WIA(E). **D/1-6** while on search and clear operations vic BS469972 on 30 June, engaged 2 VC, resulting in 1 VC KIA and 1 IWC. The snipers, 1-52, vic BS546861, engaged 3 VC, results: 1 VC KIA, 1 IWC. A/3-18 Arty vic BS340900, received 20-24x82mm rounds, resulting in 1 US KIA, 3 US WIA(E) and 2 US WIA(M). B/123 AVN Bn vic BS468858 engaged 1 VC, results: 1 VC KIA. Operation MIDDLESEX PEAK was terminated effective 011200H July 1971. Results of Operation MIDDLESEX PEAK for the reporting period were:

<u>US</u>	<u>ENEMY</u>
5 KIA	189 KIA
194 WIA(E)	66 DET
20 WIA(M)	2 PW/VC
0 MIA	7 PW/NVA
	2?RTNEE/VC
	0 RTNEE/NVA
	40 CIV DEF
	14 IN CIV
	39 IWC
	9 CSWC

Cumulative results for Operation MIDDLESEX PEAK were:

<u>US</u>	<u>ENEMY</u>
50 KIA	463 KIA
409 WIA(E)	184 DET
64 WIA(M)	5 PW/VC
0 MIA	17 PW/NVA
	6 RTNEE/VC
	0 RTNEE/NVA
	101 CIV DEF
	23 IN CIV
	122 IWC
	16 CSWC

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(d) **MIDDLESEX PEAK** terminated 011200H July 1971. In 198th Infantry Brigade Operations on 1 July 1971 B/4-3 Inf vic BT199121 had a mechanical ambush detonate, results: 2 VC KIA and 1 IWC. The next day, 2 July, B/4-3 Inf vic BT2002116 had a mechanical ambush detonate, results: 3 VC KIA. Recon/4-3 Inf vic BT272128, engaged 1 VC results: 1 VC KIA and 1 IWC. Recon/4-3 Inf vic BT225132, engaged 3 VC, results: 1 US WIA(E). D/1-1 Cav vic BT518079 found 1 IW, results: 1 IWC. On the 4th of July, C/4-3 Inf vic BT223106 received SAF from an UNSEF, results: 3 VC KIA and 1 US WIA(E). There was no contact reported by the 198th Bde on 5 or 6 July. The next day, 7 July, **A/1-6 Inf** vic BS374925 detonated a B/T, results: 1 US KIA and 3 US WIA(E). D/4-3 Inf vic BT267097 engaged 1 VC, results: 1 VC KIA, 1 IWC. A/4-3 Inf vic BT144002 reported the only activity on 8 July as they detained 10 VN. On 9 July D/403 had a mechanical ambush detonate, results: 4 VC KIA. There were no significant actions on 10 July. Cumulative results for the period 1-10 July were 18 EN KIA, 13 detained and 5 IWC. Friendly casualties were: 1 US KIA and 5 US WIA(E). A/4-3 Inf on 11 July had a mechanical ambush detonate vic BT160005, results: 1 VC KIA. The only action reported by the 198th Bde for 12 July was a LOH from the D/1-1 Cav which was shot down, results: 1 US WIA(E). At 131315 H July **B/1-6 Inf** vic BS313972 engaged 3 VC, results: 1 VC KIA and 1 US WIA(E). D/1-1 Cav vic BT298067 received SAF, results: 1 VC KIA. On 14 July A/4-3 Inf vic BT159000 found 2 VC KIA, results: 2 VC KIA. Later the same day A/4-3 Inf engaged an UNSEF, results: 7 VC KIA. C/4-3 Inf vic BT244057 engaged 1 VC, results: 1 VC KIA. The 176th AVN vic BT233118 engaged 2 VC, results: 1 VC KIA. C/4-3 Inf vic BT438075, detonated a boobytrap, results: 1 US WIA(E). The next day, 15 July, C/4-3 Inf vic BT437050 found 1 CSW results: 1 CSW. **B/1-6 Inf** on 16 July vic BS313972, found 1 IW, results: 1 IWC. 116 AHC vic AT945118 engaged 25 VC, results: 1 VC KIA. No contact was reported on 17 July. The next day, 18 July, saw G/75 Rangers engage 6 NVA, results: 1 NVA KIA, 1 IWC. A/4-3 Inf on 19 July conducted a hot CA, receiving SAF, AWF, M79, and mortars vic BT194125, results: 1 US KIA, 4 US WIA(E). **D/1-6 Inf** vic BT389034, detonated a B/T, results: 1 US WIA(E). Cumulative results for the period 11-19 July were reported as: 16 EN KIA, 5 detained, 1 CSWC and 2 IWC. US casualties were: 1 US KIA and 8 US WIA(E). No contact was reported by the 198th Bde on 20 and 21 July. On 22 July D/4-3 Inf engaged 1 structure resulting in 1 VC KIA. D/1-1 Cav vic BS533982 engaged 4-5 VC resulting in 4 VC KIA. On 23 July Chu Lai, vic BT528097 received 3x122mm rockets, resulting in 1 US WIA(M). Recon/4-3 Inf, vic BT127275 engaged 6 VC, resulting in 5 VC KIA, 2 detained. The following day, 24 July D/1-1 Cav vic BT108325 engaged an UNSEF resulting in 3 VC KIA. On 25 July D/1-1 Cav vic BT140228 engaged 6 VC, resulting in 1 VC KIA, 1 IWC and 5 detained. No contact was reported on 26 July. A boobytrap once again took a toll on 27 July as Recon/4-3 Inf detonated one vic BT179088 resulting in 3 US WIA(E). The following day, 28 July, **A/1-6 Inf** engaged and UNSEF vic BS465890 resulting in 2 VC KIA, 2 detained, 2 IWC and 1 CSWC. C/4-3 Inf vic BS179997 had a mechanical ambush detonate resulting in 1 VC KIA, 1 IWC. D/1-1 on a hot insertion vic BT282069 had 1 US WIA(E). The next day, 29 July, D/1-1 Cav vic BT290040 engaged 1 VC resulting in 1 VC KIA. On 30 July D/1-1 Cav vic Z106087 engaged 3 VC, resulting in 1 VC KIA. There was plenty of action on 31 July as **C/1-6 Inf** vic BS509938 engaged 1 VC resulting in 1 VC KIA. 116 AVN vic BT179120 engaged 3 VC, resulting in 1 VC KIA. D/1-1 Cav vic ZC012085 engaged an UNSEF, resulting in 2 NVA KIA. Later the same day D/1-1 Cav, again engaged an UNSEF at the same grid resulting in 6 NVA KIA. D/1-1 Cav vic BT290068 engaged 1 VC, resulting in 1 VC KIA. Cumulative results for the period 20-31 July were reported as: 35 EN KIA, 10 detained, 5 IWC and 1 CSWC. US casualties were 4 US WIA(E) and 1 US WIA(M). On 2 Aug A/4-3 Inf vic BT140059 had a mechanical ambush detonate, resulting in 1 VC KIA. In the early morning of 4 Aug, A/4-3 vic BS165958 engaged 3 VC resulting in 1 VC KIA, 1 CSWC. There was light and scattered contact through 6 Aug with negative casualties. On 7 August B/4-3 Inf vic BT244000 detonated a boobytrap resulting in 1 US KIA, 2 US WIA(E). D/1-1 Cav vic BS008850 obtained an airstrike and engaged a SEL resulting in 4 VC KIA (credit to Helix FAC 24). On 8 Aug A/4-3 Inf, vic BT1775029 engaged 5 VC resulting in 5 VC KIA. **B/1-6 Inf** had a brief but fierce fire fight on 9 Aug vic BS298977 resulting in 2 NVA KIA, 1 US KIA, 1 US WIA and 1 IWC. The following day A/4-3 engaged an UNSEF vic BT189011 resulting in 3 VC KIA and 1 IWC. In the only contact reported for 12 Aug D/4-3 Inf vic BT280097 had a mechanical ambush detonate, resulting in 2 VC KIA. On 13 Aug B/4-3 Inf vic BT287014 had 2 mechanical ambushes detonate resulting in 2 VC KIA, 1 NVA KIA and 1 IWC. Once again on 14 Aug B/4-3 Inf vic BT287008 had 2 mechanical ambushes detonate resulting in 1 NVA KIA, 1 VC KIA and 2 IWC. A/4-3 Inf on 15 Aug vic BT215070 detonated a mine resulting in 3 US WIA(E), 2 US WIA(M). Action was light until 20 Aug when the snipers of **1-6 Inf**, vic BS493917 engaged 12 VC resulting in 3 VC KIA. Cumulative results for the period 1-20 Aug were: 5 NVA KIA, 34 VC KIA, 6 IWC and 1 CSWC. US casualties were: 3 US KIA, 10 US WIA(E), 2 US WIA(M).

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AVDF-HL

1 November 1971

SUBJECT: Operation Report - Lessons Learned, 23d Infantry Division

In a well planned mechanical ambush C/4-3 Inf on 21 Aug vic BT278055 killed 2 NVA, captured 2 IW. **A/1-6 Inf** vic BS295995 engaged 1 VC with AW and SAF resulting in 1 VC KIA, 1 K-54 pistol CIA. Contact was light and sporadic until 25 Aug when D/403 Inf vic BT255015 engaged 4 NVA, resulting in 1 NVA KIA. B/4-3 Inf at the same grid found a grave resulting in 1 NVA and 1 IWC. The next day, 26 Aug E/1st Cav vic BT065298 received 1 RPG resulting in 5 US WIA(E). On 27 Aug B/3-82 Arty vic BT115140 received 2x122mm rockets. Results of this were 2 US WIA(E). The gunships of B/123 AVN engaged an UnSEF on 28 Aug at BT077297 resulting in 6 NVA KIA. E/1st Cav in two separate incidents on 30 Aug vic BT0018348 were engaged with a command detonated mine and later the same day by SAF. Results of these two contacts were 3 US KIA, and 9 US WIA(E). At 1230H D/1-1 Cav vic BT078296 engaged a SEL, resulting in 5 NVA KIA. The gunships of the 176 AVN engaged an UNSEF at grid BT215215 resulting in 8 VC KIA. Cumulative results for the period 21-31 Aug were: 36 EN KIA, 1 detained, 2 Hoi Chanh and 6 IWC. US casualties were 3 US KIA, 20 US WIA(E). Contact was light on the first 2 days of September. On 2 Sep D/4-3 Inf vic BT215007 had another successful mechanical ambush detonate resulting in 2 NVA KIA, 2 IWC. On 3 Sep **D/1-6 Inf** vic BS284992 engaged an UNSEF, resulting in 3 US WIA(E), and 1 US WIA(M). Action increased significantly on 7 Sep as D/1-1 Cav engaged an UNSEF vic BT0098356 results of the contact were 10 VC KIA. Cumulative results for the period 1-8 Sep were 14 EN KIA, 6 IWC. US casualties were 10 US WIA(E) and 1 US WIA(M). In an ambush on 9 Sep, B/4-3 Inf was engaged by an UNSEF. Results of this action were 4 US WIA(E). On 10 Sep FAC's engaged a bunker complex vic AS932882 resulting in 8 VC KBA/S. Action was light within the 198th Bde AO until 13 Sep when gunships from the 176th AVN engaged an UNSEF vic AT917314. Results of this were 30 NVA KIA. On 15 Sep B/1-1 Cav vic AT979333 received mortar and RPG fire. Results of this were 1 US KIA, 15 US WIA(E) and 2 US WIA(M). Cumulative results for the period 9 thru 15 Sep were reported as 30 NVA KIA, 8 VC KIA and 1 IWC. US casualties were 1 US KIA, 15 US WIA(E) and 2 US WIA(M). Action picked up for the 198 Bde on 17 Sep as D/4-3 Inf vic BT228003 had a mechanical ambush detonate resulting in 1 NVA KIA. **C/1-6 Inf** engaged 1 VC vic BS253965 resulting in 1 VC KIA. B/123 AVN engaged an UNSEF, vic BS353976. Results of this were 7 VC KIA. FAC's engaged UNSEF vic BS353976 resulting in 4 VC KIA. (Credit 4 KIA to FAC's). On 18 Sep C/1-20 Inf vic AT901232, received 20 82mm mortar rounds. Results of this were 5 US WIA(M). On 19 Sep in two separate incidents, **A/1-6 Inf** engaged 3 NVA vic BS357967, results of this were 3 NVA KIA. C/1-1 Cav received SAF and B-40 rockets vic BT051390. Results of this were 2 US WIA(E) The WIA were from D/1020 Inf. No contact was reported on 20 and 21 September. Cumulative results for the period 16-21 Sep were 4 NVA KIA, 13 VC KIA and 1 detained. US casualties were 4 US WIA(E) and 5 US WIA(M). Mines and booby traps again took their toll on 22 September. C/1-20 Inf detonated a mine vic BT045401 resulting in 2 US KIA, 1 US WIA(M). At 1330H, B/1-1 Cav vic AT984337 detonated a mine, results were 6 US WIA(E). C/1-1 Cav detonated a booby trap vic BT042388 resulting in 1 US WIA(E). Later the same day C/1-1 Cav received 5 60mm mortar and 1 RPG rd resulting in 3 US WIA(E). (1 WIA from C/1-1 and 2 WIA from C/1-20 Inf). This incident occurred vic BT018382. C/1-20 Inf on 23 Sep detonated a booby trap vic BT038392 resulting in 2 US WIA(E). (1 WIA from C/1-20 and 1 WIA, a combat photographer, from 523d Signal Bn). B/123 AVN in 4 separate incidents vic AS905876 engaged and killed 10 NVA. After observing a great amount of activity in this area, several air strikes were flown, resulting in 25 NVA KIA. **A/1-6 Inf** on 24 Sep found a weapons cache vic BS345976 which resulted in 16 IWC and 10 CSWC. On 25 Sep, C/1-20 Inf while on dismounted patrol with A/1-1 Cav detonated a booby trap resulting in 6 US WIA(E). This incident occurred in vic BT060390. C/1-1 Cav received SAF and 2 B-40 rockets vic BT062396 resulting in 1 US WIA(E). On 27 Sep, **A/1-6 Inf** vic BS352976 found 2 IW and 1 CSW, resulting in 2 IWC and 1 CSWC. Later the same day, **A/1-6 Inf** received hand grenades resulting in 1 US KIA, 1 US WIA(E). On 28 Sep C/1-1 Cav detonated a booby trap vic BT014325 resulting in 3 US WIA(E). No contact was reported on 29 Sep. On 30 Sep D/1-1 Cav engaged 2 VC vic BS128955 resulting in 2 VC KIA. Cumulative totals for the period 22-30 Sep 38 EN KIA, 20 IWC, 11 CSWC and 3 detained. US casualties were 3 US KIA, 26 US WIA(E) and 1 US WIA(M). On 1 Oct B/1-20 Inf received SAF vic AT918267 resulting in 1 US WIA(E). D/1-1 Cav engaged 2 VC vic BS128955 resulting in 2 VC KIA. A DivArty FO engaged UNSEF w/Arty vic AT979334. Results of this was 1 VC KBA. B/123 AVN on 3 Oct engaged 2 VC vic AS976862 resulting in 1 VC KIA. On 5 Oct D/4-3 Inf had another successful mechanical ambush

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detonate, resulting in 1 VC KIA and 1 IWC. This occurred vic BT143086. No contact was reported by the 198 Bde on 6-11 Oct. On 12 Oct B/123 AVN engaged 4 VC vic BS135778, resulting in 3 VC KIA. On 13 Oct, B/123 AVN engaged 1 VC vic BS0998222, resulting in 1 VC KIA. As of 142400H October 1971, the results of the 198th Infantry Brigade operations were:.

US

12 KIA
102 WIA(E)
13 WIA(M)
0 MIA

ENEMY

257 KIA
35 DET
1 PW/VC
4 PW/NVA
0 RTNEE/VC
0 RTNEE/NVA
27 CIV DEF
7 IN CIV
58 IWC
14 CSWC

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b. 1st Battalion, 14th Artillery. During the period, 1st Battalion, 14th Artillery continued its mission of direct support to the 198th Brigade. Four howitzers of B Battery remained detached from the Battalion and attached to 3-82d Artillery throughout the period. The operational control of A, C and D Batteries by 6th Battalion, 11th Artillery was returned to 6-11th Artillery at the start of the period. On 10 September this Battalion received operational control of C Battery, 6th Battalion, 11th Artillery. C Battery, 3d Battalion, 82d Artillery was OPCON to this Battalion from 16 Sep to 8 Oct. On 12 October this Battalion received operational control of A Battery, 1st Battalion, 82d Artillery.

(1) A Battery, 1st Battalion, 14th Artillery. A Battery continued to provide support to **1-6th Infantry** with four howitzers located at FSB Bayonet West (BT547000) and two howitzers at FSB H Thanh (BS385698). On 23 July while OPCON to 6-11th Artillery for an operation, two howitzers were air moved from FSB H Thanh to FSB Chi Lang (BS289688). On 3 August the two howitzers from FSB Bayonet West were air moved to FSB Blackhawk (BS314971). On 1 September two howitzers from FSB Blackhawk were air moved to FSB Carolyn (BS300970). On 14 Sep the two howitzers on FSB Carolyn were air moved to FSB Bludgeon (BT342007) in support of 4-3d Infantry. On 30 September two howitzers from FSB Bludgeon were moved to FSB Chippewa (BS488968) to support **1-6th Infantry**. At the end of the period, four howitzers remained at FSB Bayonet West and two howitzers at FSB Chippewa.

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(4) C battery, 6th Battalion, 11th Artillery. C Battery was placed OPCON to 1-14th Artillery on 10 September, with four howitzers at FSB West (BT988248) and two howitzers at FSB Siberia (BT903232). On 15 September one howitzer from FSB Siberia was air moved to FSB West in support of an operation conducted by **1-6th Infantry**, and returned to FSB Siberia immediately following the operation. On 4 October two howitzers from FSB Siberia and four howitzers from FSB West were moved to Chu Lai for stand down activities.
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8. (U) Command Changes.

a. The following command changes have been made during the time from 30 April 1971 through 10 Oct 1971:

(1) Generals (a) BG B. K. Gorwitz assumed command of the 23d Infantry Division vice MG James L. Baldwin on 9 Jun 71.

(b) MG Frederick J. Kroesen assumed command of the 23d Infantry Division vice BG B. K. Gorwitz on 9 Jul 71.

(2) Colonels: (a) COL R. D. Beard assumed command of the 196th Inf Bde on 6 Jun 71, vice COL W.S. Hathaway.

(b) COL R. J. Malley assumed command of DISCOM on 3 Sep 71, vice COL G. P. Tilson.

(c) LTC W. E. Ames assumed command of DIVARTY on 16 Sep 71, vice COL J. R. Sadler.

(d) COL P. J. Lindsay assumed command of DIVARTY on 30 Sep 71, vice LTC W. E. Ames.

(3) Lieutenant Colonels and selected Majors: (a) MAJ J. C. Broadus assumed command of the 6-11th Arty on 2 Jul 71, vice LTC G.E. Hobbs.

(b) LTC R. L. Watts assumed duties as Division G-3 on 17 Jun 71, vice LTC C.E. Saint.

(c) LTC R. G. Arnhyrn assumed command of 1-6th Inf on 21 Jun 71, vic LTC J. E. Sawyer.

From Don Bowers LOH pilot for the 198th Bde Aviation.

ON OR ABOUT 15 AUGUST 1970 I WAS FLYING FOR THE 198TH INF BDE. IN THE VICINITY OF CHU LAI RVN. DURING THAT TIME MY OH-6A (LOH) WAS LOW ON FUEL I RADIOED MINUTEMAN POL AND WAS INFORMED THAT ALL OF THE ARMY POL POINTS WERE DOWN BECAUSE OF CONTAMINATED FUEL. AS A RESULT I FLEW SOUTH TO QUANG NGAI FOR FUEL. UPON GETTING INTO RADIO RECEPTION I CALLED AND FOUND OUT THAT THEY ALSO HAD CONTAMINATED FUEL. I THEN HEADED NORTH BACK TOWARD CHU LAI. I DECIDED TO LAND AT LZ DOTTIE BECAUSE OF LOW FUEL STATUS.

WHILE ON THE GROUND I CONTACTED THE AVIATION OFFICER OF THE 198TH INF. BDE. AND HAVE HIM SEND OUT ANOTHER AIRCRAFT WITH SEVERAL CANS AVIATION FUEL. DURING THIS PERIOD OF TIME I FOUND OUT ABOUT A BATTLE THAT WAS OCCURRING WITH ONE OF THE INFANTRY PLATOON ASSIGNED TO 1ST BATTALION 6TH INFANTRY. IT HAD BEEN GOING ON FOR SEVERAL HOURS. THE INFANTRY PLATOON WAS DOWN TO ONLY 14 MEN OF WHICH 2 MEN HAD BEEN WOUNDED. IT WAS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT THE BRIGADE COMMANDER COL. RICHARDSON HAD BEEN OUT TO IT AND HAD BEEN WOUNDED EARLIER IN THE DAY. DURING THE DAY SEVERAL MEDEVAC HELICOPTER HAD MADE EVACUATIONS OF INJURED PERSONAL AT THAT LOCATION. I ALSO LEARNED FROM MONITORING RADIO TRANSMISSIONS AT THE 1ST /6TH INF. TOC THAT THE TROOPS ON THE GROUND WERE OUT OF 40MM GRENADE AMMO FOR THEIR M-79 GRENADE LAUNCHER AND OUT OF 7.62 AMMO FOR THEIR M60 MACHINE GUNS. THE TROOPS WERE ALSO CRITICAL ON 5.56 AMMO FOR THEIR M-16s.

I THEN TOLD THE COMMANDER THAT I WOULD FLY THE AMMO OUT TO THE SURROUNDED TROOPS AND TO BRING ALL THE AMMO TO THE HELICOPTER LANDING PAD.

WHEN THE LOH FROM THE BRIGADE AVIATION SECTION ARRIVED WITH THE FUEL I HAD THE PILOT AND CREW CHIEF GET OUT OF THEIR AIRCRAFT AND TAKE MY AIRCRAFT BACK TO CHU LAI MAIN AIRBASE (U.S. MARINES) SINCE THE FUEL FOR THE MARINES WAS NOT CONTAMINATED. I TOOK THEIR AIRCRAFT WHICH HAD MORE FUEL I USED IT TO FLY THE MISSION. THE PERSONNEL AT LZ DOTTIE LOADED THE AMMO ONTO THE OH6A AND I FLEW TO THE ENGAGEMENT SITE.

UPON ARRIVAL AT THE POINT OF CONTACT I OBSERVED THAT THE UNIT WAS HELD UP ON A SMALL HILL AND WAS SURROUNDED ON ALL FOUR SIDES. I IMMEDIATELY STARTED TO

TAKE HEAVY WEAPONS FIRE BOTH SMALL ARMS AND AUTOMATIC WEAPONS FIRE. I

CONTINUED TO CIRCLE THE ENGAGEMENT WHILE I CONTACTED THE BRIGADE AVIATION OFFICER AND REQUESTED THAT A HELICOPTER GUN TEAM BE DISPATCHED TO THE SCENE TO PROVIDE GUN COVER AND TO HELP DEFEND THE POSITION OF THE GROUND TROOPS.

UNABLE TO GET IMMEDIATE GUN COVER I DECIDED TO LAND AND CONTINUED TO RECEIVE HEAVY GROUND FIRE. UPON LANDING THE AMMO WAS UNLOADED FROM THE AIRCRAFT AND TWO SLIGHTLY WOUNDED TROOPERS CAME TO THE AIRCRAFT AND TRIED TO BOARD. I TOLD THEM TO STAY ON THE GROUND AND HELP THEIR FELLOW TROOPERS AND I TOOK OFF AND STARTED TO CIRCLE OVER HEAD FOR A PERIOD OF TIME IN APPROXIMATELY 10 MINUTES TWO UH-1C GUNSHIPS ARRIVED AT THE HILL TOP AND I TOLD THEM OF THE SITUATION AND GAVE THEM DIRECTIONS WHERE THE ENEMY TROOPS WERE LOCATED.

APPROXIMATELY TWO WEEK LATER I WAS AT THE POST OFFICE IN CHU LAI MAILING PACKAGES HOME WHEN A SOLDIER SAW ME AND SAID "YOU ARE SLOWMOTION 9 AREN'T YOU" I REPLIED THAT I WAS. HE THEN TOLD ME THAT HE HAD BEEN ON THE GROUND THAT DAY AND THAT AS SOON AS I FLEW OVER THEIR POSITION THAT ALL OF THE NVA STOPPED SHOOTING AT THEM AND HAD CONCENTRATED THEIR FIRES ON MY AIRCRAFT.

Donald Bowers

ALLEN, ALAN W.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Alan W. Allen (US-54508379), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 14 May 1968 in the Republic of Vietnam. Sergeant Allen distinguished himself by intrepid actions while serving as team leader with Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. On that date, Company A was given the mission of assaulting a company of North Vietnamese Regulars who were occupying well-fortified bunkers on a ridge line 17 miles west of Tam Ky. As the company began assaulting the hill, the insurgents opened fire with small arms, automatic weapons, heavy machineguns, rockets, and 60-mm. mortars. While moving up the slope, Sergeant Allen continuously exposed himself to the enemy fire. As he and another member of his fire team closed on the bunkers, the enemy began throwing hand grenades. Despite the exploding grenades, Sergeant Allen was one of the first men to breach the enemy perimeter. Once inside the enemy bunker line Sergeant Allen moved quickly and took several of the bunkers under fire. During the ensuing engagement, Sergeant Allen was personally credited with destroying five key enemy bunkers with hand grenades, killing 11 insurgents, and capturing 13 enemy weapons. Sergeant Allen's outstanding display of personal heroism and devotion to duty is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 6385 (August 24, 1968)

***ANELLO, BRUCE FRANCIS (KIA)**

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Bruce Francis Anello (52808707), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Sergeant Anello distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 21 May 1968 while serving with Company D, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 2848 (May 28, 1968)

Home Town: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

ASHLEY, MICHAEL H.

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Michael H. Ashley, Private First Class, U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Private First Class Ashley distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 8 May 1968 while serving with Company B, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 4934 (August 31, 1968)

BARTLEY, CLAUDE O.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Claude O. Bartley (RA-11382054), Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Staff Sergeant Bartley distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 8 February 1968 while serving as a Squad Leader with Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. On that date, the company came under intense enemy automatic weapons and mortar fire from their front and right flank while conducting a search and clear mission south of DaNang. During the initial action, the lead platoon sustained heavy casualties and the rest of the company was pinned down by the devastating enemy fire. Sergeant Bartley immediately ordered his squad to withdraw to a more secure position. Realizing that their position was untenable, he then ordered his men to maneuver to the rear, as he assisted three wounded squad members over 200 meters amidst heavy enemy fire to reach a safe area. As soon as several of the hostile positions were knocked out, Sergeant Bartley expertly reorganized his remaining squad members and returned through the intense enemy small arms fire to rescue other members of his company who were wounded and lying in exposed locations. His courageous actions contributed significantly to the defeat of the enemy force in which 207 enemy soldiers were killed. Staff Sergeant Bartley's unquestionable valor and dauntless determination in close combat against a numerically superior hostile force are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 2448 (May 10, 1968)

BAXLEY, WILLIAM J.

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to William J. Baxley, Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Lieutenant Colonel Baxley distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 6 March 1968 while Commanding the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 1699 (March 31, 1968)

BEAN, ROBERT W.

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Robert W. Bean, Sergeant First Class, U.S. Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Sergeant First Class Bean distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 17 February 1968 while serving with Company D, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. His unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 8829 (November 15, 1968)

BLACK, DONALD

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Donald Black (US-52688035), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against a hostile force on 21 March 1968 in the Republic of Vietnam. Sergeant Black distinguished himself by intrepid actions while serving as a rifleman in the Reconnaissance Platoon, Company E, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division during a combined infantry-armored cavalry sweep in Duy Xuyen District, Quang Nam Province. While searching the hamlet of Ap Bon (1), his platoon suddenly came under intense fire from an enemy force of undetermined size. As the enemy fire increased in intensity, it became necessary for his unit to move back to permit supporting fire to be placed on the enemy's fortified position; however, several of the elements were unable to move from their position. After locating four other men from the platoon who were also pinned down, Sergeant Black immediately took charge and began leading them to rejoin the main body and to continue their mission of closing with the enemy. As his element moved back, they were quickly joined by other elements until they reached the rest of the platoon. The initiative and indomitable courage displayed by Sergeant Black contributed immeasurably to the rapid regrouping of the platoon and to the ultimate defeat of a determined and numerically superior enemy force. Sergeant Black's unquestionable valor in close combat with a numerically superior enemy force is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 2424 (May 10, 1968)

BLISS, DAVID F.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to David F. Bliss (US-54958419), Sergeant [then Specialist Fourth Class], U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Sergeant Bliss distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 8 February 1968 while serving as a rifleman in Company C, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. On that date, his company was moving to establish a blocking position near Lien Lac (2) when they suddenly came under intense fire from an enemy force of undetermined size. Immediately, his platoon leader and Sergeant Bliss' squad moved in an attempt to outflank the enemy who had another platoon pinned down. As they moved towards the pinned down element, several North Vietnamese Army soldiers were chased from cover and engaged with friendly fire. As they approached a hut in a small clearing, the enemy launched an attack on his squad, seriously wounding the platoon leader and squad leader. As Sergeant Bliss' squad pulled back, two enemy soldiers attacked the wounded squad leader. Disregarding his own safety, Sergeant Bliss ran to aid his comrade and successfully stopped the enemy with his accurate suppressive fire. He then joined a group that was providing cover for the withdrawal back across the open rice paddies. When all of the wounded were safely across, these brave men moved back to safety. Sergeant Bliss' personal bravery and unselfish concern for his fellow soldiers are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Headquarters, Americal Division, General Orders No. 3559 (June 30, 1968)

***BOWMAN, JOSEPH B.**

Second Lieutenant (Infantry), U.S. Army

Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade (Light),

Date of Action: February 8, 1968

Citation:

The Distinguished Service Cross is presented to Joseph B. Bowman, Second Lieutenant (Infantry), U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam, while serving with Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, 198th Infantry Brigade (Light). Second Lieutenant Bowman distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 8 February 1968 as an infantry platoon leader during a combat mission near Da Nang. A Marine platoon had become engaged by enemy forces operating from a nearby village, and Lieutenant Bowman led his troops to reinforce the beleaguered unit. As his element approached the village across a large open rice paddy, a North Vietnamese Army battalion sprang a savage ambush on it from entrenched and concealed positions in a tree line and, at the same time, pounded it with a withering barrage of mortar, rocket and automatic weapons fire from the village. The devastating fusillade wounded Lieutenant Bowman and many of his men. Disregarding his wounds and safety, he fearlessly moved among his troops and directed them to defensive positions behind a paddy dike. He then began to evacuate the casualties, and the insurgents unleashed a series of fanatic human wave assaults on his perimeter. Bullets struck all around him as he moved from position to position and inspired his men to repel the determined attacks. The enemy finally overran his lines despite the heroic defense, and Lieutenant Bowman led his men in fierce hand-to-hand battle that inflicted heavy casualties on the attackers. He was mortally wounded while gallantly leading his troops in close combat against a numerically superior hostile force. Second Lieutenant Bowman's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty, at the cost of his life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

HQ US Army, Vietnam, General Orders No. 2342 (May 17, 1968)

Home Town: Roanoke, Virginia

ROMERO, ARTENIO, JR.

Sergeant First Class, U.S. Army

Company C, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division

Date of Action: May 9, 1968

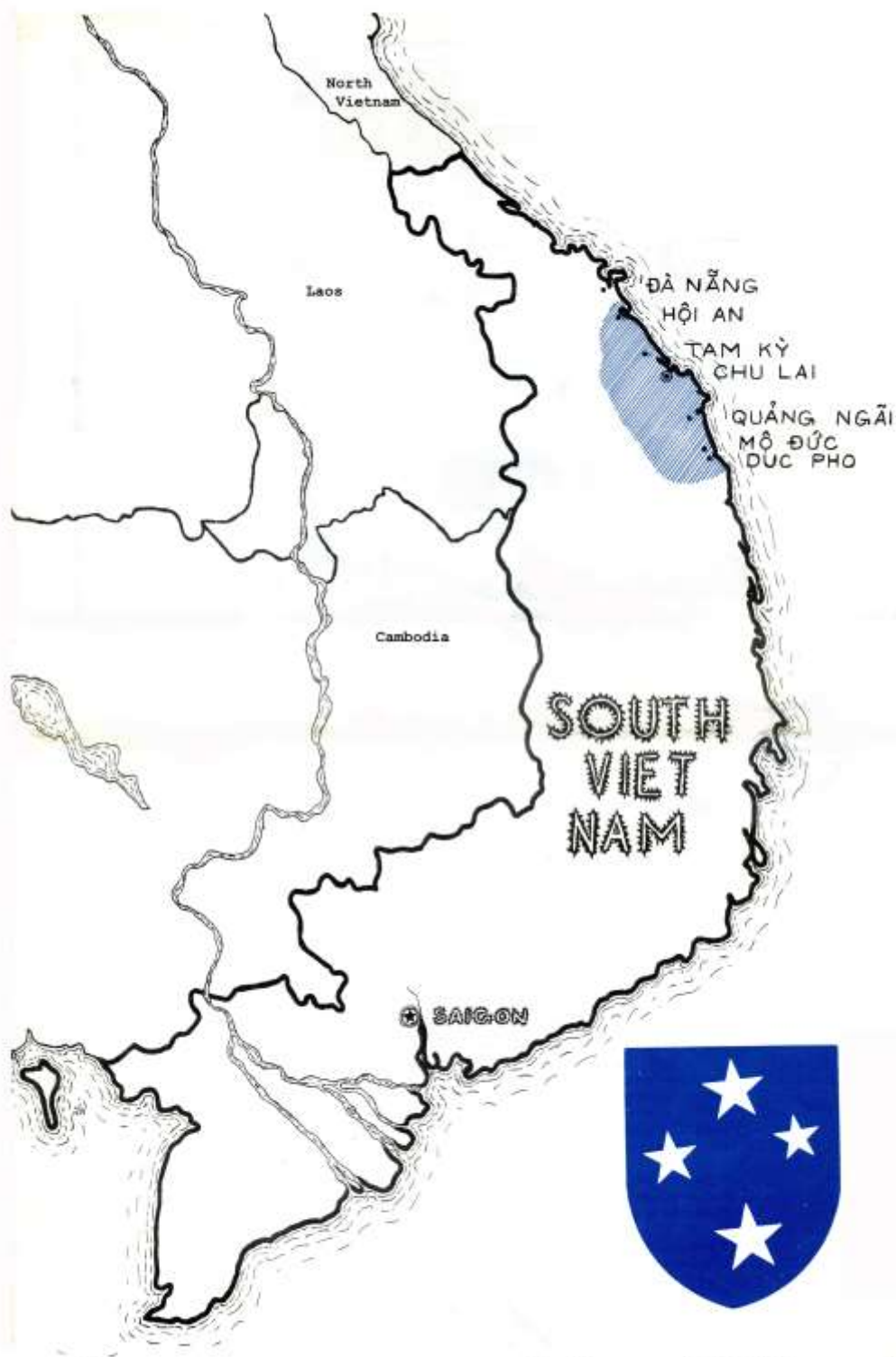
Citation:

The Distinguished Service Cross is presented to Artenio Romero, Jr., Sergeant First Class, U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam, while serving with Company C, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. Sergeant First Class Romero distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 9 May 1968 during a combat mission against a battalion-sized enemy force located on a ridge near the village of Phu Vinh Dong. The enemy held extremely well fortified positions. Sergeant Romero's company came under a devastating mortar attack as it neared the North Vietnamese fortifications. Sergeant Romero organized and deployed his men to provide suppressive fire on the attackers, and then began a personal assault on the enemy bunkers. After successfully destroying three emplacements, he learned that his platoon leader and another man were wounded and pinned down in front of the bunker line. With complete disregard for his personal safety, he moved across open terrain through a withering hail of bullets to aid the men. Reaching them, he dressed their wounds and assisted them to safety. He next learned that another man had been shot and pinned down within ten meters of an enemy trench. As he started up the steep slope toward the man he encountered and killed two North Vietnamese soldiers about to overrun a friendly machine gun crew. Continuing toward the injured man, he was fired at by an enemy soldier hiding in a hole only a few feet from him. The bullet pierced his helmet and threw him to the ground. Despite his dazed condition, he got up and killed his attacker. Along with several volunteers who had moved up to assist him, he again advanced up the hill. He and two other men were wounded by the heavy enemy fire. Sergeant Romero gave first aid to himself and the other two casualties and then helped carry them back to safety. Undaunted by the strong opposition he returned to the battle and destroyed the enemy bunker which had halted his rescue attempt. He then advanced to extract his fallen comrade, but this time the wounded man's position had been overrun. The North Vietnamese were assaulting toward Sergeant Romero and their increased volume of fire forced him to withdraw to the main body of the company. Platoon Sergeant Romero's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

HQ US Army, Vietnam, General Orders No. 4036 (August 20, 1968)

Platoon Sergeant Finnis Dawson McCleery's official Medal of Honor citation reads:

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty. P/Sgt. McCleery, U.S. Army, distinguished himself while serving as platoon leader of the 1st platoon of Company A. A combined force was assigned the mission of assaulting a reinforced company of North Vietnamese Army regulars, well entrenched on Hill 352, 17 miles west of Tam Ky. As P/Sgt. McCleery led his men up the hill and across an open area to close with the enemy, his platoon and other friendly elements were pinned down by tremendously heavy fire coming from the fortified enemy positions. Realizing the severe damage that the enemy could inflict on the combined force in the event that their attack was completely halted, P/Sgt. McCleery rose from his sheltered position and began a 1-man assault on the bunker complex. With extraordinary courage, he moved across 60 meters of open ground as bullets struck all around him and rockets and grenades literally exploded at his feet. As he came within 30 meters of the key enemy bunker, P/Sgt. McCleery began firing furiously from the hip and throwing hand grenades. At this point in his assault, he was painfully wounded by shrapnel, but, with complete disregard for his wound, he continued his advance on the key bunker and killed all of its occupants. Having successfully and single-handedly breached the enemy perimeter, he climbed to the top of the bunker he had just captured and, in full view of the enemy, shouted encouragement to his men to follow his assault. As the friendly forces moved forward, P/Sgt. McCleery began a lateral assault on the enemy bunker line. He continued to expose himself to the intense enemy fire as he moved from bunker to bunker, destroying each in turn. He was wounded a second time by shrapnel as he destroyed and routed the enemy from the hill. P/Sgt. McCleery is personally credited with eliminating several key enemy positions and inspiring the assault that resulted in gaining control of Hill 352. His extraordinary heroism at the risk of his life, above and beyond the call of duty, was in keeping with the highest standards of the military service, and reflects great credit on him, the Americal Division, and the U.S. Army.



This map was printed in the first issue of the Americal Division's "Southern Cross" newspaper in May 1968.



The Americal AO

After September 1969 the Marine boundary was shifted south to give the Marines LZ Baldy and LZ Ross. Then After April 1971 the Marines left I Corps, leaving the Americal to defend Da Nang and areas in Thua Thien and Quang Tri provinces.

Few veterans have obtained expensive battalion or company S2/S3 (Intelligence/Operations) daily journals from the National Archives. These documents record the date, time, location, units involved, as well as a description of the incident reported. Sometimes the names of men or vehicle identification is also mentioned. For units that served with the Americal Division some of these entries were also reported to the Americal Division Tactical Operations Center. So even if you haven't gotten your battalion/company/battery level S2/S3 reports, you might be able to see some of these entries from the Americal Division S2/S3 Daily Division Tactical Operations Center Logs. All 50 months of the Division logs are available online at AmericalFoundation.org.

July-December 1970 1/6th S2/S3 reports were obtained from the National Archives by Col. Wayne Johnston, Ret. These are available from Col. Johnston or from the ADVA Historian. They are not transcribed (computer searchable), but they can be printed and read as would a xerox copy would.

The following is an example of 1/6th Inf. Bn. entries logged into the Division Daily S2/S3 Division TOC for May 1968

Unit	sub_unit	Date	Entry	Text
1/6	D	680501	3	198th, D-1-6 vic BT165074 at 0135H rec'd incoming 82mm mortars and SA fire. Receiving some AW fire (MG) from about 800 meters. 0152H incoming fire stopped, gunship scrambled enrooted at this time. 0217H guns on station. 0225H rec'd 10 rds total. 0228H 1 WHA (M). 0235H guns left station.
1/6	D	680501	32	198th, D-1-6 vic BT160072 at 1159H obs'd 3 VC, eng'd. Res: 1 VC KIA, 1 x AK-47 CIA # 10084799, 2 x Chicom HG's, 4 x AK-47 magazines CIA
1/6	D	680501	38	198th, D-1-6 vic BT154075 at 1345H while searching hut, 1 MAM ran out the back door, did not stop, eng'd. Res: 1 VC KIA
1/6	D	680501	54	198th, D-1-6 vic BT149073 at 1455H loc 5 x US 2.4" rkts near a hut, 3 woman in hut, 1 was Detained, dest rkts in place
1/6	C	680501	63	(delayed) 198th, C-1-6, BT090296 at 2043H had LF 30 Meters fm sniper w/79. Fire came fm azimuth of 130'. Pulled LP back in and called arty.
1/6	C	680501	74	198th, C-1-6, BT090296 at 2230H receiving SA and M-79 fire in NDP. harassing type fire Only. NCD at this time. Gunships scrambled; recd fire while on loc. Firebird 91 – 2 hits in main rotor blade. Still flyable.
1/6	D	680502	25	198th, D-1-6 vic BT163074 at 1333H found 1 x MGSS 36 bolt action rifle, found in bushes, believed to have been there 2 days. #1960 will be evac
1/6	B	680502	26	198th, B-1-6 1st lift PZ 1310 - LZ 1321 Cold 2d lift 1325 - LZ 1330 3rd lift PZ 1337 - LZ 1342 4th lift PZ 1402 - LZ 1402 5th lift PZ 1408 - LZ 1412 Cold CA complete 1412
1/6	B	680502	35	198th, B-1-6 vic BT112333 at 1555H rec'd 2 Rds of sniper fire, returned fire. Res: 1 VC KIA, no ID or equip
1/6	D	680502	41	198th, D-1-6 vic BT163074 at 1333H Ref Journal #25 – correction of wprn: #F5141
1/6	D	680502	44	(Delayed) Tam Ky, LTC Bolte said that Gen Young, LTC Kelly and himself talked about having a 225 man PF force fm Tam Ky work w/D-1-64 [sic 1-6] Inf, LTC Bolte would like to know if LTC Kelly is still game to use force. They are ready for pickup at any time. Called 198th and told them to pass msg to 1-6th Info.

1/6	C	680502	55	198th, C-1-6, at 2115H recd RPG. Gunships on station. 2130H – gunship recd AW fire. Neg cas. Gunship leaving station at 2135H.
1/6	B	680504	2	198th, B-1-6, BT113325 at 0170H recd AW fire and RPG RR rds . Gunship alerted. rds came fm BT108331. Suspected loc of RPG fire – BT122333. 0115H recd 1 RPG rd.
1/6	All	680504	10	Tam Ky, CPT Stewart Reference 1/6 giving supplies to RF/PF Forces Nui Loc Son. CPT Stewart stated that they were not to supply the RF/PF because they have their own channels and had not requested supplies thru them. If any questions, call CPT Stewart, Tam Ky TOC. passed to LT Blanco – 198th – 0853H
1/6	D	680504	41	198th C-1-46 – PZ 1655 LZ Cold, 1st lift LZ 1703, 2nd lift PZ 1700 – PZ Hot – LZ 1720H LZ cold. D-1-6 1st lift complete 1810 LZ Cold. Complete 1840 LZ Cold. A-1-52 and C-1-46 (cont) will logger together tonight at Hill 187
1/6	All	680505	6	198th, 1-6 vic BT052253 at 0030H LZ Center receiving incoming Mort rds, rds 300'at 800 meters, movement around their pos – gunships are being scrambled. Most in PF fire zone
1/6	A	680505	131	198th, A-1-6 at 0245H. Res; 7 NVA KIA, wore green uniforms w/web gear, CIA 3 x AK47's, 2 x RPG, 2 x Rkt launchers. HG's and rkts dest, wpn evac to Baldy (See entry 149)
1/6	D	680505	143	198th, D-1-6 vic BT131203 at 0750H unit found the following equip: 19 x Chicom HG's, 1 x B40 rkt rd, 2 x VN ponchos, 1 x first aid pack, 1 x notebook w/list of names and assigned wpns. ammo will be dest, rest evac
1/6	A	680505	149	198th, A-1-6 vic BT052253 at 0245H checked area of contact found 18 NVA KIA, 8 x AK47's, 5 x RPG 2, 1 x 9mm pistol, also found some type of award on one of the bodies. See Entry 131
1/6	A	680505	182	198th, A-1-6 vic BT052253 at 1355H FSB Center rec'd 3 rds RPG from SW – NCD
1/6	All	680505	197	198th, 1-6 vic LZ Center at 1600H as a chopper was going into Center an RPG rd went off. Helix was not damaged, however 2 soldiers inside per-meter were wounded. Helicopter evac the 2 men to Baldy. Res: 2 US WHA (M)
1/6	B	680505	204	Delayed Entry: 198th, B-1-6 vic BT075246 at 1500H receiving mort fire at this time
1/6	B	680505	207	198th, B-1-6, BT075248, 1st Lift: 6 slicks in at LZ 1236H. 8 slicks: 1350H 12 slicks: 1400H. CA Complete: 1435H. 1358H: last lift off ground.
1/6	B	680505	222	198th, B-1-6 & D-1-20, BT083247 at 1824H recd mort fire fm BT083247. Res: 7 WHA(evac) not broken down into companies. FINAL: 1 KHA, 5WHA(E), (See entry #56 for 6May68)
1/6	A	680505	229	198th, A-1-6, 052253 at 2130H recd 6 82mm. Also bunker 7 at LZ Center reports movement in front of it. 2135H – LZ Center – 2 WHA(minor).

1/6	mortars	680505	234	198, Nui Loc Sohn – contact broke at 2303. VC drew back to following grids, BT024309 BT003293, BT029296. Arty presently firing on grids. Mortars also firing. A 41 of 1-6 (mortars) at Nui Loc Sohn in support of PF's.
1/6	All	680506	58	198th, 1-6 vic BT056276 at 1140H Airstrike on above coord -1 secondary explosion, 1 Jet A/C rec'd AW fire
1/6	B	680506	67	198th, B-1-6 vic BT087244 at 1350H located unk # VC in opening, called arty. Res: 1 VC KIA
1/6	A	680506	68	198th, TOC vic BT052253 at 1408 LZ Center receiving mortar fire at this time. 1414H firing has ceased, rec'd 3 rds, 2 WHA (M) res of mortar attack, both WHA were from LRP Rosie. 1455H FSB Center rec'd 2 more mort rds (see entry #86)
1/6	A	680506	86	198th, BT052253 at 1408H ref Journal entry #68. Total cas fm mort atk at 1408H: 5 WHA (evac) fm A-1-6; 2 US WHA(minor) fm LRP Rosie.
1/6	A	680506	96	198th, A-1-6, fm 1800H – 1900H Center receiving mtr rds between above time. Received 25 mtr rds.
1/6	A	680506	103	198th, A-1-6, BT022289 at 2046 supported PFs w/mtrs. PFs recd SA fire fm BT030283, 028280. Contact broken 2053H. Neg cas.
1/6	A	680506	107	198th, A-1-6, FSB Center recd mtr/RPG fire. Res: 2 WHA(minor).
1/6	B	680506	109	198th, FSB Center, at 1235H B-1-6 recd shrapnel wound fm 20mm frag fm air strike being placed in. Res: 3 WHA(evac). Air Force strike went in at 077260 and may possibly be an air incident. Called 198th and asked for full account.
1/6	B	680506	114	B-1-6, D-1-20, BT066238 at 2352H recd 26 rds of 82mm Neg cas. At 2400H firing ceased.
1/6	D	680507	3	198th, D-1-6 vic BT131229 at 0010-0035H report secondary exp at BT131229 was caused by organic 81mm fire at that coord.
1/6	A	680507	12	198th, A-1-6 vic FSB Center at 0615H 2 rds 82mm mortar impacted 300 meters SE of perimeter. Returned fire w/mortars. 0659H rec'd 3 more rds also outside perimeter to SE. NCD at this time.
1/6	A	680507	14	198th, A-1-6 vic FSB Center at 0724H bunker 1 E perimeter rec'd 2 RPG rds, fell 250 meters short of perimeter. NCD.
1/6	B	680507	51	198th, B-1-6 at 1155H unit reports at plat of VC are firing AW wpns at A/C from the following coords: BT068227 – BT070225 – BT074226 – BT074224 unit is firing arty on above locations
1/6	All	680507	56	Tam Ky at 0447 Tam Ky notified us that 3 RF CO's would conduct a one day opn in attached grid. This area falls within BT AO and over-laps 1/1 and 1-6 will have elements working in this area. Tam Ky was informed and passed word to ARVN's. Tam KY further advised RF CO's would be sweeping the East. Above passed to G3 at 0550H. He directed TOC to inform 1/1 and 198th not to go into the area. This passed by CPT Logan to Sgt Ayres 1/1 Cav and LT Hill at 0550.AO – 1415 – 1615 – 1411 – 1911
1/6	A	680507	74	198th, A-1-6, BT052253 at 1600H recd 1 60mm rd landed 10 meters outside perimeter. NCD.
1/6	B	680507	79	198th, B-1-6, BT057227 at 1705H ele loc a RR POS fm which Center recd 2 rkt at above coord. Calling airstrikes on area.

1/6	B	680507	98	198th, D-1-20, B-1-6, 2 KHA unk # of wounded The Co is consolidating pos. FSB Center is putting direct fire on bunkers. Napalm and ord fm air strikes were on tgt. Some bunkers are burning. Pulled back into pos in tree line. Have not been resupplied as of yet. Feel en will come down either flank or frontal tonight or at 1st light. B Co is in better pos 1300 meters fm D. 8" fire being laid along ridge line.
1/6	C	680508	18	198th, C-1-6 vic BT024224 at 0850H change LZ fm BT055226 because of ground fire to BT024224 1st lift 0850H LZ Cold. 2d lift PZ 0920H – LZ 0915H LZ Cold. CA complete 0931H
1/6	A	680508	19	198th, A-1-6 vic LZ Center- (En) BT080263 (suspected) at 0855H rec'd 2 rds 122mm rkts. NCD
1/6	D	680508	29	Air Movements: 1 plat D-1-6 fm East to West PZ 0747 – LZ 0800 Complete. D-3-1 fm Dragon to Ryder off 0717 closed Ryder at 0824H. B-1-20 Ryder to Ross – complete at 0827H. B-6-11 Sue to Ross 1st 3 lifts off 0630-0755, 4th and 5th off 0800, 6th lift off 0815H, 7th lift off 0952H, 8th lift 0934H – lift of B-6-11 – 1011H CA C-1-6 1st lift PZ 0755 – LZ 0850 LZ Cold. 2d lift PZ 0915 – LZ 0930 LZ Cold. A4-21 Bronco to Ross PZ 0955 – LZ 1100. CA B-1-20 Ross to BT019269 1st lift PZ 1012 – LZ 1015 LZ Cold CA A-1-20 1st lift PZ 1042 LZ 1045 – 2nd lift PZ 1042 – LZ 1059
1/6	B	680508	35	198th, B-1-6 vic BT056226 at 1235H in contact receiving AW fire, called arty and dustoff for 1 WHA (E)
1/6	C	680508	42	198th, C-1-6 vic BT048226 at 1455H – C-1-6 has made it up to top of hill, they are now in contact. Res: 1 NVA KIA, 1 AK47 CIA, 4 Chicom HG's CIA
1/6	B	680508	43	198th, B-1-6 vic BT057228 at 1340H ref journal # 35 have gone back up to top of Hill after contact Res: 12 En KIA, 1 AK47, 1 RPD MG, 1 AA Gun. still fighting. many spider holes. 1 WHA (M). C-1-6 coming fm south side of Hill
1/6	C	680508	43	198th, B-1-6 vic BT057228 at 1340H ref journal # 35 have gone back up to top of Hill after contact Res: 12 En KIA, 1 AK47, 1 RPD MG, 1 AA Gun. still fighting. many spider holes. 1 WHA (M). C-1-6 coming fm south side of Hill
1/6	B	680508	44	198th, B-1-6 vic BT057227 at 1400H res of contact: 13 NVA KIA, 2 x AK47s #10131101, 30640975, 1 x 50 cal AA Gun, 1 x RPD. Receiving mort fire at this time. C-1-6 moving up hill at BT 048227. Enemy mort pos loc vic BT047236. Further info: mort fire ceased at 1440H, additional cas 7 WHA(E), 1 heat cas
1/6	C	680508	44	198th, B-1-6 vic BT057227 at 1400H res of contact: 13 NVA KIA, 2 x AK47s #10131101, 30640975, 1 x 50 cal AA Gun, 1 x RPD. Receiving mort fire at this time. C-1-6 moving up hill at BT 048227. Enemy mort pos loc vic BT047236. Further info: mort fire ceased at 1440H, additional cas 7 WHA(E), 1 heat cas
1/6	B	680508	45	198th, B-1-6 vic BT057227 at 1522H element rec'd 2 x RR rds, gunships has the pos spotted. Dust off for 7 WHA complete. Broke contact 1550H
1/6	B	680508	48	198th, B-1-6 vic BT056226 at 1645H again receiving incoming mortar fire. Res: 1 WHA (E)
1/6	A	680508	77	(Delayed) 198th, B-1-6, BT057227 at 1730H 2 WHA(e) fm frag mtr rd. 1 interpreter KHA.

1/6	B	680508	81	198th, B-1-6, BT057227 at 1927H receiving SA fire fm NE. Called in airstrike. Air STRIKE dropped napalm on loc. Res: 3 NVA KIA.
1/6	B	680508	86	198th, B-1-6, BT057227 at 1815H receiving mort fire. Calling in arty and air strike at this moment. 1920H recd 30 rds mtr. Helix spotted a .50 cal MG pos.
1/6	B	680508	90	198th, B-1-6, BT057227 at 1927H receiving SA fire fm NE. Called in air strike. FAC spotted 3 VC. Airstrike dropped napalm. Res: 3 NVA KIA.(Same as entry #81 RHB)
1/6	C	680508	92	198th, C-1-6, BT047226 at 1940H eng 1 NVA outside perimeter. Res: 1 NVA KIA.
1/6	C	680509	4	198th, B, C-1-6, AT057227 at 0455H recd approx 20 rds of mort, SA fire, and HG. Gunships on station at 0506H. SA and 1 RPG came fm E, pos unk. Neg report of cas or dam.
1/6	B	680509	10	Delayed Entry: 198th, B-1-6 vic BT057227 at 0640H gunships went on station, made a run on tgt on woodline NE of B-1-6, both runs OK, broke S fm BT075225 took hvy cal fire – came around and hit 2d tgt, 2nd ship reported secondary exp.ship took hit and being escorted back to LZ Baldy. Request another gunship. Gunship was hit by 50 cal. fire
1/6	A	680509	19	198th, A-1-6 vic BT052253 at 0940H rec'd 1 x rd 82mm. rd hit 30 meters fm resupply pad - 2 WHA (M)
1/6	A	680509	28	198th, A-1-6 vic BT052253 at 1020H recd 1 82mm mortar rd. Hit a bunker. Res: 4 WHA (E) (see Entry# 68)
1/6	C	680509	35	198th, C&B-1-6 vic BT055225 at 0900-1100H rec'd AW and SA fire, called in Airstrikes. 1 of the F-100's took a hit from BT064239, went back to Da Nang
1/6	B	680509	35	198th, C&B-1-6 vic BT055225 at 0900-1100H rec'd AW and SA fire, called in Airstrikes. 1 of the F-100's took a hit from BT064239, went back to Da Nang
1/6	B	680509	38	198th, B-1-6 vic BT057228 at 1105H rec'd 14 x 82mm mortar rds, NCD
1/6	C	680509	43	198th, C-1-6 vic BT060229 and BT061228 at 1115H C-1-6 started moving forward, got fire from East. are receiving cas. Est 1 Co reinforced with at least one mort plat. Are calling for air- strikes at this time. 1300H cas: 16 WHA(E) from BT060229, most cas are from schrapnel, are receiving fire.
1/6	C	680509	45	198th, S3 Air, 7 airstrikes vic of C-1-6 and D-1-20 contact as of 1305
1/6	A	680509	68	198th, Lt Blanco, Ref mort rd recd by A-1-6. Journal Entry #28. Add 1 US WHA(E).
1/6	B	680510	10	198th, at 1010H B-1-6 rec'd 2 mort rds NCD. coord BT057228, LZ Center rec'd 2 mort rds, NCD
1/6	C	680510	17	198th, vic BT055225 & BT075225 Res: of contact: 2 missing from D-1-20, 1 missing from C-1-6
1/6	B	680510	27	198th, B-1-6 & C-1-6 vic BT057228 at 1125H unit receiving mort fire at this time, also SA fire. 1303H – 4 WHA (E), 1 KHA. 1315H 7 WHA (E), 1 KHA. 1357H 9 WHA (E), 1 KHA, 1 heat cas. contact broke 1346H

1/6	C	680510	27	198th, B-1-6 & C-1-6 vic BT057228 at 1125H unit receiving mort fire at this time, also SA fire. 1303H – 4 WHA (E), 1 KHA. 1315H 7 WHA (E), 1 KHA. 1357H 9 WHA (E), 1 KHA, 1 heat cas. contact broke 1346H
1/6	A	680511	60	198th, A-1-6 vic BT065254 at 1148H A-1-6 in contact at above coord, 1 WHA – dustoff requested- they are receiving SA and AW fire – D-1-20 in contact receiving effective SA and AW fire – neg cas at present time, unit is returning fire at this time – are too close to fire arty. Update: 1255H 1 WHA (E), 1 KHA, 1227H 1 NVA KIA, 1 x AK-47 CIA
1/6	A	680511	64	198th, A-1-6 vic BT065254 at 1315H A-1-6 has requested flame throwers fm BDE, Bde is getting flame throwers ready to send out to unit. unit has a MG pos pinned down
1/6	A	680512	17	198th, A-1-6 vic BT069253 at 0858H rec'd sniper fire from West, now firing M79. 0901H 1 WHA very slight no dust off requested. Sniper in a fortified bunker, trying to work around and dest
1/6	D	680512	24	198th, S3 – vic BT041236 Tell BG Young D-1-6 CA fm West into LZ – BT041236 by slicks. Check to 042227 – 035219 – 045215. Looking for mort firing pos. CG said to hold CA at this time due to air priority at Kham Duc
1/6	D	680512	71	198th, C-1-52 – C-1-52 complete movement from LZ Bowman to LZ East and West at 1250H. D-1-6 has 3 more lifts for completion of move from East to Center
1/6	D	680512	118	198th, D-1-6, BT072235 at 1515H spotted 4 VC at BT072235. Called Ary. Res: 2 VC KIA.
1/6	A	680512	123	TF Roach, TOC, A-1-6 has closed LZ Bowman as of 1925H. Passed to Sp5 Harris – CGs office, to give to LTC Baxley and Gen Young as soon as briefing is finished.
1/6	D	680513	66	198th, A, D-1-6, BT059241 at 1800H in contact. Receiving SA and mort fire. Air strike called on BT053245. 1822H: 2 WHA fm air strike. Still receiving mort fire. Air strike recd cal .50 fire fm BT094243, 078228. Neg hits. Contact broken 1830H. Res: 3 WHA(evac), 2 WHA(minor – fm air strike), 1 NVA KIA.
1/6	All	680513	80	198th, 1-6 BT0483226, fired Arty at above coord, at enemy pos. Res: 3 NVA KIA.
1/6	B	680514	4	198th, B-1-6 vic BT064253 at 0841H B-1-6 rec'd 3 rds mort fire, FSB Center rec'd 1 rd mort fire. NCD. Mort fire coming from vic BT072244
1/6	HQ	680514	7	198th, Hq-1-6 vic BT052253 at 0914H rec'd 5 rds mort, between bunker 1 and 2, neg cas. Think fire is coming from BT078247, Helix is firing rkts at that loc at this time
1/6	A	680514	22	196th, A-1-6 vic BT066234 at 1034H A/C putting in airstrikes rec'd SA fire – unk if hit
1/6	A	680514	25	196th, A-1-6 vic BT063235 at 0810H obs'd 20-25 NVA w/packs moving back and forth in a rice patty, arty called – neg res
1/6	B	680514	30	196th, B-1-6 vic LZ Center at 1032H rec'd 3 rds RR fire, went over LZ Center – believed fired from vic BT075226 – are calling arty on loc
1/6	HQ	680514	35	196th, Hq-1-6 vic BT052253 (LZ Center) at 1235H rec'd 2 rds of 57 RR fire. Res: 1 KHA, 2 WHA (E). Arty being fired on BT076267
1/6	All	680514	44	196th, vic BT056227 at 1545H 1/6 has taken top of hill on Nui HOac Ridge with light resistance

				<p>196th, A and B-1-20; A and D-1-6, BT062227 at 1455H all units were sweeping S on line. A-1-6 recd unk #HG fm east flank and M-79 and SA fire fm the South.</p> <p>1503H – D-1-6 recd AW fire fm BT056226.</p> <p>1505H – A-1-6 reported 1 WHA evac.</p> <p>1510H – D-1-6 reported 1 WHA evac.</p> <p>1513H – D-1-6 reported another WHA.</p> <p>1516H – A-1-6 reported 1 WHA and 1 NVA KIA.</p> <p>1524H – A-1-6 reported they recd 1 RPG 240' fm their pos, eng w/M-72 LAW.</p> <p>1525H – A-1-6 captured 1 60 mtr on E flank.</p> <p>1525H – D-1-6 recd RR fire or RPG fm [BT]056226, 200 meters fm their loc.</p> <p>1527H – Dust off complete for 3 WHA.</p> <p>1529H – A-1-20 captured 1 M-79 LAW.</p> <p>1539H – D-1-6 reported 4 WHA (m) fm mtr fire.</p> <p>1539H – D-1-6 reported 2 WHA fm mtr fire.</p> <p>1540H – A-1-20 recd 2 mtr rds. Neg cas.</p> <p>1541H – A-1-6 recd 1 RPG rd fm BT052220.</p> <p>1547H – A-1-6 had 6 WHA fm mtr or RPG fire.</p> <p>1550H – D-1-20 reported 4 WHA fm mtr fire.</p> <p>1552H – A-1-6 recd 5 rds RR and RPG fire.</p> <p>1605H – A-1-20 recd mtr fire fm BT052225. Arty called, firing stopped. (continuation)</p> <p>1607H – A-1-20 recd cal .50 fire fm BT043226. Arty and air strikes were called.</p> <p>1611H – Gunships silenced RPG firing.</p> <p>1625H – Dustoff evac 7 WHA fm B-1-20.</p> <p>1645H – B-1-20 recd 2 more WHA.</p> <p>1645H – A-1-20 had 1 WHA.</p> <p>1647H – B-1-20 recd 60mm fire.</p> <p>1654H – A-1-6 captured 3 AK-47s.</p> <p>1654H – A-1-6 reported 6 NVA KIA. CIA 5 AK-47s, 1 60mm mtr</p> <p>1654H – D-1-6 reported 13 NCA KIA. CIA 2 AK-47 2 M-16, 1 RPD LMG, 1 RPG-2. Total NVA KIA 19. A-1-6 had 11 WHA evac, 1 KHA, 5 WHA minor. D-1-6 had 3 WHA evac, 2 WHA minor. A-1-20 had 3 WHA evac. B-1-20 had 9 WHA evac. Total: 26 WHA evac, 1 KHA, 7 WHA minor. Total wpns captured: 7 AK-47, 2 M-16, 1 M-79, 1 RPD LMG, 1 RPG-2, 1 60mm mtr.</p>
1/6	D	680514	56	
1/6	All	680514	60	196th, 1-6 update of contact on Nui Hoac Ridge. Body count is now 35 NVA KIA.

1/6	A	680514	62	196th, A and D-1-6, A and B-1-20, BT058223 at (continuation) 1850H recd 9 mtr – 82mm rds. 2 or 3 inside perimeter. Came on an azimuth of 245' at a range of 4000 meters. Called Arty w/unk res.
1/6	D	680514	62	196th, A and D-1-6, A and B-1-20, BT058223 at (continuation) 1850H recd 9 mtr – 82mm rds. 2 or 3 inside perimeter. Came on an azimuth of 245' at a range of 4000 meters. Called Arty w/unk res.
1/6	A	680514	63	196th, A and D-1-6, BT058223 at 1830H recd light sniper fire fm 200 meters. E. Did not return fire. Res: 1 WHA (evac).
1/6	D	680514	63	196th, A and D-1-6, BT058223 at 1830H recd light sniper fire fm 200 meters. E. Did not return fire. Res: 1 WHA (evac).
1/6	HQ	680514	65	196th, Hq-1-6, BT052253 at 2112H recd 1 mort rd inside perimeter. NCD. 2105H – recd 4 mort rds. NCD – neg action. 3 landed inside perimeter, 1 outside. 2130H – bunker 6 obs 1 light on 17' azimuth 200 meters out. Moving toward perimeter. Eng w/mtrs. Res unk.
1/6	D	680515	3	196th, D-1-6 vic BT042222 at 0116H rec'd 9 rds 82mm mortar – landed 150 meters W of their pos. NCD. Called arty on suspected mort pos
1/6	All	680515	16	196th, 1-6 vic BT052253 (LZ Center) at 0924 - 0935H – 0924H rec'd 1 RR rd. 0935H rec'd 2 RR rds. Coming from SE
1/6	A	680515	24	196th, A&D-1-6, vic BT070225 at 140830 in area of contact yesterday FD 1 x AK-47 Sn #11078- 450, 1xM-79 Sn#99281, 2xChicom Bayonets, 32rds 60mm mortar ammo, 3xboxes of 60mm Mtr fusezes 50rdx12.7mm ammo, 4xM-16 rifles Sn#'s 876705/910284/899062/874748, 2xM-16 barrels w/remainder destroyed. Mortar Fd yesterday Sn# 008849 tube sight Sn# 01027
1/6	D	680515	24	196th, A&D-1-6, vic BT070225 at 140830 in area of contact yesterday FD 1 x AK-47 Sn #11078- 450, 1xM-79 Sn#99281, 2xChicom Bayonets, 32rds 60mm mortar ammo, 3xboxes of 60mm Mtr fusezes 50rdx12.7mm ammo, 4xM-16 rifles Sn#'s 876705/910284/899062/874748, 2xM-16 barrels w/remainder destroyed. Mortar Fd yesterday Sn# 008849 tube sight Sn# 01027
1/6	A	680515	39	196th, B-1-20, vic BT068226, at 1452 Obs 1X50 Cal MG firing, A&D 1-6 were moving out of the area. Helix – 42 was directing aircraft & received fire, was hit and had to be replaced with Helix 21
1/6	D	680515	39	196th, B-1-20, vic BT068226, at 1452 Obs 1X50 Cal MG firing, A&D 1-6 were moving out of the area. Helix – 42 was directing aircraft & received fire, was hit and had to be replaced with Helix 21
1/6	D	680515	45	196th, D-1-6 vic BT068225 at 1515H Obsd 50 Cal firing at a air strike
1/6	D	680515	46	196th, A-1-20, D-1-6 vic BT072224 at 1615H receiving mortar fire at this time

1/6	A	680515	50	196th, A-1-6, Rcn 1-6, vic BT065226 at 1430H came under fire fm 3 AW positions 1 WHA (E), Arty being fired, Gunship on Stat, A-1-20 & A-1-6 Recd 2x60mm Rd at coord BT065226; 1130: A-1-6 AT BT064226 Recd 3x60mm at 900 meter 2400 mills. Arty called was on target. 1140: Airstrike Recd fir from BT069225; 1145: All mortar fire stopped; 1146: A-1-6 started receiving sniper fire; 1158: A-1-6 Recd 1xmortar Rd Res: 3 WHA 1400: Rcn-1-6, at BT072225 Recd AW fire from 3 positions; 1407: A-6 was wounded from AW fire ;1407: Rcn-1-6, obsd 2 bunkers 400'200 meters from their location.; 1435: Rcn-1-6 had 12 WHA
1/6	Rcn	680515	50	196th, A-1-6, Rcn 1-6, vic BT065226 at 1430H came under fire fm 3 AW positions 1 WHA (E), Arty being fired, Gunship on Stat, A-1-20 & A-1-6 Recd 2x60mm Rd at coord BT065226; 1130: A-1-6 AT BT064226 Recd 3x60mm at 900 meter 2400 mills. Arty called was on target. 1140: Airstrike Recd fir from BT069225; 1145: All mortar fire stopped; 1146: A-1-6 started receiving sniper fire; 1158: A-1-6 Recd 1xmortar Rd Res: 3 WHA 1400: Rcn-1-6, at BT072225 Recd AW fire from 3 positions; 1407: A-6 was wounded from AW fire ;1407: Rcn-1-6, obsd 2 bunkers 400'200 meters from their location.; 1435: Rcn-1-6 had 12 WHA
1/6	All	680515	51	196, 1-6, vic BT048226 at 1635H resupply ship starting to leave Center received burst of A/W fire recd no hits, and no action taken
1/6	All	680515	60	198th, Helix-21(1-6) BT071225 at 1740H recd fire fm 2 cal .50 pos. NCD.
1/6	D	680515	61	198th, D-1-6, BT051214 at 1715H recd 1 60mm rd. Calling Arty. NCD.
1/6	D	680516	15	196th D-1-6 vic BT079238 at 0825 recd 15 to 20 rds 81/82mm Mtr neg cas neg damage Obsd mortar position at BT079238, firing counter mortar fire 0915 recd 2 more rds 2 WHA (M)
1/6	A	680516	25	196th , A & D-1-6/B-1-20 vic BT038216 at 0942- 1011H)942: Helix was marking wpns pos for A/C 0950: Jets receiving 50 Cal & A/W fire from BT038216 0952: Jets received intense ground fire from 2-3 locations in the Grid 0958: Air strike terminated and unit requested another 0958: 7 US WHA(E) by mortar fire A-D 4-31 BT034229 1007: 1-20 obs 50 Cal & 12.7mm fire at A/C from BT006228 1010: Helix Obs 1x50 Cal position at BT025214 also A-1-6 received mortar fire 1011: A/C still taking ground fire
1/6	D	680516	25	196th , A & D-1-6/B-1-20 vic BT038216 at 0942- 1011H)942: Helix was marking wpns pos for A/C 0950: Jets receiving 50 Cal & A/W fire from BT038216 0952: Jets received intense ground fire from 2-3 locations in the Grid 0958: Air strike terminated and unit requested another 0958: 7 US WHA(E) by mortar fire A-D 4-31 BT034229 1007: 1-20 obs 50 Cal & 12.7mm fire at A/C from BT006228 1010: Helix Obs 1x50 Cal position at BT025214 also A-1-6 received mortar fire 1011: A/C still taking ground fire
1/6	A	680516	27	196th A-1-20; A-1-6; D-1-6 at 1030H A-1-20 BT065226 recd 1xRd 81/82mm neg Caz or Dam A-1-6, BT065226 recd 3x81/82mm rds NCD 1040 D-1-6 BT0652 recd 4x81/82mm rds from the north, firing counter mortar at this time, Res: D-1-6 2 WHA, A-1-20 4 WHA total 6 WHA 5 minor 1 evac CHANGED TO 1 WHA(E), 2 WHA(M).
1/6	D	680516	27	196th A-1-20; A-1-6; D-1-6 at 1030H A-1-20 BT065226 recd 1xRd 81/82mm neg Caz or Dam A-1-6, BT065226 recd 3x81/82mm rds NCD 1040 D-1-6 BT0652 recd 4x81/82mm rds from the north, firing counter mortar at this time, Res: D-1-6 2 WHA, A-1-20 4 WHA total 6 WHA 5 minor 1 evac CHANGED TO 1 WHA(E), 2 WHA(M).

1/6	B	680516	37	198th B-1-6 vic BT067253 at 1240H found 1xMHA, KHA (D-1-20 started receiving S/A fire when they tried to get to body. Neg Cas, body was extracted
1/6	D	680516	38	196th D-1-6 vic BT065226 at 1219H recd 4 Mtr rd NCD 1221, D-1-6 recd 2 more Mtr rd NCD 1224, A-1-20 recd Mtr Rds, res 1 WHA (E)
1/6	A	680516	41	196th A-1-6 vic BT061213 at 1410 recd 5 mtrs rds from south east Res: 5 WHA, 2 (E) 3 (M) 1425 A-1-20 recd 2 more mtr rds
1/6	A	680516	42	196 A-1-20 at 1219H A-1-6, 1221H Recd 4xrds of Mtr, arty fired on suspected location BT02211245 B-1-6 fired mortar on suspected location BT094238 dest 1xhut 1249 A-1-6 recd 1xmortar rd
1/6	B	680516	42	196 A-1-20 at 1219H A-1-6, 1221H Recd 4xrds of Mtr, arty fired on suspected location BT02211245 B-1-6 fired mortar on suspected location BT094238 dest 1xhut 1249 A-1-6 recd 1xmortar rd
1/6	A	680516	62	196 A-1-20 A-1-6 D-1-20 vic BT071213 at 1609H recd 10 rds mortar fire from above location, A-1-6 3 WHA (E), A-1-20 2 WHA (E), D-1-20 2 WHA (M) firing mortar fire on location at this time
1/6	D	680516	65	196 D-1-6 vic BT065226 at 1723 recd 4 rds Mort res: 6 US WHA (E) fired mort at Dustoff ALFT, Neg hits Calling Arty. Changed to 3 WHA(E), 3WHA(M)
1/6	D	680516	67	196 D-1-6 vic BT065226 at 1748H recd 1 Mtr Rd NCD
1/6	A	680517	28	196th A-1-6 Center at 1105 returning to Center, means of travel is by Walking
1/6	A	680517	38	196th A-1-6 vic BT052253 at 1420 recd 3x rds of Mtr fire NCD firing counter mortar fire & arty
1/6	B	680517	54	196 B-1-6 vic BT052253 at 1511H Recd 5 Mtr rds NCD, Mortars come from unk direction
1/6	D	680518	12	196 D-1-6; 1st lift 0829; 2d lift 0831; 3d lift 0833; 4 & 5th lift 0836; 6th lift 0847; move completed 0847
1/6	D	680518	54	196 D-1-6 vic BT065225 at 1140H hit BT 81mm mtr rd – trip wire on trail Res: 4 WHA (E) BT on old trail, file formation, 5m apart, flak jackets – no prior warning, no marking, no villagers in area
1/6	D	680518	67	196th D-1-6 vic BT075225 at 1530H fd in a destroyed bunker RPD MG Sn#245595 3xdrums of RPG ammo, 7xChicom HG. Some web gear & medical supplies, 400 7.62mm Ammo
1/6	B	680518	68	196th, B-1-6 vic BT080260 at 1609H 1 AK-47 opened up on right flank, neg casualties 1613 received intense AK-47 from hill 396 Unit unable to move. Unit in contact MTF
1/6	B	680518	70	196th at 1715 update of contacts as of 1715 A&C 1-52d are in process of attacking hill vic BT097247 again. A-4-31 is presently evacuating & resupply, using smoke screen. Tonight D-4-31st will attack thru A-4-31 to take hill vic BT035218. B-1-6 still in contact.
1/6	B	680518	75	196th, A-4-31, 1-52, in contact for two hours vic BT080260. Presently C and A-1-52 plan to pull back fm crest of Hill 434 for consolidated NDP. 1-52 resupply C&A received hvy AW fire fm valley to S. 1-52 believes enemy force has moved to their rear. A-4-31 plans to place delayed fuse bombs on Hill Nui Lon, then pull back to NDP w/D-4-31. B-1-6 to dig in W of Hill 396 for night.

1/6	B	680518	76	196th, B-1-6, BT081260 at 1609 recvd AW fire fm above coord, requested gunship, pulled back waiting for air strike.; 1630: Air strike complete, Helix and fighter recd hvy AW fire.; 1710: Second air strike complete.; 1710: Reports cal .50 pos BT082259; about 15 AW in above area.; 1721: called another air strike. Arty will be firing on pos throughout the night.; 1721: Reported a cal .50 pos at BT082261.; 1745: Still receiving mtr fire.; 1747: recd 9 mtr rds.; 1748: Recd mor mtr rds – damaged A-6 radio.; 1752: Still receiving hvy mtr fire.; 1848: Still receiving hvy mtr fire, FAC was receiving hvy grd fire. ; 1905: Pulling out of area w/air strikes giving cover.; 1908: Still receiving mtr rds. ; 1910: Recd SA fire fm right flank.; 1913: Recd hvy mtr fire.; 1914: NVA are following them as they pull back.; (continuation) 1916: FAC obs cal .50 pos at BT025223. A Co is moving to link up w/D Co.
1/6	D	680518	85	196th, D-1-6, BT074224 at 1959 fd 1 NVA KBA badly burned. No clothes, no wpns, no web gear.
1/6	D	680519	17	196th D-1-6 vic BT069225 at 0815H Fd a 50 Cal position. “donut” shape, w/hump in middle, fd many small bunkers around position (See Entry #27)
1/6	D	680519	26	196th vic BT052253 gunship south of Center was hit. Made forced landing at FSB Center All crew members OK. Ship will be evacuated to Chu Lai (See Entry #48)
1/6	D	680519	27	196th D-1-6 vic BT069225 at 0815H Ref Journal #17 Found a big bnkr 20 ft x 30 ft destroyed by air strike. They were alot of 50 Cal casings round area. an EOD team has been requested.
1/6	B	680519	29	196th S-3 B-1-6 & A&C 1-52d vic BT099246 at 1130H receiving hvy AW fire from Hill 434 vic BT099246 and BT082261. B-1-6 being held up & are putting in air strike. In contact MTF
1/6	B	680519	32	196th B-1-6 at 1130H reported fighters putting in airstrike at BT081255. were receiving hvy ground fire. No reports of A/C being hit
1/6	D	680519	44	196th D-1-6 vic BT086234 at 1408H a box car air craft enroute to pick up downed ship recd fire from five different locations fic BT086234. also repair air craft, recd fire from same location. Some hits recd. D-1-6 fired mtrs at suspected en location
1/6	D	680519	48	Reference entry #26 196th vic BT098246 at 1131H Gunship rcd AW fire, 1 acft was hit and had to make a force landing, at D-1-6 location vic BT075226 neg cas, crew was extracted
1/6	B	680519	58	196th TOC, B-1-6 seized obj vic BT081261 (Hill 396) – consolidating on Northern slope.
1/6	B	680519	65	196th, B-1-6, BT082262 at 1630H reached the top of Hill 396 at above coord. All wpn pos are empty. 1654H – fd 2 Chicom HG, 1 cal .50 pos, 1 81mm pos, 2 sets of NVA fatigues torn up by fragments. Fd spots of blood and 17 graves. In process of digging them up.
1/6	A	680519	77	196th, A-1-6, BT025226 at 1908H obs 1 NVA who jumped out of hole 20 meters fm perimeter. Eng. Res: 1 NVA KIA, 1 AK-47, SN EP0838M, will be evac.
1/6	B	680519	79	196th, B-1-6, BT076255 at 1640H dug up 3 out of 17 graves. 3 NVA KIA by Arty. Will dig up other 14 graves tomorrow.
1/6	B	680520	26	196th B-1-6 vic BG083260 at 0840 H fd 150 tunnel, 2 ½' x 3' wide. 50 Cal psn, 5 x bnkers, all destroyed.

1/6	C	680521	38	196th C-1-6 vic BT109231 at 1307H recd 4xrds of mortars 300' from his location. 1xWHA (E) can hear enemy talking 50 meters from their location, requested guns. 1320H: Recd 5xmore mortar rds. believed to be coming from BT102235 1400 Gunships reports possible mortar location at BT109236. took under fire w/unlk Res. Gunships recd AW fire from BT104228. 3xhits neg cas, ship returned to LZ Baldy. 1410: counter mortar fire, fired at BT112231 1420: unit still receiving SA fire 1420: receiving mortar fire BT108237 and sporadic S/A fire.1447: unit reports 3 WHA (E) also 1xheat Cas.contact broke : 1445
1/6	C	680521	39	196th C-1-6 vic BT109231 1430H A/C on station (Airstrike) 1434H: A/C off station 1434H: New air strike requested 1500: checked area fd 9xNVA KIA, CIA 1x PRC-25 1xAK-47, a pistol, they were wearing OD type fatigues and some had helmets, others had soft caps, wearing rubber canvas boots 1550: Total Cas: 6 WHA (E), 5 heat Cas PRC 25 Sn #17412, AK-47 Sn # 11079831, Pistol # N022908
1/6	C	680521	54	196th, C-1-6, BT109231 at 1655H recd 2 mort rds. NCD. 1710H: recd volley of mort rds. Res: 5 WHA(e). 1715H: Mort fire has ceased but now receiving SA fire fm the SE. Res so far: 7 WHA(e). 1740H: receiving mort rds fm vic BT063294. 1815H: 9 WHA(e) fm mort. 1 KHA. Contact was broken at 1805H.
1/6	C&C	680522	12	196th CC ship 1-6 vic BT102238 at 0833H recd 2-3 rds S/A fire from above grid, took no hits, calling arty
1/6	B	680522	25	196th B-1-6 vic BT107218 at 1000H recd 1 rd M-79 fire from BT107218. Neg cas or dam. Called arty
1/6	A	680522	70	(Delayed) 196th, A-1-6, BT047238 at 1825H eng 2 VC at 300 meters NE w/M79 and SA fire. Res unk.
1/6	B	680522	74	196th, B-1-6, at 1920H recd 16 rds SA fire fm BT095216 and 3 M-79 rds. M-79 were outside perimeter. Neg cas. – Fired Def Cons.
1/6	B	680523	57	196th B-1-6 vic BT070200 at 1022H received some sniper fire 2 WHA (M) (See Entry #78)
1/6	D	680523	65	196th Gunships D-1-6 vic BT0719 at 1100H recd SA fire, crew chief hit in cheek & pilot hit in foot. Ships down w/minor damage. Ship went to 2d surg hosp to drop off WHA. 14th Avn sending another gunship
1/6	B	680523	68	196th B-1-6 vic BT073204 at 1158H obsd several spider holes, called arty on spider holes, at same time unit recd 2 rds of mtr fire, neg Cas or Dam
1/6	B	680523	78	196th B-1-6 vic BT070200 at 1022H Ref Journal #57: change to 1xKHA, ADD : 1 NVA KIA, Khaki uniform with helmet fd note bk, will evac. NVA KIA by SA fire
1/6	B	680523	100	196th, B-1-6, BT074198 at 1450H receiving SA fire and 5-6 mort rds. Mort fire fm vic BT070205. Will fire contr-mtr, requesting gun-ships. No cas as of now. Contact continues. At 1515H firing stopped, unit reports 3 WHA(m).
1/6	B	680523	125	196th, B-1-6, BT074198 at 1745H recd 6 mort rds. 1750H: recd 6 more mort rds. Believe mort loc 1807H: Total wounded: 7 WHA(e), 3 WHA(m). 1830H: broke contact. Res: 8 WHA(e). 1845H: recd 2 more mort rds. Res: 2 KHA, 14 WHA(e).

1/6	A	680524	4	196, A/1-6, vic BT054218 0900H Detainee captured this morning by A/1/6 at coord BT054218. Name of DET, Tran Cung, 35 Yrs old, a civ, cadre since Feb 67. When district TIEN PHUOC notified he was to have laborers ready. 10 days ago he was to have 10 laborers ready the following day to carry wounded NVA from the up coming contact. The next day FSB CENTER was hit. The day before FSB CENTER was also hit. 300 NVA came through his hamlet at THON NAI, PHUOC HA village, (BT054218). The fight lasted 5 days, he was told by the NVA that the unit was part of the 31st NVA REGT. The Regt HQ is at vic BT046183. All NVA had packs, brown uniforms, AK47's, 5 60mm Mortars, 2 82MM mortars, 10 RPG's 1 DK and many boxes of mortar ammo.
1/6	A	680524	11	196 A/1-6 vic BT063217 0803H Approached a hooch from the west. Obs'd 2 VC evading fm it, wearing kakki shorts & black shirts. Eng'd at 25 meters, res: 1 VC KIA. The other got away. the VC KIA had a pack w/civ clothes in it.
1/6	C	680524	20	196 C/-6 vic BT070 0845H rec'd 2 rds of 60mm MTR fire and AW fire from 3 AK47's 700 meters south of enemy location, res: Neg Casualties or damage. Unit moving to check area. [comment: C/-6 should be C 1/6]
1/6	A	680524	70	196th, A-1-6, BT080219 at 1335H recd hvy AW fire fm above loc. At 1425 they had 3 WHA(m). 1425: They were receiving RPG & HG fm BT079 210. Res at this time: 2 NVA KIA. 1430H: firing stopped. 1630H: total fm contact 5 NVA KIA, 1 9mm pistol, 1 AK-47, 1 RPD MG, 1 K-44 and some documents CIA.
1/6	A	680524	85	196th, TOC, update on casualties during day. B,C-4-31 – 10 WHA(e). A-1-6 – 4 KHA, 3 WHA(e) 4 shock (e). A-1-52 – 1 WHA(e).
1/6	All	680525	5	196th 1-6 at FSB Center at 2353 recd 4 rds est 122mm rkt outside per. 0005: 5 more rds SW of perimeter. Arty fired on Grid AT990270. 0031 Satchel charge, 0050, bunker #2 had movement, Engd w/M-79, unk Res NC
1/6	B	680525	15	196th B-1-6 vic BT061199 at 0809H obs 3xNVA traveling NW, engaged at 50 meters, Res: 1 NVA KIA, 1 AK-47 CIA Sn#196375788, wearing khaki uniforms and carrying a mtr charge. The other two got away, 1 had a pair of binoculars on him
1/6	All	680525	37	196th 176 Avn Co (Gunships with 1-6) vic BT0426 recd sniper from BT0426 took neg hits, returned fire w/unk results.
1/6	B	680525	48	196th B-1-6 vic BT064196 at 1200H recd 7 rds of mtr fire, neg cas or dam, unit does not know direction fire came from (See Entry #63)
1/6	C	680525	61	196th C-1-6 vic BT065203 at 1410H receiving AW/SA fm south at BT065200, In contact: Interim Res; 1 WHA (E), 1xNVA KIA, 1xunk type wpn CIA. 1427: obsd 5 NVA 25 meters to to left flank, NVA fired SA and threw HG Neg Cas, returned fire neg Res. 1428: Contact broke (See Entry #75 & #80 & #86)
1/6	B	680525	63	196th B-1-6 vic BT064196 at 1200H reference Journal #48, change to read 1 KHA, 2 WHA (E) 1xWHA (M), 1xheat Cas (See Entry #77 & #85)

1/6	A	680525	67	196th A-1-6 vic BT082207 at 1500H Obs 4xNVA dressed in khaki & 1 in green 100 meters SE of their location, engaged w/SA fire Res: 2xNVA KIA, 1xAK-47 CIA (See Entry #76)
1/6	C	680525	75	196th, C-1-6, Ref Journal entry #61. Should read: 4 NVA KIA; 3 IWC CIA (1 SKS, 2 AK-47).
1/6	A	680525	76	196th, A-1-6, Ref Journal entry #67. Should read: 4 NVA KIA, 1 K-50, 1 AK-47 CIA.
1/6	B	680525	77	196th, B-1-6, Ref Journal entry, #63. Delete 1 AK-47 CIA.
1/6	C	680525	80	196th, C-1-6, Ref Journal entry #61. Should read: 1 SKS, 2 AK-47s, 9 AK-47 mag, 3 AK-47 mag carriers, 4 oil cans, 2 NVA ponchos, 2 NVA poncho liners, 5 helmets, 10 plastic ground cloths, 2 flashlights, 300 rds AK-47 ammo, 1 US canteen, 4 NVA canteens, 10 sets of NVA OD uniforms, 1 pr black PJs, 1 US fatigue shirt, 3 NVA entrenching tools, 1 NVA gas mask, 3 civ belts, 1 ¼ lb TNT, 10 stretchers, 13 NVA packs, 5 blue shirts, 5 hammocks, 11 US heating tablets, 8 rice sacks, 1 roll of electrical wire, (cont'd) 3 doctor's jackets, many med supplies, some documents. All will be evac.
1/6	B	680525	85	196th, B-1-6, Ref Journal entry #63. Change cas to read: 1 KHA, 4 WHA(e).
1/6	B	680525	86	196th, C-1-6, Ref Journal entry #61. change cas to read: 6 WHA (e).
1/6	All	680525	89	196th, 71 Avn Gunships (1-6), BT0821 at 1500H recd .50 cal hit while on dust-off mission. Neg cas, A/C returned to Chu Lai.
1/6	A	680526	2	196th A-1-6 252300H took documents off NVA off 1. Decoration Certificate NLF to indiv, to member of C-9-7 Co -3 Bn 3d NVA Regt. 2. Award certif to LE NGOC Tran sqd leader for C-9, award presented by 3d Regt 23 Jan 68, signed by NGYEN TA the CO 458th, Unit is staff sec of 3d NVA Regt, 1 Mar 68. 3. Liberation troop certif for being a good soldier awarded to LEN GOC NGAN also C-9, Class III award for killing americans dated 1 Apr 68. Signed by ROANG MY CO of unidentified unit. 4. Award cert from HOAN VAN MY CO unidentified unit to LE NGOC NGAN a squad ldr w/C-9, class II award for destroying vehicle dated 10 Jan 68 5. A rpt of 1st group to TRAI DUY, situation of battlefield, "we attacked with 82mm mtrs and the enemy counter attacked. 3 AC dropped bombs on our formation, 2 WIA, 2 KIA, wires were out. My unit moved to left of road about 800 meters from ol loc. I am no reorganizing unit." dated 13 May 68, LUONG, political Off.
1/6	All	680526	3	196th 1-6 FSB Center 2336H recd 21 to 5 HG, neg , Cas. rtd fire w/81mm mtr.
1/6	A	680526	39	196th A-1-6, vic BT071193 at 1401H fd 5 fresh graves, dug up, contained 5 MAM, green uniforms, killed by fragmentation & SA fire, Res: 5 NVA KIA
1/6	All	680527	21	196th CC-1-6 vic BT050234 at 0839H CC recd 10 rds of SA sniper fire 800 meters SE, Neg hits, firing mortars at suspected enemy loc

1/6	B	680528	52	196th B-1-6 vic BT079214 at 1450H recd light sniper fire, 300m to SW called arty, returned fire w/SA, firing ceased, cont mission
1/6	B	680528	60	196th B-1-6 vic BT113218 at 1628H engd 6 NVA , NVA returned fire Res: 1 WHA (E), 3 NVA KIA 1 NVA WIA/CIA, 4xAK-47s CIA (See Entry #66)
1/6	C	680528	65	196th, C-1-6, BT041233 at 1010 obs 2 VC moving E to W, wearing black PJs. Could not obs any wpns, but recd 1 rd of sniper fire fm that loc. Retd fire w/MG. Checking area now.
1/6	B	680528	66	196, B-1-6, BT113218 at 1628H Ref Journal #60 16th Recon Co 31st Regt. He was sent to the Danang hospital. Interrogation tm sent w/him.
1/6	A	680528	69	196th, A-1-6, BT095213 at 1821H eng 4 VC, w w/wpns, 300 meters E of loc w/neg res. 1827H: Recd sniper fire fm BT095209. 1849H: recd more sniper fire and 1 60mm rd fm BT095209. 1907H: recd 2 60mm rds resulting in 3 WHA(e) and are now firing at BT097219.
1/6	B	680528	73	196th, B-1-6, BT113218 at 1628H 1 NVA (WIA, CIA) at above coord. Rank: PFC. Unit: 8th Sqd, 3rd Plat, 16th Co, 31 NVA Regt. Indiv states that elements of his Co and Regt Hqs are loc vic BT109203. Tonight at 1800H 31st Regt will move 6 km N unless they have contact. In this event, the move should be at 2000H. Source states they have 5 140mm rfts and normal indiv wpns. POW dusted off to Danang (IPW accompanied). Comment: Strong "sniffer"mis- sion had pos readings at above coord.
1/6	D	680529	6	196th D-1-6 vic FSB Center at 0630H two explosive type rds believed RR inside perimeter, NCD 0745 Recd 1xRR rd 30 meters from the TOC NCD (See Entry #13)
1/6	D	680529	13	196th Reference Journal #6 0830: obsvd what they think was a RR flash at the same time 1xRd landed outside the perimeter at Center. flash was obsvd at coord BT085238, firing arty at this time.
1/6	All	680529	24	196th 1-6th at Center at 0935H FAC put in airstrike on RR position. that was firing on Center, negative fire at this time.
1/6	C	680529	34	196th C-1-6 FSB east to FSB Bowman; 1st Lift PZ 0814H LZ 0823H; 2d Lift PZ 0836 LZ 0858H; 3d Lift PZ; Complete 1103H
1/6	D	680529	48	196th D-1-6 Center to Bowman 1st Lift PZ 1036 LZ 1055H 2d lift PZ 1144 LZ 1159H 3d lift PZ 1147 LZ 1200 complete 1200H
1/6	B	680529	53	196th B-1-6th PZ BT115205 LZ BT198144 1st Lift 1112 LZ 1130H A&B 1-6th complete approx 1320H
1/6	C	680529	80	198th, C-1-6, BT2612 at 1810H completed move.
1/6	A	680529	85	198th, A-1-6, BT192144 at 2015H recd 15 rds of 60 mm mtr landing on S side of perimeter. 2025 Recvd 15 more rds. NCD.
1/6	C	680530	13	198th C-1-6 vic BT244122 at 0835H engd 1 VC evading. Res: 1 VC KIA, CIA AK-47 ammo (amt unk), web gear, chicom HG. VC believed to be an officer, had letters, notebook, will evac (See Entry #45)

1/6	D	680530	43	198th D-1-6 vic BT241115 at 1310H loc small cave threw CS HG in and then entered cave, fd 1xAK-47 w/folding stock SN#BT4918
1/6	C	680530	45	198th C-1-6 at 0835H Reference Journal #13 change to read 1 NVA KIA
1/6	C	680530	49	198th C-1-6 vic BT244122 at 0835H Reference Journal # 45 Papers captured on NVA body indicate he was from the 3rd Co, 3rd Bn 1st VC Regt.
1/6	A	680530	68	198th, A-1-6, BT174117 lead ele ran into est 2 MGs and 3-4 AK-47s in bunkers, were not detected by point. In initial contact had 4 WHA and 1 KHA. 2 WHA were dog handlers, in fol contact, (cont'd) 1 more WHA. A&B are moving 800m SE of obj and firing 155 on tgt.
1/6	B	680530	68	198th, A-1-6, BT174117 lead ele ran into est 2 MGs and 3-4 AK-47s in bunkers, were not detected by point. In initial contact had 4 WHA and 1 KHA. 2 WHA were dog handlers, in fol contact, (cont'd) 1 more WHA. A&B are moving 800m SE of obj and firing 155 on tgt.
1/6	A	680530	69	198th A-1-6 BT177115 at 1743H receiving hvy SA fire – in contact. 1825H: B Co 700m to E of A-1-6. 2 plat of A-1-6 maneuvering against fire that has 1 plat pinned down. B-1-6 maneuvering to A-1-6 loc. 1833H: 3 WHA (e). Ammo resupply going in w/gun support. Receiving AW fire. 1900H; 1 KHA, 3 WHA(e). 1905H: contact broken. B moving to link up; approx 200m E of A now. Dust off coming in to pick up cas. 1 KHA, 6 WHA(e). 2 dogs being extracted. (See 31MAY68 Entry #9)
1/6	B	680530	69	198th A-1-6 BT177115 at 1743H receiving hvy SA fire – in contact. 1825H: B Co 700m to E of A-1-6. 2 plat of A-1-6 maneuvering against fire that has 1 plat pinned down. B-1-6 maneuvering to A-1-6 loc. 1833H: 3 WHA (e). Ammo resupply going in w/gun support. Receiving AW fire. 1900H; 1 KHA, 3 WHA(e). 1905H: contact broken. B moving to link up; approx 200m E of A now. Dust off coming in to pick up cas. 1 KHA, 6 WHA(e). 2 dogs being extracted. (See 31MAY68 Entry #9)
1/6	C	680530	90	198th, Maj Wellington, BT244122 at 0835H Ref doc fd on NVA KIA by C-1-6: Individual's infiltration #D-153, Letter Box #HT5381, pass indicated he was to proceed to Bacan-B47. He was 18 yrs old last week, an NCO, and he joined the 1st VC Regt on 5 May. Unit: OP Nam Mot.
1/6	A	680531	8	198th, A-1-46, BT303017 at 0628H LRP Phantom extracted.
1/6	B	680531	9	198th Ref Journal Entry 301745H #69 1 KHA 5 WHA, add 1xWHA to read 6 WHA
1/6	All	680531	9	198th Ref Journal Entry 301745H #69 1 KHA 5 WHA, add 1xWHA to read 6 WHA

1/6	C	680531	24	198th C-1-6 vic BT211103 at 1010H receiving AW fire, in contact. contact broken 1035H Neg Res. 1040H contact started again. 1045H recd SA fire fm BT212103 and BT214106 REs 2 WHA (E) 1110H Gunships scrambled 1230H change 1 WHA (E) to 1 MHA 1240H change 1 MHA to KHA 1241H Total at this time 1 KHA, 1 WHA (E) 1 Heat Cas, 6xAK-47's CIA, firing arty behind loc. Receiving hvy SA and AW fire, D moving to linkup with C. D is 2000 m fm C.1250H 6 NVA KIA (C). Green unif w/NVA Ruck sacks 1305H KIA 1xNVA, CIA 1 AK-47 for a total of 7 NVA, 7 AK-47s D is closing C but will stay separate. NVA are in holes, some of which have overhead cover, C is moving slowly. D is 1000 m to SE, will continue to come up on C's (cont) left flank and sweep over hill fm South.1340H 1 WHA (E) for a total of 2 WHA (E); 1355H contact broken, sweeping area
1/6	D	680531	24	198th C-1-6 vic BT211103 at 1010H receiving AW fire, in contact. contact broken 1035H Neg Res. 1040H contact started again. 1045H recd SA fire fm BT212103 and BT214106 REs 2 WHA (E) 1110H Gunships scrambled 1230H change 1 WHA (E) to 1 MHA 1240H change 1 MHA to KHA 1241H Total at this time 1 KHA, 1 WHA (E) 1 Heat Cas, 6xAK-47's CIA, firing arty behind loc. Receiving hvy SA and AW fire, D moving to linkup with C. D is 2000 m fm C.1250H 6 NVA KIA (C). Green unif w/NVA Ruck sacks 1305H KIA 1xNVA, CIA 1 AK-47 for a total of 7 NVA, 7 AK-47s D is closing C but will stay separate. NVA are in holes, some of which have overhead cover, C is moving slowly. D is 1000 m to SE, will continue to come up on C's (cont) left flank and sweep over hill fm South.1340H 1 WHA (E) for a total of 2 WHA (E); 1355H contact broken, sweeping area
1/6	A	680531	29	198th A-1-6 vic BT174117 at 1050H recd sniper fire fm above coord, unit pulling back to put in air strike
1/6	D	680531	30	198th D-1-6 vic BT225085 at 1052H detained 2 VCS 1x 16 yr old wearing khaki shirt and black shorts, 1x17 yr old wearing black PJ's
1/6	B	680531	31	198th V-1-6 vic BT173092 at 1040H detained 4 VCS also fd a hut in same area, will check out area and search hut.
1/6	D	680531	36	198th D-1-6 vic BT225085 Has captured 1 NVA who is dressed in green uniform & had medical supplies. He was carrying a khaki uniform 2xchicom HG. 1320: prisoner is a medic from 2d plat, 3rd Co, 74th VC MF Bn, He says there are 36 in his plat all armed w/AK-47's. about 2 months ago they were 70% NVA. (See Entry #80)

1/6	D	680531	70	198th, D-1-6, BT210097 at 1640H recd SA fire, calling arty. 1525H: Contact continues. 3 WHA(e). Called gunship, C-1-6 several hundred meters fm D-1-6. 1750H: 2 more WHA(e). 1807 Gunship recd AA fire, do not as yet know extent of dam. Tail rotar dam. 1820H: 1 KHA, 7 WHA(e) and 2 cbt fatigue. Action continues. 1823H: 8". 155 being called on enemy. 1828H: D was moving and came to a rice paddy and turned right to get a night laager when they recd SA fm 300m, cutting up the lead element. D and C moving together to link up. Arty will go on BT210097. Contact broken at 1820H. D is 800m fm the contact area. 1920H: Res: 1 KHA, 7 WHA(e), 2 combat fatigues.
1/6	C	680531	70	198th, D-1-6, BT210097 at 1640H recd SA fire, calling arty. 1525H: Contact continues. 3 WHA(e). Called gunship, C-1-6 several hundred meters fm D-1-6. 1750H: 2 more WHA(e). 1807 Gunship recd AA fire, do not as yet know extent of dam. Tail rotar dam. 1820H: 1 KHA, 7 WHA(e) and 2 cbt fatigue. Action continues. 1823H: 8". 155 being called on enemy. 1828H: D was moving and came to a rice paddy and turned right to get a night laager when they recd SA fm 300m, cutting up the lead element. D and C moving together to link up. Arty will go on BT210097. Contact broken at 1820H. D is 800m fm the contact area. 1920H: Res: 1 KHA, 7 WHA(e), 2 combat fatigues.
1/6	D	680531	75	198th, D-1-6, BT210090, at 1946H recd aprox 2000 rds AK-47 while moving to NDP. At 1950H recd 10 HG. NCD. Called for gunships at 2000. 2115H: gunships have expended all ordnance and have been released. Will call arty. (See Entry #83)
1/6	D	680531	80	198th, NVA PW (D-1-6), BT225085, PW cptd 1220H. Ref Journal entry #36. "Readout"- PW left his plat 2 days ago. His plat has not been w/his Co for 1 month. He believes his plat is loc vic BT238086, nearly all have malaria. They have plenty of food. The plat always returns to the same vic. His unit infiltrated fm NVN through LAOS, starting in June 1967 and completing the move 4 months later. Infiltration was by Co size elements. PW is a medic fm the 2nd Plat, 3rd Co, 74th NVA Bn. (Ref Entry #36)
1/6	D	680531	83	198th, D-1-6, BT210097 at 1946H rpt 6 WHA(m) (Ref Journal entry #75) One w/sprained ankle - will be evac. All res fm HG. Total of 7 WHA (m).

The following is an example of 1/6th Inf. Bn. entries logged into the Division Daily S2/S3 Division TOC for May 1969

Unit	sub_unit	Date	Entry	Text
1/6	*All	690502	46	(C) 198th Bde, Cpt Brammer. A/C request. 2 G/S. Purpose: extraction of D/4, 1-6 Inf. PZ BT388099 to Hill 76. Call Sign: Regal Girder 41. Freq: 63.25 Time: 031000H – 031030H May 69. Approved G3 Maj Wagner. Passed to AAE WO Beard. Passed to 198th Bde Sp Rothermel.
1/6	*All	690503	22	(U) 198th Bde, CPT Brammer. BTOC, request for A/C. Type A/C: 6xUH-1H slicks, 1xCC ship, 1xsmoke ship, 2xG/S. Msn: CA. Unit supporting: 1-6th Inf. DTG: 040800H-040900H. Remarks: LZ vic BT404010, PZ vic Fat City. Call Sign: Slang Payoff 91. Freq: 56.30. Duration: 1 hr, 120 pack involved. Approved: G3, MAJ Wagner, except 2xG/S. Passed to AAE, MAJ White, 198th Bde, CPT Brammer 031220H.
1/6	*All	690503	85	(C) FSE, CPT Williams, 1-14 ARTY, BT405012 at 1938H. Duffel bag report: A. Concentration #2202. B. Time of activation 031938H. C. Estimated target – light activation. D. Rounds and units firing – 2 WP by 1-6 at 1942H. 45 HE by B/1-14 at 1942H and 18HE by A/1-82 at 1943H.
1/6	*All	690510	23	(C) 198th Bde, SP Asbill, 1/6 & 2/6 ARVN Bn. ARVN CA's PZ's vic BS425796. 1/6 Bn compl at 1200H to BS446748 (Cold). 2/6 Bn compl at 1200H to BS479749 (Cold). (Info only)
1/6	B	690512	27	(C) 198th Bde, Sp Ball, B/1-6, BS432058 at 0810H. Det M-26 gren w/trip wire rigged as a mine. Res: 2xUS WIA(E). D/O compl at 0818H by CC.
1/6	*All	690512	41	(U) 26th Engr, CPT Williams, BT498067. Bridge 422 (Anton Bridge) half blown, not usable. No est on time for repair. PF Plat secured bridge. US plat fm 1-6 Inf was patrolling vic of bridge. En walked out on cat walk & placed charges. 9th Mar will work on bridge night of 12 May 69. BT407132 fnd wooden road blocks 50m long.
1/6	D	690512	60	(U) 198th Bde, Sp Hawkins, D/1-6, BT455022 at 0700H. Fnd rkt launch site, fresh trails, 88 shipping caps, 8 blast holes at 40'azimuth pointing N, a cleared area 100m long & 30m wide w/8 aiming stakes.
1/6	B	690512	73	(U) 198th Bde, Sp Rothermel, B/1-6, BT432058 at 1220H. Hoi Chanh working w/B/1-6 det mine. Res: 1xHoi Chanh WIA(E). D/O compl to 312th Evac. IPW notified: Sgt Granger. (Info only)
1/6	*All	690512	76	(C) 198th Bde, CPT Brammer. Request 4xslicks, 1xsmoke 1xCC & 2xguns for CA for 1-6th Inf. PZ & Lz to follow. Time: 130630H to 130730H May 69. 1515H, CPT Brammer, 198th Bde, will use own acft except for smoke ship. CA appr by G-3 MAJ Wagner.
1/6	B	690512	89	(U) 198th Bde, Sp Graklanoff, B/1-6, BT429097 at 1528H. Hit unk type mine. Res: 3xUS WIA(E) & 1xKit Carson Sct WIA(E). D/O compl.
1/6	A	690513	5	(C) 198th Bde, Sgt Fufts, A/1-6, BT401120 at 122100H May 69. CAP 1-2-5 eng 8xVC at 75m. Res: 1xVC KIA, 1xIWC (SN 10089358), 1xPF unif CIA, VC were wearing gray shirts & blue shorts w/red scarf around neck. (Info only)
1/6	D	690514	90	(C) 198th Bde, Sp Hawkins, D/1-6, BT432045 at 2312H. Hit mine (H/gren w/trip wire). Res: 4xWIA(E). D/O compl at 2348H.

1/6	C	690517	10	(C) 198th Bde, SP Hawkins, E/5-46, BS772816, (en) BS758835 at 0115H. Rec 8xrds of 60/82mm mort w/NCD. Rtn arty. 0045H, C/1-6, BS388098 eng 2xVC. Checked area & fnd 1xRPG rd. Also fnd 9xChiCom H/gren, 1xbanana clip mag, AK type, loaded.
1/6	*All	690517	33	(C) Div, CPT Newkirk, G-2. Request new OZ for LRRP Oklahoma. Box: UL BT2700; LR BS3395. Reason: to allow sufficient maneuver room for LRRP Tm. Passed to 198th Bde, SP Ball at 1330H. Appr by MAJ Morrow 1-6 Inf at 1335H. OZ appr by G-3 CPT Miller. Passed to Co G, 75th Ranger, LT Henry.
1/6	D	690520	43	(U) 198th Bde, PFC Holden, D/1-6, BT448024 at 1117H. Fnd 5xrkt launch sites & aiming stakes & shipping plugs.
1/6	C	690521	14	(C) 198th Bde, CPT Plese, C/1-6, BS363153 at 0825H. Rec H/gren, SAF fr 8xVC. Res: 3xUS WIA (E). Req tracker dog tm. Appr by G-3, CPT Miller.
1/6	*All	690521	20	(U) 198th Bde, Sgt Fults. Request 1tracker dog tm for 1-6 Inf. Purpose: fnd sleeping pos. Duration: 1xday. Time for pick-up: ASAP, 1005H. Pick-up at LRRP Pad. Passed to: C/S, MAJ Zucklki. Appr by C/S Maj Zucklki; appr by G-3, CPT Miller. Passed to 198th Bde, Sgt Fults.
1/6	R	690521	51	1545 (U) 198th Bde, SP Ball, R/1-6, BS383136 at 1421H. Dtn 1xVN w/child, neg ID, evac to LZ Bayonet.
1/6	C	690523	13	(C) 198th Bde, Sgt Edmunson, C/1-6, BT388098 (Hill 148) at 0410H. Eng 10-15xVC trying to assault peri. Rec 15-18xrds RPG's, 20-25xH/gren & SAF. Res: 2xUS KIA, 2xUS WIA (E), 2xVC KIA (wearing blue shorts w/out shirts). Unit not identified.
1/6	D	690524	19	(U) 198th Bde, SP Hawkins, D/1-6, BT439060 at 0800H. Det M-26 H/gren rigged as mine. Res: 1xUS WIA (E). D/O to 312 Evac at 0815H.
1/6	B	690524	36	(U) 198th Bde, SP Hawkins, B/1-6, BT440071 at 1053H. Det unk type mine. Res: 1xUS WIA (E).
1/6	*All	690525	4	(C) FSE, CPT Williams, 1-14 Arty, BT40490126 at 242204H May 69. Duffel Bar Report: #1 concentration R0001. Time of activation 242204H May 69. Est tgt, neg. Rds and units firing: 18xHE (155) A/1-82 at 242214H May 69. 12xHE (81mm) 1-6 at 242214H May 69. #2. Concentration R0001. Time: 0006H. Rds & units firing: 18xHE (155) A/1-82 at 0013H. 12xHE (81mm) 1-6. Notify: G-3, CPT Smith.
1/6	A	690525	19	(C) 198th Bde, SP Ball, A/1-6, BT388098 (Hill 148), (en) BT3811 at 0620H. Rec 6-8x60mm mort rds w/NCD. Arty fired w/neg assessment.
1/6	A	690526	3	(C) 198th Bde, Sgt Neroes, A/1-6, BT365132 at 2230H. Eng 4-5xVC. Res: 1xVC KIA.
1/6	*All	690526	38	(C) 198th Bde, CPT Please. Request bdry ext of OZ 111 & time ext. Area: BT3212 N to BT3215 E to 1-6 AO bdry. Old time: 292400H May 69. New time requested: 011800H Jun 69. Passed to 196th Bde, SO Trogden. Appr by MAJ Brice. Appr by G-3, CPT Miller. Passed to 198th Bde, CPT Please. Notified: FSE, CPT Crawford.
1/6	*All	690528	29	(U) Div, CPT Newkirk, G-2. Request 1xCH-47 sortie on 28 may 69. To transport barrier material, ammo, demolitions, food, water & personnel to Hill 1362 vic BS357962. Personnel & equip are staged at 1-6 resupply pad LZ Bayonet on a standby basis. Lay this on w/the hook supporting the 198th Bde, MAJ Wagner. Passed to AAE: CPT Mohrenweiser. Notified: G-2, MAJ Doms.
1/6	*All	690528	72	(U) 198th Bde, CPT Please, CC/1-6 Inf, BT371096 at 1738H. CC eng 8xVC w/wpns. VC rtn fire, CC took 5xhits, VC evaded to NW. Res: 2xVC KIA.
1/6	A	690528	78	(C) 198th Bde, Sgt Edmunson, A/1-6 Inf, BT335132, en: BT333125 at 1620H. Rec 5xrds of 60mm mort. Res: 1xUS WIA (E), D/O compl at 281643H. Rtn arty. Notified: III MAF, Sgt Strain.

1/6	A	690531	53	(C) 198th Bde, SP Bledsoe. Aircraft request. Purpose: CA for A/1-6 Inf. PZT: 0600H 1 Jun 69. PZ: BT370130. PZ Call Sign: Evail Peon 33. PZ Freq: 53.60. LZ Call Sign: same as above, freq: same as above. Request: 4xUH-1H, 1xCC, 1xsmoke, 4xguns. Duration of msn: 1 hour. Approved: G-3, MAJ Wagner. Passed to AAE, MAJ White.
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Unit	sub_unit	Date	Entry	Text
1/6	R	700501	39	(DELAYED) 198th Bde, Sp Burnett, R/1-6, BS695895 at 301757H Apr 70. Obsr 7x VN dressed in green uniforms w/wpns. Eng w/art. VR of the area revealed 5xunderground shelters, (10'x15'x12') & fresh fighting pos. Also fnd several fresh graves. VR Tm checked the area this morning w/neg significant res.
1/6	A	700501	42	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, A(-)/1-6, BS668887 at 1216H. Det 1xM-14 apers mine w/pressure type firing device. Res: 2xUS WIA(E). D/O compl at 1233H to 91st Evac. Crater was 1'x6".
1/6	C	700501	43	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, PF's w/C/1-6, BS692806 at 1130H. Fnd 1xtunnel (3'x1') containing 1xBAR w/mag (inoperable) & 1xK-44. PF's kept wpns & dest tunnel. (Info only)
1/6	R	700501	50	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, R/1-46, BS699920 at 1300H. Fnd trenches w/overhead cover & built-in shelters. Inside shelters fnd bamboo litters & docu & bandages. It is believed to be a field hosp. When D/1-1 eng area, R/1-6 heard 5xsecondary explosions & 2xsecondary explosions when arty was fired. Docu extracted to LZ Dottie & dest everything else. Ntfy IPW, Sp Matsumoto.
1/6	A	700501	51	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, A/1-6, BS668887 at 1315H. Fnd 1xM-16 apers mine in the middle of the day defensive pos. Dest in place.
1/6	A	700501	92	198th Bde, Sp Burnett, A/1-6, BS664887 at 011920H May 70, while mov to NDP det 1xAP mine B/T w/PRFD on side of trail. Res: 2xUS WIA(E). D/O 1925H to 91st Evac. Troops were wearing flack jackets, helmets & were 20m apart.
1/6	A	700502	13	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, A/1-6, BS668887 at 0630H. Fnd & dest 1xM-16A1 apers mine.
1/6	A	700502	15	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, A/1-6, BS658885 at 0656H. While moving to ptl base, fnd 1xB/T 50xcal ammo can containing unk type explo w/pressure type firing device. Dest in place.
1/6	R	700502	33	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, R/1-6, BS696894 at 0938H. Fnd 2x55 gal drums of sliced potatoes in a hv bamboo area (approx 450xlbs). Dest in place.
1/6	A	700502	62	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, A/1-6, BS669887 at 1620H. Det 1xM-14 apers mine w/NCD.
1/6	C	700502	98	198th Bde, Sp Burnette, C/1-6 Inf, BS668887 at 2225H, dtn 1xVN prostitute & 4xPF's. Prostitute held for extraction to Bayonet IPW. PF's released.

1/6	A	700502	99	198th Bde, Sp Burnette, A/1-6, BS655889 at 2011H, amb 2xVC w/wpns, prox 20m. VC rtn lt SAF, swept area w/neg res. Sweep cont under arty illum. Will sweep again at first light.
1/6	B	700503	33	198th Bde, Sp Burnette, D/1-6, BS737765 at 0810H. While climbing onto a track, 1xEM dropped his M-16 & it discharged. Res: 1xUS WNB fr frag rd hitting track. D/O compl at 0825H to 91st Evac.
1/6	C	700503	86	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, C/1-6, BS690807 at 1700H, in An Thinh the VN armed pngd tm rec 1xHoi Chanh. Will ext to LZ Bayonet.
1/6	All	700504	36	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, 1-6 Inf, LZ Dottie, (en grid) BS542023 at 0625H. Rec 1x122mm rkt which landed 350m in front of Bnkr #24 w/NCD.
1/6	A	700504	51	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, A/1-6, BS713838 at 0912H. Obsr & eng 4xVC/NVA w/SAF. VC rtn fire & evaded. Res: 1xVC KIA, 1xpack w/pers items CIA & 1xVN civ WIA(M). Vil in vic led to 1xVN female who reportedly supplied the VC w/medicine. Res: Dtn 1xVN female w/misc med supplies. DET & med supplies extracted to LZ Bayonet. Ntfy IPW, Sp Matsumoto.
1/6	R	700505	73	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, R/1-6, BS678894 at 0920H fd & dest 2x55 gallon drums of potatoes & 1x18"x16" homemade bomb wrapped in wire.
1/6	A	700505	80	198th Bde, Sgt Burnette, A/1-6, BS703847 at 2050H, amb fd tunnel complex 100x100' w/8-10 entrances w/signs of recent activity. Will check in the morning.
1/6	B	700505	81	198th Bde, Sgt Burnette, B/1-6, BS666891 at 1827H. One US det 1xM-14 Mine. Res: 1xUS WIA(E). D/O compl at 1837H to 91st Evac.
1/6	B	700506	10	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, B/1-6, BS657888 at 0635H. While returning fr their amb, det 1xM-14 apers mine w/pressure type firing device. Res: 2xUS WIA(E). D/O compl at 0700H.
1/6	C	700506	29	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, C/1-6 & CAP 1-4-6, BS715813 at 0830H. Dtn 2xVN (1xmale & 1xfemale) who were know to be supplying VC w/food & clothing. One had a picture of a daughter believed to be in the U.S. Evac to LZ Bayonet. DET area classified 1-C & will be evac to Son Tin.
1/6	A	700506	32	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, A/1-6, BS706861 at 1640H. Rec sniper fire while on a water detail. Res: 2xUS KIA & 1xVN child KIA. Fired arty w/unk res.

1/6	B	700507	56	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, B/1-6, BS687885 at 1245H. Amb obsr 1xVC moving into their amb, 100m fr their loc. Called for him to stop & VC attempted to evade. Fired 2xrds of SAF & VC stopped. He took a Chieu Hoi leaflet fr his pocket & rallied because there were too many US in the area & had family to worry about. He was 43xyrs old & wearing blk PJs. He had 2xlbs of rice, 1xhammock & cooking pots w/him. He works this AO all by himself & knows where B/T are. Will evac to LZ Bayonet on 8 May 70. Ntfy IPW, Sgt Hyde.
1/6	B	700507	99	198th Bde, Sp Burnette, 1st Plat, B/1-6, BS597927, (en) BS594927 at 1930H, rec 100xrds SAF fr NW, f rest 5-6xVC w/wpns. Rtn fire, setting 3xstructures on fire. Neg cas. PF's sweeping area.
1/6	C	700508	56	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, C/1-6, BS693805 at 0330H. At Pacification Vil, had a mad minute at 0330H checked the area. Two feet outside the wire find blood trails, 1xsandal & 1xAK-47 w/full mag.
1/6	R	700509	56	198th Bde, Sgt Dowdy, R/1-6, BS671855 at 1110H. Fnd 1xgrave. Res: 1xVC KBA.
1/6	B	700509	57	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, B/1-6, BS663836 at 1535H. Req urgent D/O for 2xUS WIA fr shrapnel fr H/gren thrown fr 50m N of their loc. D/O compl at 1540H to 91st Evac. Will sweep & recon by fire w/arty.
1/6	All	700509	82	198th Bde, Sp Burnette, Arty LNO 1-6, BS684925, obsr 2xVC vic above grid. Processed arty w/unk res.
1/6	B	700509	85	109th Bde, Sp Burnette, B/1-6, BS665883 at 1800H, Fd & dest 1xammo can w/explosive & PFD. 10'x5' crater, believed to be a 250lb bomb underneath.
1/6	All	700510	57	198th Bde, Sgt Thompson, 1-6 Inf, LZ Bayonet. Req EOD Tm to dest 1xdud 105mm arty rd lying in front of a bnkr. Passed to EOD, CPT Medley. Appr by G-3, CPT Donovan. Ntfy 198th Bde, Sgt Lark.
1/6	C	700512	58	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, D/1-6, Bs708863 at 1600H. Fnd 100xlbs of rice in a hedgerow contained in earthen jars (in good condn). Extracted rice to LZ Dottie.
1/6	C	700513	43	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, C/1-6, BS701806 at 0810H. Three VN civ w/Kit Carson Scout det 1xM-79 rd B/T w/trip wire. Res: 3xVN civ WIA(E) & 1xKit Carson Scout WIA(E). D/O compl at 0835H.
1/6	B	700513	83	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, B/1-6, BS676888 at 1330H. Fnd 400xlbs of polished rice in good condition, hidden in a structure in jars. Extracted rice to LZ Dottie.

1/6	C	700513	98	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, C/1-6, BS801806 at 1720H. D/O for tracker dog w/high temp. D/O compl at 1808H. Ntfy 63d Scout Dog Plat, Sgt Hunter.
1/6	C	700514	101	198th Bde, Sp Pleten, C/1-6, BS713807 at 1605H, fd 1xM-16 AP Mine. VN children said 1xVN child was killed by a B/T. Children would not lead C Co to body. C Co searched w/neg res. VN said child was buried but would not lead C Co to grave. In the same vic, also fd 1xM-26 H/gren w/TWFD & 1xhomemade B/T connected to 1x250 lb bomb.Res: all B/T dest in place.
1/6	D	700515	22	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, D/1-6 at 0810H. Req urgent D/O for 1xVN female who had frag wounds in the back fr unk source. D/O compl at 0826H to Quang Ngai.
1/6	B	700515	35	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, B/1-6, BS677927 at 1200H. Dtn 1xVN male w/ID. Age 50xyrs old & looked 35xyrs old. NPFF's say he is a VC. Extracted DET to IPW at LZ Bayonet. He had 1xponcho, 1xhammock, 1xwatermelon & 1xcigarette lighter w/unk designation on it.
1/6	A	700515	41	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, A/1-6, BS673877 at 1025H. Obsr 6-8xVC moving into Tam Hoi #1 in blue uniforms, 2xw/wpns. Eng the 2xVC at approx 75-100xft fr their loc. Res: Fnd 1xblood trail. En evaded to the W. Called for arty block & fire & G/S on station. Made a VR of the area. Res: 2xpacks CIA by A/1-52. Extracted to LZ Dottie.
1/6	C	700515	42	198th Bde, CPT Moeller, C/1-6. Req Mine Dog. Time: 160730H-180730H May 70. Purpose: Check out B/T area. Pick up at Admin Pad at 160730H May 70. Passed to 63d Scout Dog Plat, LT Benton. Appr by G-3, CPT Donovan. Ntfy 198th Bde, CPT Moeller.
1/6	B	700515	49	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, B/1-6, BS677924 at 1530H. Det 1xunk type B/T arty rd. Crater was 3' wide & 2 ½' deep; believed to be w/pressure type firing device. Res: 1xUS KIA.
1/6	A	700515	90	198th Bde, Sp Burnette, A/1-6, BS663873 at 2020H, amb obsr 1-2xVC. The amb site rec 2xunk type H/gren which det in the air. Res: 2xUS WIA(M). Rtn SA fire w/unk res. (See DSJ Entry#7 16MAY70 & DSJ Entry#31 18MAY70)

1/6	B	700515	91	198th Bde, Sp Burnette, B/1-6, BS678925 at 1900H, fd hut 20'x10'. Near hut, dtn 4xVN females, 2xpreg, 2/5xchildren, in process of repairing hut. Obsr 1xVN male evad. Eng w/neg res. Inside hut fd odds & ends of med supplies. Hut believed to be field aid station. Fd 17xfishing poles, 10xlbs rice & corn, arty illum chute. Same area fd 2xspider holes. Under hut fd bnkr 2'x6' (w/2xsleeping pos). Also fd 10xcows w/2xcaives. Will compl search tomorrow. Dtn will be evac to LZ Dottie.
1/6	A	700516	7	198th Bde, Sp Burnette, A/1-6, BS663873. Ref DJF entry #90, 15 May 70. Add: 1xAK-47 w/2xmags & 2xChicom H/gren CIA.
1/6	All	700516	41	(DELAYED) 1st CAG, Cpl Holzer, CAP 1-4-2, BS773857 at 151600H May 70. Dtn 3xVN; 1xMAM & 2xMAF fr Binh Duc (H) & Phu Qui (H). Le Hai, male 15xyrs old, stated that he worked for a US mort plat (1-6 Inf). While working there he stole food & mort rds to give to the VC. He was also assigned by the VC to kill the Hamlet Chief of Phu Qui. Vo Thi Nguyen, female, 17xyrs old & Nguyen Thi Tau, 13xyrs old, female, were both mail carriers for the VC. Will extract DET to Son Tinh. (Info only)
1/6	B	700516	50	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, B/1-6, BS678926 at 1100H. Fnd 1xtunnel (6'x4' down & 6' back) containing 27xsand bags of rice (unpolished) & 2x5 gal drums of rice. Also fnd docu. Dest tunnel & extracted rice & docu to LZ Bayonet.
1/6	B	700516	76	198th Bde, Sp Pleten, B/1-6, BS678926 at 1758H. Heard mov in bushes. Eng w/H/gren. Res: 1xUS WIA(E). D/O compl to LZ Bayonet.
1/6	B	700517	90	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, B/1-6 at 0745H. At BS665944: Obsr 4xVC w/1xAK-47 & 1xSKS, 600m W of their loc. Fired arty & mort w/unk res. At BS668939: Obsr 2xVC, 1xw/pack. Fired 92xrds 105mm HE arty. Swept the area w/neg res.

1/6	E	700517	93	(DELAYED) 198th Bde, LT Loop, 1-6 Inf. At 161700H May 70: a Son Tinh farmer sighted 1xCo of VC at BS684805. E/1-6 Inf mortars (4.2") was given the fire msn on grid BS684805. They fired 30xrds 4.2" HE mort at 161725H May 70. At 161820H May 70, Son Tinh rept 2xVN civ KIA & 4xVN civ WIA at grid BS686799. E/1-6 was instructed to leave data on the tube, but instructions came too late, data had been changed due to another fire msn. The S-2 officer, 1-6 Inf, stated that at grid BS686799, the 4xVN civ bodies had been moved to the above grid. It is still unk where they were killed. PF's told 1-6 Inf that all rds impacted on the correct grid (BS684805) except possibly 2xrds which might have landed at BS686799. C Co CO checked recorded data & it was correct for the tubes. PF's req E/1-6 Inf fire on BS684805 after sighting 1xplat of VC. (This was after civ were killed.) 1-6 Inf denied req. 1-6 Inf req a crater analysis tm. One VN female civ was evac to Chu Lai by LOH. 198th Bde will appoint an investigating officer. Ntfy XXIV Corps, PFC Perez at 170500H May 70.
1/6	A	700518	31	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, A/1-6, BS663880 at 0813H. Fnd 1xVN male KBSAF (2xor 3xdays ago) dressed in blue. He is believed to be one of the VC that threw H/gren into their night amb pos on 15 May 70 at BS663873 (Ref DJF entry #90, 15 May 70). Res: 1xVC KIA.
1/6	A	700518	72	198th Bde, Sp Pleten, A/1-6, BS663883 at 1700H. Fnd 1xoverlay of Binh Son. Overlay was partially burned & had blood stains on it. They were not able to determine whether it is friendly or enemy. Extracted to LZ Dottie.
1/6	C	700518	125	198th Bde, Sgt Lockhart, C/1-6. In the vic of BS786370 & 794361, obsr 1xmort flash at each loc. Eng 1st grid w/105mm & 81mm & 2nd loc w/155mm arty w/unk res.
1/6	HHC	700518	127	198th Bde, Sp Pleten, HHC/1-6, LZ Bayonet at 2053H. One H/gren was thrown onto a roof, then rolled off & det near a struct of the Command off 198th Bde. Res: 1xUS WNB(M). Inves in process.
1/6	A	700519	30	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, A/1-6, BS661871 at 0930H. Det 1xB/T H/gren w/trip wire. Res: 2xUS WIA(E). D/O compl at 0946H. Also fnd & dest 1xM-16 apers mine.
1/6	E	700519	60	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, E/1-6, LZ Minuteman, at 1445H. RF's fr LZ Minuteman rec 1xHoi Chanh who they turned over to E/1-6. E Co evacuated Hoi Chanh to Binh Son.
1/6	R	700519	80	198th Bde, Sp Pleten, R/1-6, BS690817 at 1730H, obsr 1xMAM in khaki trousers in old vil. Also obsr 1xMAM w/wpn & 1xfemale w/blue shirt. Eng w/Arty w/unk res.

1/6	C	700520	11	(DELAYED) 198th Bde, Sp Pleten, C/1-6, BS701806 at 191700H May 70. One VN child turned in under the VIP Program, 2xChicom H/gren, 1x4.2" HE mort rd, 2xM-79 rds & 1x81mm mort illum rd.
1/6	R	700520	47	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, R/1-6, BS690817 at 0945H. Fnd 3xbnkrs (4'x5') cam. Inside 1xbnkr fnd 2xpails (5xlbs) of rice & 1xsmall bag of salt. Dest all. Also dtn 1xMAF w/ID. Extracted to Hawk Hill.
1/6	B	700520	58	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, B/1-6, BS682945 at 1122H. Rec 50xrds of SAF fr UNSEF 300m S of their loc. Eng w/art y w/neg res.
1/6	D	700521	28	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, D/1-6, BS685825 at 0625H. Eng 40xvr old VN female evading fr cordon & search op. Res: 1xVN female WIA(E). D/O compl at 0650H to 91st Evac. Female was classified as a civil defendant.
1/6	A	700521	37	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, A/1-6, BS658867 at 0720H. Fnd 1xbag (6xlbs) of Petna, clothing hanging on bushes drying, 20xsleeping pos approx 2xwks old. Area was used within last 48xhrs.
1/6	D	700521	45	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, D/1-6, BS685825 at 1000H. Dtn 3xMAF. NPFF says they are VCS. Extracted to LZ Bayonet.
1/6	A	700521	80	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, A/1-6, BS657878 at 1300H. Fnd signs of recent activity in a deserted vil. Fnd & dest 1x155mm rd. Also fond 3-4xM-16 mags (old) & 350xlbs of unpolished rice behind a structure in stone jars. Rice was approx 2xwks old. Extracted to LZ Dottie.
1/6	B	700522	58	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, B/1-6 at 1300H. BS675955: Fnd 1xtunnel. BS677957: Fnd 4xstructures, cattle & 6xVN evading.
1/6	C	700522	77	198th Bde, Sp Clayton, C/1-6, BS701806 at 1754H. Req D/O for 2xUS. One US picked up 1xbomblet dud fr arty fire cracker rd. He dropped it res in 2xUS WIA(E). D/O compl at 1804H to 91st Evac.
1/6	B	700523	44	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, B/1-6, BS667957 at 1125H. Rec 10-20xrds of SAF & obsr several VC dressed as PF's (wearing green shirts & black pants). Rtn SAF & req arty w/neg clnc. Swsep the area w/neg res.
1/6	B	700524	33	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, B/1-6, BS695915 at 0930H. Fnd a tunnel & shelters. In one shelter fnd 1xpack & several bandages. The tunnel was recently used. Dest all.
1/6	B	700524	46	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, B/1-6, BS708908 at 1300H. While checking a tunnel, 1xUS was trapped by a cave-in when he fired his 45xcal pistol 3xtimes. Res: 1xUS WIA(E), US is unconscious, w/possible ear dam.

1/6	All	700524	95	198th Bde, Sp Pleten, 1-6 Inft, Rec info fr Son Tinh VN duty officer that there is a Bn of VC located at the following grids: BS724772-728775-731769-729772-732768-734770. Area will be shelled tonight by VC arty. (Info only)
1/6	B	700525	58	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, B/1-6, BS697912 at 1255H. While on a search & clear msn, fnd 1xM-1 cbn stock & 1x45 cal pistol in vil at the above grid.
1/6	C	700525	72	198th Bde, Sp Pleten, C/1-6, BS704807 at 1730H. One VN female det 1xunk type B/T. D/O compl at 1759H.
1/6	All	700525	107	198th Bde, Sp Pleten, S2 1-6 Inf, BS686915 at 1930H. Obsr camp fires. Eng w/arty w/unk res.
1/6	C	700526	26	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, C/1-6, Tracker Dog Req. Time 260900H-271800H May 70. Will pick up at Ranger Pad at 0900H, Tail #759. Passed to 63d Scout Dog Plat, Sgt Hunter. Appr by G-3, CPT Sherrard. Ntfy 198th Bde, Sgt Lark.
1/6	B	700526	52	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, B/1-6, BS692906 at 1020H. Fnd in a bnkr, 8x57mm RR rds in good condition, 1x60mm mort sighting device & 2xAK-47 mags (empty) in good condition. Dest all.
1/6	C	700526	57	198th Bde, Sp Cephus, C/1-6, BS692803 at 0555H. Mech amb det. Eng the area w/SAF. Fnd blood trails. They are pursuing. Blood trail led up to a 2xman fight pos which was dest. Blood trail was lost 100m past the fighting pos.
1/6	B	700526	64	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, B/1-6, BS703897 at 1140H. Dtn 1xMAM w/neg ID. Extracted to LZ Bayonet.
1/6	C	700526	104	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, C/1-6, BS703815 at 1720H. Req D/O for 1xVN male who det an unk type mine or B/T. D/O compl at 1720H to 91st Evac. CO said it was getting too late or they would have checked the area where the VN male was wounded.
1/6	D	700527	68	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, D/1-6, BS720813 at 1255H. Rec 400xrds of SAF fr 300m. Rtn SA & arty fire. Swept the area w/neg res.
1/6	B	700527	80	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, B/1-6, BS688920 at 1515H. Fnd 1x8" arty rd & 1x175mm arty rd not B/T. Will dest in place. Ntfy C/S, COL Hume.
1/6	B	700527	85	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, B/1-6, BS693919 at 1530H. Fnd 1xM-16 ammo can w/15xblasting caps inside. Fnd 1xM-14 apers mine & 1xChicom H/gren w/several Chicom fuses. Dest all in place.

1/6	B	700527	86	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, B/1-6, BS697927 at 1500H. Fnd 100lbs of corn & 50lbs of rice in hedgerow. Also fnd 1xAK-47 ammo can that was empty. Corn & rice was not fit for consumption; dest.
1/6	B	700528	28	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, B/1-6, BS689919 at 0955H. Det unk type B/T trap elevated in a hedgerow. Res: 7xUS WIA(E). D/O compl at 1005H. Det 1xM-14 mine. Res: 2xUS WIA(E). D/O compl at 1005H. Det unk type mine. Res: 8xUS WIA(E). D/O compl at 1015H. Ntfy: C/S, COL Hume; XXIV Corps, Sgt Mitchell at 1105.
1/6	B	700528	29	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, B/1-6, BS689919 at 0955H. Det unk type B/T trap elevated in a hedgerow. Res: 7xUS WIA(E). D/O compl at 1005H. Det 1xM-14 mine. Res: 2xUS WIA(E). D/O compl at 1005H. Det unk type mine. Res: 8xUS WIA(E). D/O compl at 1015H. Ntfy: C/S, COL Hume; XXIV Corps, Sgt Mitchell at 1105. (See DSJ# 79 & 85 & 132)
1/6	B	700528	79	198th Bde, CPT Duncan. Ref DJF entry #29, 28 May 70. Add among cas are, 1xLT who is B Co Plat Ldr, 1xCPT who is arty LNO, 1xLTC who is Bn CO & 1xE-8 who is 1SG of B Co.
1/6	B	700528	85	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, B/1-6, BS689919 at 0915H-1002H. B Co's 4th Plat was reconning a hill for use as an NDP when at 0915H they det 1xunk type mine/B/T. Res: 7xUS WIA(E). The 2nd Plat moved to help the 4th Plat secure an LZ for D/O. While moving, they det 1xM-14 apers mine. Res: 2xUS WIA(E). D/O for the 9xUS WIA(E) was compl at 0945H. B Co's 1SG gave word for everyone to move down off the hill. While doing so, a 50xcal ammo can filled with unk type explosive was det. Res: 8xUS WIA(E). LTC Schwartzkopf (1-6 Inf CO) had his CC land to assist w/the D/O efforts. CPT Bratt (1-14th Arty LNO), while collecting sticks to construct a litter for the wounded det 1xunk type B/T. Res: 15xUS WIA(E), 1xinterpreter WIA(E) & 1xScout Dog WIA(E). B Co moved out of the area at 1215H. As of 1705H 2xof the WIA(E) have died in the hosp. Ntfy XXIV Corps, Sgt Mitchell at 1830H. This entry is update to entry #29, DJF 28 May.
1/6	B	700528	132	198th Bde, Sp Pleten, B/1-6, Ref DJF entry #29, 28 May 70. Add: 2xUS KIA at 1002H. Delete: 2xWIA at 281002H.
1/6	C	700529	16	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, C/1-6, BS685814 at 0610H. Sniper Tm obsr 4xVC; 1xw/pack & 1xw/wpn moving towards their pos. Eng w/SAF at 75m. Res: 1xVC KIA & 1xpack CIA. Extracted pack to LZ Dottie.
1/6	R	700529	21	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, BS631996 & 632994 at 0755H. R/1-6 on a CA. Lift ship rec SAF fr the NE & SE w/2xhits. Res: 1xUS WIA(E). D/O compl at 0835H. Eng w/SA, AWF & G/S eng the area w/unk res.

1/6	R	700529	35	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, 176th Avn, BS631996 & BS632994 at 0755H. While supporting R/1-6 CA , eng UNSEF. Res: 1xVC KIA.
1/6	C	700529	79	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, C/1-6, BS701806 at 1500H. Rec 1xHoi Chanh w/neg pack or wpn. He said he was a Sgt working w/a VC Co. Will extract to LZ Bayonet. Ntfy IPW, Sp Matsumoto.
1/6	R	700529	121	198th Bde, Sp Pleten, R/1-6, BS637980 at 1300H, fd large cave 5' high by 20' deep. Fd docu, evac to LZ Dottie. Blew cave entrance w/shape charge.
1/6	B	700530	24	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, B/1-6, BS675878 at 0905H. Fnd a sign in a hole (3' x 3') which stated the area was booby trapped. Sign was constructed fr C-ration boxes.
1/6	R	700530	56	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, R/1-6, BS626972 at 1315H. Fnd 5xsleeping pos (3' x 3' each). They had been used w/in the last week. Pos were dest.
1/6	C	700530	57	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, C/1-6, BS6981 at 1320H. Village Chief fr Dap Ky (2) (V) rept farmer fnd 3xVC KIA & 3xAK-47. The AK-47 were sent to the vil. Last night, the VC confiscated the AK-47. Of the 3xVC that were killed, 2xwore black PJ's & 1xwore a green unif.

The following is an example of 1/6th Inf. Bn. entries logged into the Division Daily S2/S3 Division TOC for May 1971

Unit	sub_unit	Date	Entry	Text
1/6	D	710503	15	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, D/1-6 cond an armv at 0658H fr Dottie to BS388953 and 398943, compl cold at 0920H.
1/6	C	710503	16	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, C/1-6 cond an extr at 0726H fr BS418925, 388953 and 398943 to Dottie, compl cold at 0904H.
1/6	B	710503	18	198th Bde, Sp Hull, B/1-6, BS383994 at 1025H. Obsr 4xVC w/1xpack, neg wpns. Eng at 30m. 2xVC evad NW, 2xevad SW. Arty fired. Fd & dest 2xsandbags w/C-rations.
1/6	B	710503	19	198th Bde, Sp Hull, B/1-6, BT386001 at 1110H. Clearing an LZ fd 1xplastic crest w/writing on bottom (CHAN HUNG), typed papers and a cigarette case. All will be evac to Dottie.
1/6	D	710503	25	198th Bde, Sp Hull, D/1-6, BS394943. At 1210H eng 2xNVA in tan unif and pks mov E to W prox 50m. Res: 1xNVA KIA, CIA: 2xChicom H/gren & 1xpk. Other NVA evad W. At 1230H eng 1xNVA mov W to E in tan unif and pk prox 50m. Res: 1xNVA KIA, 1xpk CIA. Will extr packs & H/gren to Dottie.
1/6	R	710503	52	198th Bde, LT Bilstrom, R/1-6, BS567869 at 1810H. Fd 15xfighting pos and 12bnkrs 4'x5'. Fd 4xB/T: 1x105mm rd w/PRFD, 1xcan petna w/PFD, and 2x81mm mort rds w/TWFD. Also fd wires suspended fr trees to ground. R plat is pulling back and req a 155mm dest msn. Will check at first light.
1/6	B	710504	6	198th Bde, Sp Morozoff, B/1-6, BS381992 at 0210H. Heard approx 6xrds of mort fire at approx BS380982. Eng w/art. Fired 8x105mm HE rds w/unk res. Will sweep at first light.
1/6	B	710505	25	198th Bde, LT Bilstrom, B/1-6, BS378986 at 1125H. Obsr 2xVC approx 175m SW building a fence. VC evad SW. B/1-6 maneuvered and eng w/SAF approx 125m SW. Res: 1xMAM WIA(M), 1xMAM dtn. Dtns wore brown shirts, neg ID. Dtn evac to IPW CHL. Swept area fd 10xlbs unpol rice in a basket. Classified Civ Def.
1/6	B	710505	33	198th Bde, LT Bilstrom, B/1-6, BS377986 at 1415H. Fd 5xstruc 5'x10'x7' underneath overhanging rocks w/signs of rec use. Also fd 4xpunji pits approx 3' deep w/6-7xstakes in each. Unit will amb there tonight and dest all tomorrow. At 1540H fd 5xstruc 4'x4'x4' w/signs of rec use and 1xcultivated field of sweet potatoes 25'x50'. Will amb area and dest struc tomorrow.

1/6	C	710506	21	198th Bde, Sp Small, C/1-6 cond a CA at 0700H fr Dottie to BS498895, 415905 and 403906, compl cold at 0905H.
1/6	C	710506	24	198th Bde, Sp Small, 174 Avn, BS415905, (en) BS410895 at 0735H. UH-1C rec unk amt SAF at 200' and 80k w/2xhits w/neg cas. Arty fired w/unk res. C/1-6 swept area w/neg res.
1/6	B	710506	25	198th Bde, Sp Small, B/1-6 cond an extr at 0925H fr BT375006, 384007, 372015 and 375006 to Dottie, compl cold at 1136H.
1/6	A	710507	53	198th Bde, Sgt Terry, A/1-6, BT462008 at 1815H. Fd 15-20xsleeping pos prox 4xmonths old, 8x122mm rkt nose cone covers, 10x122mm rkt shipping plugs and assorted plastic containers. All will be extr to Dottie when unit rtn.
1/6	C	710509	35	198th Bde, Sp Small, C/1-6, BS424906 at 1105H. Eng 4xVC in green fatigues mov W-E w/SAF prox 50m. Res: 1xVC KIA, neg unit ID, CIA: 1xAK47, 350 rds small arms ammo, 2xChicom H/gren, 4xpacks, 2xAK47 mags, 4xARVN unif. Will evac to Dottie. 3xVC evad into Tay Mui #1. Swept w/neg res.
1/6	All	710509	46b	198th Bde, Sgt Hay, 1-6, Dottie at 1600H. 2xVN children turned in 4x105mm rds, 4xM16A1 apers mine and 32xM79 HE rds Paid 3450xpiasters.
1/6	E	710509	56	196th Bde, LT Haslett, E/1-6, Hill 270, (en) BT421047 at 2000H. Obsr 9xVN w/3xwpns mov SE prox 400m S. Neg eng due to truce.
1/6	R	710510	8	198th Bde, Sgt Terry, R/1-6, BS635870 at 0528H. 3xUS rec mult frag wounds fr an accident involving a trip flare and a H/Gren. D/O compl 0555H to CHL. 1xUS went to retrieve trip flare; after retrieving trip flare, he did not fully replace pin. Rtn to perimeter and set trip flare down next to a H/G. Res: 3xUS WIA(E). Matter is under investigation.
1/6	R	710510	82	198th Bde, LT Haslett, R/1-6, BS445901 at 1400H. Fd 1xmilitary struc w/neg signs rec use. Also fd 1xPRC25 battery, 1xponcho and a trail running W. On trail fd unk amt petna B/T w/TWFD. DIP. Crater 2 ½' x 2'x1'. Struc & equip dest.
1/6	E	710511	5	198th Bde, LT Haslett, E/1-6, BT421046, (en) BT427039 at 110435H. Fr Hill 270 obsr 39xpax w/wpns, mov W, prox 400m to SW. Arty presently being fired. D/1-1 on station at 0507H. Hill 270 eng en w/quad .50 cal fire w/approx 2000-3000 rds. (Grid was cleared for fire by Ly Tin). D/1-1 recon by fire. Checked area w/neg res. D/1-1 broke station at 0523H. 71 Avn on sta at 0517H, checked area w/neg res. Hill 270 obsr 4-5xmuzzle flashes but acft did not obsr. Air Cav has been requested.

1/6	A	710511	26	198th Bde, LT Bilstrom, A/1-6, BS626867 at 110940H. VN female reported to US at water point at LZ Dottie that the ex-village chief of Binh Linh (V) was killed by 3xVC w/packs & wpns. PF#09 fr Binh Son swept area w/neg res. A/1-6 Inf is also sweeping area to verify his death. Swept w/neg res.
1/6	D	710511	41	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, D/1-6, Text: Unit cond an extr fr PZ at BS375932, BS402939 and BS364932 at 111359H to LZ at CHL (E). Compl cold at 111529H.
1/6	D	710511	52	198th Bde, Sp Small, D/1-6, BS375932 at 111512H. 71st Avn, the last two helicopters on last PZ rec lt SAF w/possible 1xhit. G/S eng & 4.2" mort fired fr Hill 848 w/unk res.
1/6	A	710512	44	198th Bde, LT Bilstrom, A/1-6. Unit cond a CA fr PZ at LZ Dottie at 121348H to LZs at BT323007 and BS329971. Compl 121550H, cold.
1/6	A	710512	46	198th Bde, LT Bilstrom, A/1-6, BS329971 at 121540H. CP elm rec 8-10xrds SAF, rtn SAF. G/S eng SEL, swept area w/neg res.
1/6	A	710512	52	198th Bde, LT Bilstrom, A/1-6, BS334967 at 121730H. Fd 1x2 story struc w/5xspider holes. Inside fd docu, 175 rds SA ammo, 1xB40 vest, 1xmedic bag, 3xAK47 mag, 1xM16 mag, 10xchickens & 10xpigs, KIA. Signs of rec use. Docu to Dottie, all else dest.
1/6	B	710512	57	198th Bde, PFC Reichenbach, B/1-6, BS389982 at 122130H. Sus en rkt launch site, processed arty. Res: unk. Info on sus site fr prior intelligence. 2320H, LT Haslett reports B/1-6 heard something believed to be rkts being launched. Arty employed on susp en loc (SEL).
1/6	E	710512	64	198th Bde, Sp Hatfield, E(-)/1-6, BT421048, (en) BT425039 at 121935H. Obsr thru starlight scope 30xVC W-E. Hill 270 w/quad 50 cal and 4.2mm mort. Tra Bong expended 175mm & 8" arty. VC rtn w/a burst of AK47. Res: 1xUS WIA(E), D/O compl 2040H to 91st Evac. NH req and on site at 2040H. Broke at 2100H w/neg sightings. Had neg sight of packs or wpns. Prox was 900m. 2150H, en evad to E. Wnd by E/mort Sp Hatfield. 2130H, CPT Miley, FSE, 8x8", 8x175mm, 41x155mm, 39x105mm. Adj by Hill 270.
1/6	E	710513	5	198th Bde, Sgt Terry, E(-)/1-6, BT421048, (en) BT427040 at 130250H. Obsr thru Starlight 15xVC w/pack & wpns mov fr E to W. Fired 18x105mm firecrackers & 14x155mm HE w/unk res. Prox 800m SE.
1/6	R	710513	14	198th Bde, Sp Small, R/1-6 Inf. Unit cond a CA fr PZ at BS441894 at 130730H to LZ at BT457039, compl 130738H, cold.

1/6	E	710513	38	198th Bde, LT Bilstrom, Sniper/E/1-6, BT421048 at 121935H. Sniper tm K-69 expended 400xrds SAF at est 30xVC. Res: 4xVC KIA. (Reported eng on 12 May 71)
1/6	A	710513	63	198th Bde, Sp Morozoff, A/1-6, BS332963 at 131500H. Fd 2xstruc 15'x40'; inside fd 25 lbs rice & old clothes. At BS33396, fd what looked to be an OP in a tree. It is 4'x4'x5'. Will laager in area tonight.
1/6	R	710514	29	198th Bde, LT Bilstrom, R/1-6, BT432033 at 141140H. While in the vic of the PZ for the extraction, recon rec unk amt of SAF fr snipers, prox 200m W. Arty fired as blocking force. Recon swept w/neg res. Res: 1xUS WIA(E). D/O compl by B/123 Avn LOH to 91st Evac at 1210H.
1/6	C	710514	33	198th Bde, Sp Small, C&R/1-6, Units cond extr fr PZ's at BS424904, 407899, 395905 and 432033 at 141106H to LZ at CHL(E). Compl cold at 141206H.
1/6	R	710514	33	198th Bde, Sp Small, C&R/1-6, Units cond extr fr PZ's at BS424904, 407899, 395905 and 432033 at 141106H to LZ at CHL(E). Compl cold at 141206H.
1/6	R	710514	37	198th Bde, LT Bilstrom, R/1-6, BT432033 at 141230H. 116 Avn G/S prepping PZ had rkt explode near friendly. Res: 1xUS WNB. D/O compl 1240H to 91st Evac. US suffered minor wounds to shoulder. Treated & released.
1/6	All	710515	4	(DELAYED) 198th Bde, Sp Hatfield, CP/1-6, BS625765 at 141800H. VN brought 2xVN males 65 yrs to Dottie, 1xhad gunshot wound to face, 1xhad gunshot wound to chest. Investigation reveals the 2xVN were working for the PF's at Phu Hau hamlet of the Son Tinh District. They were in contact w/5-10xVC at grid above. The 2xVN were D/O to 91st Evac at 1830H. Bde has neg further on res of PF contact.
1/6	A	710515	22	198th Bde, LT Bilstrom, A/1-6, BS325957, 1511H. Amb by UNSEF. Rec SAF and 1xB40 rkt. G/S on sta at 151145H. Helix on sta at 151120H. PSYOPS on sta at 151120H. Obsr several NVA evad fr area. 1345H arty fired BS332958, fd 8xstruc which they dest. Swept area w/neg res. Res: 1xUS WIA(E). D/O compl 1700H to 91st Evac.
1/6	E	710516	5	198th Bde, Sgt Tarry, E/1-6, BT421046, (en) BT427038 at 0250H. Obsr 12xVC w/packs & wpns to the SE, 900m. Mov NE to SW. Eng w/quad 50 cal MG & 4.2" mort. Fired 32x155HE, 9x105mm HE and 3x105 firecrackers. NH on sta 0330H broke at 0415H w/neg findings.
1/6	A	710516	6	198th Bde, Sgt Tarry, A/1-6, BS334985, (en) BS328988, 152100H. Obsr 4xblinking lights 600m NW. Eng w/10rds 105mm HE. 0415H-0425H NH checked area w/neg res.
1/6	D	710516	16	198th Bde, LT Bilstrom, D/1-6, Unit cond a CA fr PZ at LZ Dottie at 160706H to LZ's at BS469950, BS500925, BS499948, and BS475934. Compl 160907H, cold.

1/6	D	710516	66	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, D/1-6, BS509813 at 161500H. Eng UNSEF. Res: 3xVC KIA. Body searched, neg ID. Dtn 1xMAM WIA(M), 1xMAF. Evac dtn to CHL IPW. Swept area fd 2xstruc w/docu & med supplies, 1xtransistor radio (civilian), 2xChicom H/gren, 4xUS hammocks, 1xcot, 6xUS ponchos, 2xUS poncho liners, 1xM16 mag w/20 rds, misc mil supplies. Docu will be evac to Chu Lai (198 IPW), all else to Dottie. Classified VC/PW.
1/6	B	710517	20	198th Bde, Sp Small, 2/B/1-6, BS395979 at 0755H. Obsr & eng 1xVC w/SAF prox 100m S. Rec SAF. Res: 1xUS WIA(E). D/O compl 0930H to 91st Evac. 1xVC KIA, 1xVC WIA that evad S. KIA was in grn shirt & cam pants & 4xsand bags w/C-rations CIA. Also CIA: 1xM26 H/gren, 1xcanteen cup.
1/6	B	710517	58	198th Bde, Sgt Terry, B/1-6. Unit cond an Extr fr PZ's at BT373006, BS390979, BS374981 at 1815H to LZ at CHL(E). Compl cold at 1917H.
1/6	D	710519	8	198th Bde, Sp Hull, D/1-6. Unit cond EF's fr PZ's at BS505955, 493923, 479912, at 190620H to LZ's at BS525892, 492893, 505893, 516896, 519903, 533893, 539890, 532902 and 516867. Compl 190850H.
1/6	D	710519	72	198th Bde, Sp Hatfield, D/1-6, BS503939 at 192110H. Eng est 10xVC w/SAF direct S, prox 20m, VC mov E-W. VC had pks & wpns, rtn w/SAF and evad E. Arty processed and D/1-1 diverted to area and checked, obsr heavily used trail running E-W w/neg further sightings. NCD. Did sweep w/neg res.
1/6	R	710520	5	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, R/1-6. Unit cond a CA fr PZ at CHL at 200705H to LZ's at BS436954 and BS497997, compl cold 200715H.
1/6	C	710520	14	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, C/1-6. Cond a CA fr Dottie at 200740H to LZ's at BS487988, BT460025. Compl cold 200855H.
1/6	A	710520	27	198th Bde, Sp Small, A/1-6. Unit cond an extr fr PZ's BS318979 and BS331969 at 200940H to LZ at CHL(E). Compl 201055H, cold.
1/6	E	710522	2	(DELAYED) 198th Bde, LT Haslett, E/1-6, BT421047, (en) BT425040, 211923H. Obsr 40xVC prox 800m SE mov fr W to E. Last obsr at BS433050, arty fired 36xrds 105 HE & 72 rds 155mm HE w/unk res. People obsr through Starlight scope; Night Hawk will check area in conjunction w/working Night Hawk Box #35. On sta fr 2205H to 2245H w/neg obsr. Ly Tin(D) ntfy of enemy activity. Submitted req for R/1-6 to CA in this area.
1/6	R	710522	2	(DELAYED) 198th Bde, LT Haslett, E/1-6, BT421047, (en) BT425040, 211923H. Obsr 40xVC prox 800m SE mov fr W to E. Last obsr at BS433050, arty fired 36xrds 105 HE & 72 rds 155mm HE w/unk res. People obsr through Starlight scope; Night Hawk will check area in conjunction w/working Night Hawk Box #35. On sta fr 2205H to 2245H w/neg obsr. Ly Tin(D) ntfy of enemy activity. Submitted req for R/1-6 to CA in this area.
1/6	D	710522	38	198th Bde, Sp Paine, 2/D/1-6, BS500942 at 221130H. 1xfemale came to unit loc, she was about 30-40 yrs green t-shirt, blk PJ's bottoms. Says she escaped fr VC 2 days ago, had sandbag full of C-rations. Will extr to IPW, classified IC.

1/6	B	710522	42	198th Bde, Sp Small, B/1-6. Unit cond a CA fr PZ at CHL at 221042H to LZ at BS333932, compl 221239H, cold.
1/6	R	710522	45	198th Bde, Sp Small, R/1-6. Unit cond a CA fr PZ at BS431956 at 221250H to LZ at BT422023, compl 221300H, cold.
1/6	R	710523	20	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, R/1-6, BT414037, 230945H. Obsr 2xVC blk PJ's w/wpns mov prox 900m NW. Arty fired, swept area w/neg res.
1/6	C	710523	64	198th Bde, Sp Small, C/1-6, BT492013, 231945H. Obsr 10xVC 800m to E. Eng w/arty. Will sweep at first light.
1/6	E	710523	70	198th Bde, Sp Morozoff, R&E/1-6 & D/1-1, BT412026, (en) BT416026, 232130H. R/1-6 w/sniper tm obsr 3xVC, prox 400m NE. Snipers eng, res: 2xVC KIA, 1xVC evad SE. 2200H, D/1-1 Cav (Night Hawk) rec SAF fr BT416025. Alt 300', spd 40k. Neg hits, rtn fire. Res: 1xVC KIA w/wpn by body. Also confirmed 2xVC KIA by snipers, 2xpacks w/bodies. R & snipers 1-6 will sweep at first light.
1/6	R	710523	70	198th Bde, Sp Morozoff, R&E/1-6 & D/1-1, BT412026, (en) BT416026, 232130H. R/1-6 w/sniper tm obsr 3xVC, prox 400m NE. Snipers eng, res: 2xVC KIA, 1xVC evad SE. 2200H, D/1-1 Cav (Night Hawk) rec SAF fr BT416025. Alt 300', spd 40k. Neg hits, rtn fire. Res: 1xVC KIA w/wpn by body. Also confirmed 2xVC KIA by snipers, 2xpacks w/bodies. R & snipers 1-6 will sweep at first light.
1/6	R	710524	26	198th Bde, Sp Small, R/1-6, BT412026, 250900H-1030H. Swept area of contact on 23 May, fd 1xpiece of blanket blood soaked, ft prints indicated 12-20 people in area. Also ground indicates bodies were dragged N. Neg further findings.
1/6	A	710525	15	198th Bde, Sgt Simon, A/1-6. Unit cond a CA fr PZ at CHL at 250705H to LZ's at BT429035, 405015 & BT416026, compl cold 250755H.
1/6	R	710525	16	198th Bde, Sgt Simon, R/1-6. Unit cond an extr fr PZ at BT413023 at 250722H to LZ at CHL, compl 250728H, cold.
1/6	All	710525	19	23d INF DIV, CPT Verga, 240855H. CG on VR of An Tam Bridge area obsr damage to some bnkrs, assistance should be provided by us to help in reconstruction of their defense. 0900H, MAJ Helton ntly. MAJ White, 198th Bde, 1/6 will get to the area to offer assistance.
1/6	C	710525	57	198th Bde, CPT Basner, C/1-6, BT490028, (en) BT490025, 252000H. Unit has 7xVC pinned down & req Night Hawk in Box 35. While setting up MA, unit had obsr 7xVC w/packs & wpns, obsr grn, wearing bush hats. Prox 250m to N. Were mov S to N. C/1-6 eng w/SAF & Arty fired Illum. Night Hawk on station at 2010H, checked w/neg sightings & broke at 2035H. Res: 1xVC KIA, 3xCCHG CIA, 1xAK-47 CIA Will amb area tonight. VC approx 20-25 yrs w/neg ID or docu.

1/6	D	710526	10	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, 1/D/1-6. Unit cond a CA fr PZ at BS522982 at 260720H to LZ at BS465917. Compl cold 260730H.
1/6	A	710526	15	198th Bde, Sp Small, A/1-6, BT433010, 260745H. Det 1xhomemade B/T w/TWFD on trail. Res: 1xKCS WIA(E). D/O compl 0845H to 91st Evac.
1/6	D	710526	51	198th Bde, Sgt Hay, 1/D/1-6. Unit cond an extr fr PZ at BS465917 at 261615H to LZ at BS522982, compl 261655H, cold.
1/6	C	710526	53	198th Bde, PFC Payne, C/1-6, BT490023, 261555H. Eng by UNSEF firing M79 & SAF, rtn SAF & swept area. Prox 300m E fd 2xPSDF's WIA. PSDF's had no radio & did not have permission to come into C/1-6 AL. D/O compl to Ly Tin at 1700H. Ntfy: C/S, COL Richardson; G3, MAJ Helton; G1, CPT Scanny.
1/6	C	710526	57	23d INF DIV, CPT Spinetto, HQ 23d INF DIV, BT490023, 3k SW of Arty Hill, Quang Ten (P), 261555H, C/1-6 eng by UNSEF w/SAF & M79. Rtn fire & swept & fd 2xPSDF's wounded. 2xPSDF's WNB(E) by 5.56 M16. Invest to follow. Ntfy: G1, CPT Sprouse; XXIV Corps, 1920H.
1/6	All	710527	50	198th Bde, Sgt Simon, 1-6 Inf, CHL E, 271500H. Fd 1xLAW w/no safety pins at the end of the resupply pad across fr the USO club. EOD tm has been sent to disarm or dest it. At 271900H EOD reports they disarmed the LAW & took it to the ammo disposal area for destruction. It was not B/T. Origin unk. Ntfy: EOD: Spongley.
1/6	C	710527	66	FSE, MAJ Lynch, Red Baron #27, (en) BT461021, 271910H. Obsr 5x122mm rkts on launchers. Arty fired & N/H alerted and on sta 1910H. Unable to work due to Arty being fired. At that time he saw what could have been rkts, eng & left area due to incoming rds (neg res). At 1940H N/H back on sta & arty check fired. Working w/1-6 Bn. Every time he turned on his light he rec SAF (at 200', 60k), NCD. Was on stat w/neg res. At 2006H N/H broke sta. C/1-6 mov into area at this time. At approx 2300H, C/1-6 in NDP BT473623 mov approx 150 to 200m. Arty will be fired periodically & unit will sweep area tomorrow N/H rec fire fr grids BT463023, BT465017. A/C were airborne at 1935H but rtn to CHL approx 2020H when no suitable LZ could be found. 2225H, 198th Bde, rept'd C/1-6 mov to the area, they halted short at 2300H. Ntfy: C/S, COL Richardson; G2, COL Percell; G3, LTC Saint; 198th Bde, Sp Hall; CLDC, CPT Williams.
1/6	A	710528	12	198th Bde, Sp White, A/1-6, BT436029, 280830H. Fd that sometime during night blasting cap had been removed fr 1xClaymore & had detonated, but Claymore had not detonated. Also fd 1xpar sandals & small amt blood. Will check area. Checked w/neg res.
1/6	C	710528	13	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, 3/C/1-6. Unit cond a CA fr PZ at BT476023 at 280820H to LZ at BT460023, compl 280835H, cold.

1/6	D	710528	14	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, D/1-6. Unit cond a CA fr PZ's at BS478975, 513967, BS505907 at 280628H to LZ's at BS519922, 525911, 516938 & BS528935. Compl 280650H, cold.
1/6	R	710528	15	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, R/1-6. Unit cond a CA fr PZ at Chu Lai at 280555H to LZ at BS525928, compl 280625H, cold.
1/6	C	710528	45	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, C/1-6, unit on ground being guided to rkt site by Red Baron at 1415H. At 1620H, Red Baron redirects C/1-6 to right loc at BT461014, 1710H have firm loc of rkt sightings & unit req CA of C/1-6. Okayed & inserted 1805H. 1820H, fd caves that were obsr yesterday at BT461014, used past 12xhrs, inside were oily rags, 4xfighting pos around caves. They were 40'x12'x8'. 1930H, unit req Div Chem Tm to put CS in the caves, but at 1950H stated they could handle it themselves. Neg further.
1/6	D	710528	61	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, D/1-6. Unit cond an extr fr PZ's at BS528935, BS525941 at 281500H to LZ's at BS508982 & BS520988, compl 281610H, cold.
1/6	R	710528	62	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, R/1-6. Unit cond an extr fr PZ at BS525928 at 281613H to PZ at CHL. Compl 281620H, cold.
1/6	A	710528	70	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, A/1-6, BT404008, 281320H. Obsr 2xVC stationary prox 1000m, arty fired, unit swept w/neg res.
1/6	C	710528	71	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, 1/C/1-6. Unit cond a CA fr PZ at BT491019 at 281755H to LZ at BT468014, compl 1805H, cold.
1/6	A	710529	26	198th Bde, Sp Paine, A/1-6, BT426033, 290930H. While on ptl fd 2xtunnels 8'x3'x3' w/neg signs rec use, also fd several campfire in area. Used in last 24 hrs. Used CS in tunnels.
1/6	C	710529	41	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, 1/C/1-6. Unit cond a CA fr PZ at BT467014 at 291329H to LZ at BT493018, compl cold 291345H.
1/6	R	710529	43	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, R/1-6. Unit cond CA fr PZ at CHL at 291133H to LZ at BS430956, compl 291145H, cold.
1/6	D	710529	48	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, D/1-6. Unit cond an extr fr PZ's at BS521920, 517938, 504784 & BS518992 at 291155H to LZ at CHL. Compl 291310H. (cold)
1/6	A	710530	45	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, 1/A/1-6. Unit cond CA fr PZ at BT430024 at 1420H to LZ at BT448072. Compl cold 1431H.
1/6	A	710530	51	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, A/1-6, Mine Dog Req. Time: ASAP 30 May. Pick up at Admin Pad. Passed to 63 CTT, Sgt Rieble, appr by G3, CPT Croy. Ntfy: 198th Bde, Sgt Lark.

1/6	A	710530	57	198th Bde, Sgt Lark, 1/A/1-6, BT446072 at 1450H. Det 1xbouncing betty (M16A1) mine. Last man leaving LZ tripped on it. Res: 5x&US WIA(E). D/O compl 1515H to 91st Evac.
1/6	HQ	710531	8	198th Bde, Sp Hall, HQ 1-6 Inf, 310730H. VN Civ approached the 1-6 water point at BS623864 & stated VC were in Xuan Yen Tay (4) at BS626862. A patrol fr water point went to ville & fd 1xNVA flag (3"x5") on a stick w/the following message on the flag: "People downtown work, people in the country fight." And on a piece of cardboard at the base of the flag there was a sign saying, "No people in town pick up flag." Extr flag to Binh Son.
1/6	All	710531	46	198th Bde, Sgt Basner, 71 Avn, BS565941-630940, 310835H. Mini gun malfunctioned firing 30xrds between above grids. Binh Son, 1-6 Inf ntly. Neg report of cas or dam.
1/6	E	710531	80	198th Bde, LT Hall, E/1-6, (en) BT427041. 20xpers w/packs (4) thru starlight scope, mov W to E, processed arty, req N/H. Ntly: 198th Bde, to pass info to Fat City & Ly Tinh. N/H on sta 2100H, checked area w/neg findings. Ammo expenditure: 33x81mm HE, 16x81mm illum, 9300rds .50 cal.