

Panthers' Carson Scouts Know The Enemy's Ways

By SP4 Steve Wilson

OASIS—The 2nd Battalion (Mechanized), 8th Infantry's Scout Platoon has added two seasoned, jungle-trained fighters to its ranks.

It was not long ago that Quyen Phan and fellow guerrilla, Do Phan Van, both of An Khe, were working for the other side. The former Viet Cong soon saw the handwriting on the wall, learned of the Chieu Hoi program offering them amnesty, and left their leaders, who offered only illusions of grandeur.

Quyen Phan and Do Phan Van joined the ranks of more than 80,000 former enemy soldiers who have rallied to the government of the Republic of Vietnam.

In the high traditions of the fighting Panthers, the erstwhile VC are proving themselves to be the best trail sniffers around. The jungle has long been their home.

The former VC are known as Kit Carson scouts. And much

like the old frontiersman himself, who led the Army of the West in search of marauders, the scouts are helping the mechanized infantrymen in their pursuit of the enemy.

Recently, the scout platoon made a combat assault in support of a Special Forces reconnaissance-in-force mission near

the Cambodian border.

While in quest of suspected enemy anti-aircraft weapons, the Kit Carson scouts led the Ivymen to enemy blood trails, and even caches of their clothes, hidden deep in the jungle thickets. It was obvious the VC terrorists had suffered casualties and were fast in retreat.

"The ex-VC are excellent scouts," said platoon leader, First Lieutenant David Ciosek of Meriden, Conn.

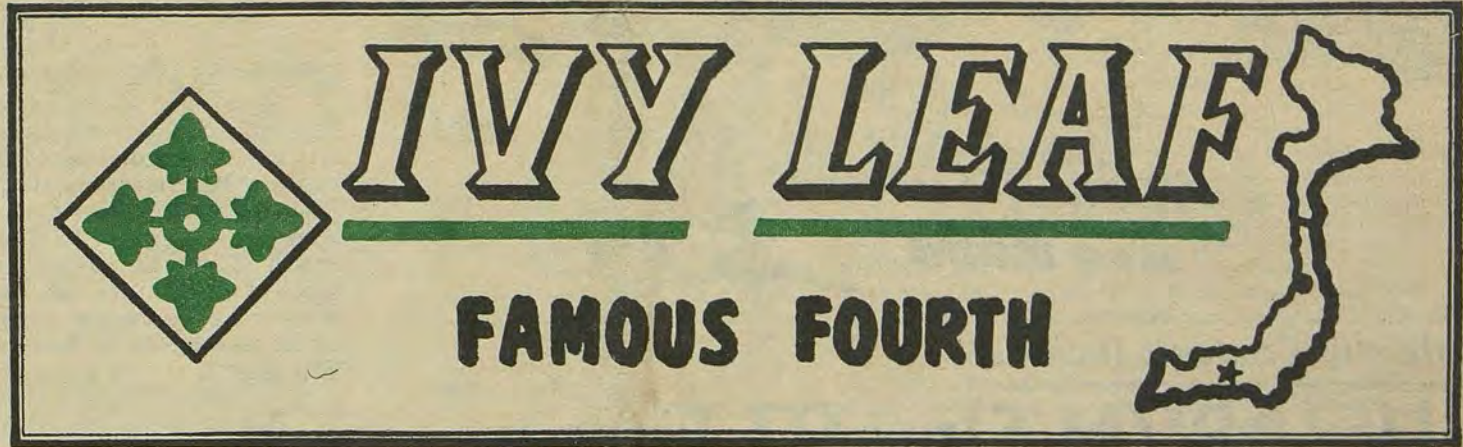
"They have been very helpful on many of our sweeps, and are proving their worth as jungle detectives."

Even though the scouts are just beginning to learn to speak

English, they don't wait around to be told what to do.

"They help us out any way they can," said Sergeant First Class Robert Bell of Ft. Worth, Tex.

"Whenever we have camp chores to be done, they pitch right in, and are fast catching on to what needs to be done."



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CAMP ENARI, VIETNAM

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WAITING FOR THE WORD—An RTO from the 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry, waits for the word to move out in operations near Dak To. (USA Photo by SP4 Don MacIntosh)

2nd Day-Long Sweep

Ivy Base Campers Move Out

By SP4 Obelit Yadgar

CAMP ENARI — Once again the 4th Infantry Division's base camp near Pleiku sprang to life as cooks and clerks — over 4,000 garrison soldiers — took to the field.

The operation, the second in a series of periodical, day-long combat sweeps, was launched to clear and secure Camp Enari's tactical area of operational control.

The operation began at 4:00 a.m., as the base camp soldiers were transported to within a six-mile radius of Camp Enari. Then, like a web, they broke through the hazy dawn, their chests criss-crossed with bandoliers of ammunition, and began

slowly closing in on Camp Enari.

From a distance the Ivy soldiers created a scene repeated many times throughout history. Like Genghis Khan's Golden Horde, they swarmed through rice paddies and gullies filled with monsoon rains.

Nothing remained unchecked by the now seasoned soldiers. Villages were cordoned and searched, and so were possible enemy rocket and mortar sites.

To add a punch to the sweep, Ivy gunships buzzed overhead as mechanized infantry forces and military police V100s raced between the hundreds of platoons and companies trudging through the highland jungles.

Though only 6 Viet Cong suspects were detained throughout the day, Major General Charles P. Stone, 4th Division commander, labeled the operation a success.

"Again," he said, "the operation proved to these soldiers that they can not only provide their own defense of base camp, they can launch an offensive if needed."

Colonel Virgil Williams, Division Artillery commander, had these comments on the sweep. "This sweep has again proven that all persons in the 4th Infantry Division are soldiers first and technicians and specialists second. It has sufficiently demonstrated to all Vietnamese and Montagnards in the vicinity of Camp Enari, both friend and foe, our collective determination to continue to successfully defend our base camp."

Cavmen Kill 30 Foe In Ban Dun Battling

By SP4 Larry Hogan

BAN ME THUOT — When the battle for the city of Ban Dun ended, an observer said the enemy body count reached 30.

Reports of possible enemy movement near the Vietnamese city had led 4th Division pilots of the 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry and the 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry into the area.

Each unit was assigned an area and the choppers began combing the terrain.

The 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry worked the western portion with the 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry operating to their east.

Helicopters Break Up NVA Chow

BAN ME THUOT—Helicopters of Troop A, 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry, became the uninvited guests of the enemy when they went down to investigate a partially concealed NVA canoe resting on the bank of the Ea Krong River.

"We were on a normal visual reconnaissance when we spotted this 16 foot craft lying on the bank," said Major William Glover, Troop A commander. "An effort had been made to hide it, so our scouts and Cobras went in and destroyed it."

As the choppers circled around, one of the scouts spotted a fresh trail and began following it.

Below, a few hundred meters from the river, four meals sat growing cold on a table. The diners, having heard the gunfire, had decided to skip dinner.

"We then saw four enemy soldiers running away from the direction of the camp," continued Major Glover. "One was separated from the other three by about a hundred meters."

Moving in with the scouts and the Cobras once more, the pilots hammered the area and visually counted one killed.

Upon closer inspection, the camp was seen to include sleeping bags and mats, cooking utensils, ponchos and pontoons for constructing river crossings.

Captain Fredrich Rosenberger of New Rochelle, N.Y., controlled the operation from his chopper.

In the afternoon a light observation helicopter buzzed low over a hill top when the pilot spotted a small group of men moving through the jungle foliage.

Seeing the choppers, the men broke into a run, heading for the protective cover of a nearby clump of bamboo.

A bright sun flashed down on the running figures revealing their uniforms and their weapons. The men were carrying AK47s. They were the enemy.

Immediately, the scout ship gunners opened up on the panic-stricken NVA regulars.

Circling over the crest of the hill the chopper was about to move in on the enemy when a much larger target came into view.

A company size enemy force had positioned itself on the rise.

Spotting the scouts, the enemy crouched low in the grass, anticipating the Ivy attack.

As the scout scrambled for altitude, the Cobras came screaming in on the position.

As gunships from both cavalry units smashed the area, an innocent-looking Forward Air Control (FAC) plane from the Air Force: 21st Tactical Air Support Squadron, hummed above the contact. In a few moments he would send fighter-bombers hurling down upon the enemy.

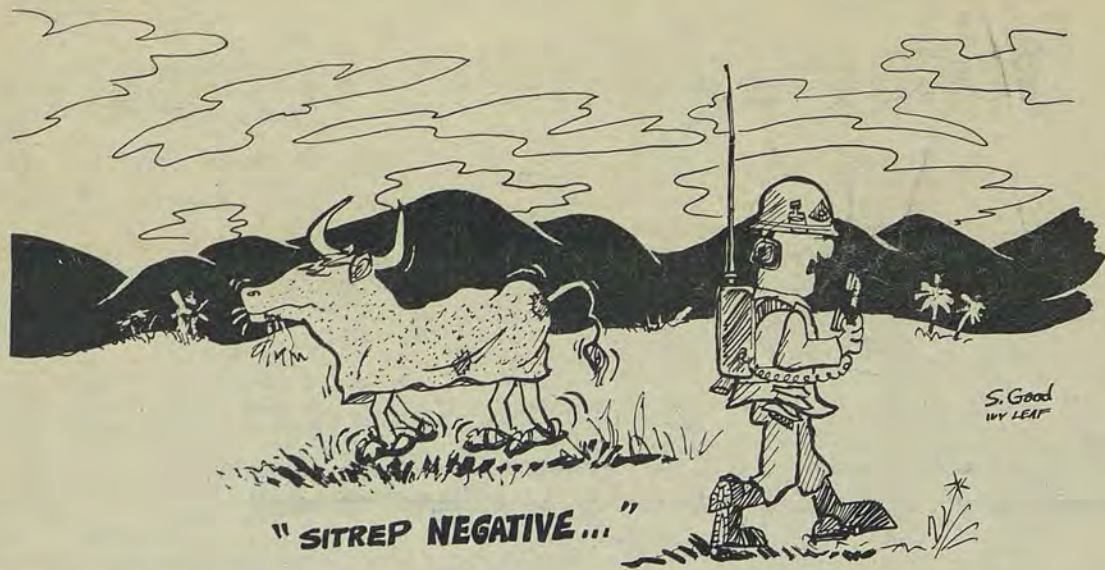
The choppers pulled out and the deadly jets began their attack.

(Continued on Back Page)

Centerspread

During a Vietnam tour in the quiet moments, a soldier thinks—of his not too distant R&R, a recent "Donut Dolly" visit, memories of hard-fought battles with the enemy.

In three special features, on pages 4 and 5, the "Ivy Leaf" details the countries for an upcoming R&R, a visit to a firebase by the "Donut Dollies" and important awards and posthumous decorations given to heroic soldiers.



S. Good
IVY LEAF

"SITREP NEGATIVE..."

Infantry Contacts Increase

US/ARVN Slay 97 Enemy

CAMP ENARI—Fourth Division and Vietnamese soldiers killed 97 enemy troops in the Central Highlands as infantry contact continued to increase this week.

A reconnaissance patrol operating north of Dak Seang found

a position recently used by an enemy size force. Five NVA were observed in the area, air strikes were called in, with secondary explosions observed. Later that afternoon more NVA were sighted in the same location. The patrol reported the enemy soldiers to be accompanied by a tall blond-haired Caucasian, wearing a khaki uniform, brown boots, a baseball cap and armed with an unidentified weapon. Also sighted was a water buffalo carrying enemy mortar tubes. Gunships rushed into the area with unconfirmed results at this time.

The heaviest fighting occurred near Duc Lap when the 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel William C. Moore, were attacked from all sides with mortars, rockets and ground attacks. The fighting lasted over an hour and a sweep of the

area later found one wounded NVA who was detained. A large supply of weapons were found in the area including 4 light machine guns, an unknown number of AK47s and SKS's and one B40 rocket launcher. Total enemy body count reached 23.

Contact renewed between the two units, two days later as the Ivymen encountered an estimated battalion size force of NVA regulars, killing 32 of the enemy soldiers. Ivy casualties were again light.

Also, a large supply of weapons was found in the area including four light machine guns, an unknown number of AK47s, and one B40 rocket launcher.

A minesweep team of the 299th Engineers discovered three Russian mines along Highway 14 north of Kontum. The mines were destroyed leaving large craters.

Ivy NCOs Graduate Honorably

CAMP ENARI—Future non-commissioned officers of the 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry, have distinguished themselves in the 4th Division's NCO Academy.

The Red Warriors have had the distinction of having a man in first place in three of the last five cycles to attend the Academy.

The men were Specialist 4 Robert Power of Hays, Kan., Sergeant George Matheny of Fort Union, Va., and Specialist 4 Michael Widrig of Fertile, Minn.

The ten-day course is designed to give the men experience in leadership while they are given classes on subjects pertaining to military operations here in Vietnam. These classes in map reading, operation of a compass, weapons and demolition, patrolling, and general information, better qualifying the men for positions of leadership upon returning to their respective units.

Comptow Brothers Get Vietnam Tour Together

BAN ME THUOT — In Hale City, Tex., where Private First Class Ivory and Specialist 4 Willie Comptow grew up, they were known as a team.

They went to the same school, were on the same athletic teams, had the same interests, and were always together.

Vietnam is a world away from Hale City, but the Comptow brothers are still a team, serving together with Troop D, 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry, working with the 2nd Brigade.

Willie is a door gunner on a Shamrock Huey.

His chopper's main mission is airlifting aero-rifle platoon, of which his brother, Ivory, is a member.

It wasn't a matter of luck which brought the two brothers together in the same unit.

"I was already over here," said Willie, "and my time was almost up. I heard from Ivory that he was coming over to this unit; so I extended to be with him."

The teamwork which made the Comptow brothers excel in local sports in Texas makes them an asset to Troop D.

"When Ivory's down there," said Willie, "he knows I'll be watching out for him. If my chopper goes down in unfriendly country, I also know my brother won't be far away with help."


Ivory turned around to check some of his gear and Willie said, "Sometimes when he's down there I get nervous. I want to get up and pace the floor, but you can't really do that in a Huey. Still, if I was anywhere else than by his side, I'd be worried sick."

The Comptow brothers do everything together, and in the future it won't be much different, except for one thing.

"When I leave Vietnam," said Ivory, "I'm going to settle down and get married."


Willie smiled quickly and said, "It's not going to be a double ceremony, though. I haven't found the right girl yet, but you can bet who the best man is going to be."

From The Desk of



the

Commanding General



M G STONE

SAEDA

SAEDA IS THE Army short title for a regulation entitled Subversion And Espionage Directed against the Army. This title doesn't really mean much until we stop to think of what the regulation is trying to tell us. All of us, no matter what our rank or job, have a certain amount of knowledge that the enemy would like to know. A cook knows if supplies of food are sufficient for any particular length of time; an infantryman in a foxhole knows if certain types of ammunition are readily available; the clerk typist is aware of personnel strengths and shortages; and the motor pool mechanic has knowledge of deadlined vehicles. Whatever it is you know, be it highly classified or not, it is of importance to the enemy.

But of course the enemy cannot come up to you and ask you for the information. So, he uses "innocent" people like the PX cashier who overhears you telling your buddy in line that you haven't been able to get supplies to the firebase because of bad weather, or that so many helicopters are deadlined. Or the enemy might use copies of photographs that some soldiers send to be processed at local establishments. Pictures, innocently taken, often contain information of value to the enemy, such as locations and approximate distances of one area in relation to some readily identifiable point, or how thick a bunker is, or a possible weak point in a perimeter. We can prevent the enemy from obtaining such information from the photographs by mailing the films to Hawaii or CONUS for processing.

The enemy is not only engaged in espionage. The enemy likes nothing better than to see US personnel injured and put out of action, and he will go to any length to see this accomplished. Every time someone gets careless and leaves a vehicle unattended in Pleiku or elsewhere, the enemy has a golden opportunity for sabotage. When you patronize restaurants in town you submit yourself to possible sabotage by food poisoning. Or if you engage the services of a prostitute you are playing right into the enemy's hands from a standpoint of both espionage and personnel sabotage. The more injuries we have, either through intent or accident, the better off we make the enemy.

Another area in which the enemy is particularly active is in subversion, or the process of trying to make you lose faith and become disenchanted with the war and your government. The enemy knows that if he can keep you confused or disillusioned then you are not effective either as a fighting man or as a friend to the South Vietnamese, and this is perfect for him. You know that you are here to enable the Vietnamese to have a strong, healthy government in which the people have a choice and not just a decision to vote or not; you know that you are here at the request of the South Vietnamese to help them repel Communist aggression in their country. Don't let the enemy keep you from your mission.

The enemy is at a disadvantage right now. Let's keep him in that position by staying Silent, Safe and Sure.

Charles P. Stone

Boxes Double As Pews

DAK TO — There are two primary reasons why members of the 4th Division's 1st Brigade enjoy a number of practical and recreational benefits—their own ingenuity and ammo boxes.

American military men all over Vietnam use ammo boxes as flower boxes, waste paper baskets, filing cabinets, foot lockers or stools.

Sometimes the containers are disassembled and used for walkways, table tops, supporting stakes for mosquito nets, shelves and showers.

Members of Company D of the 704th Maintenance Battalion have constructed a weight lifting bench out of the boxes for use by those who prefer that form of recreation.


A barbell was made by welding two cement filled cans to

opposite ends of an old pipe.

Throughout the 1st Brigade area ammo boxes can be found nailed together and put to use as dog houses or shelter areas for mascots.

Full-sized desks and dressers aren't uncommon in the 4th MP Company at Dak To, and these too are made from ammo containers. Some members of the 6th Battalion, 29th Artillery, have constructed bunkers made completely out of the boxes filled with sand.

But the prize for the most practical use of the ammo box would go to Specialist 4 Mike Lucive of the 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry. For, on Hill 1001 he constructed an altar made completely of ammo boxes, and on Sunday the men attending services sit on ammo pews.



IVY LEAF

FAMOUS FOURTH

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MAJ Mai Leaves, Lauds Div.

CAMP ENARI—Major Duong Duc Mai departed the 4th Division, September 23, for an assignment with II Corps in Saigon. Major Mai served as the ARVN Liaison Officer since July 1, of last year.

Prior to his departure the major was awarded the U.S. Army Commendation Medal for Valor. The medal was presented by Major General Charles P. Stone, 4th Division commander.

The 23-year veteran with the Vietnamese forces was cited for gallantry during an aerial mission near Ben Belch, November 24, 1967.

Ten kilometers south of Ben Belch the aircraft in which he was riding came under intense ground fire; the door gunner received severe head wounds.

With no regard for his own safety, Major Mai quickly removed his own safety belt and began administering first aid to the wounded gunner. After landing at Ben Belch he provided the coordinate location of the enemy which resulted in their liquidation.

While assigned to the 4th Division, Major Mai made an outstanding contribution towards closer relations between Americans and South Vietnamese. As liaison officer he was responsible for coordinating all logistical, administrative, and operational matter concerning ARVN forces operating in the 4th Division's area of operation, to include training for Kit Carson scouts.

He also worked in close liaison with the Civilian Personnel Office on matters concerning the civilian force employed at Camp Enari.

"By understanding the language of a country, one can better understand the people," the Major stated.

At a dinner in his honor, at Mess #1, Major Mai was given a Certificate of Achievement for meritorious service and a 4th Division commemorative plaque by the division commander.

Upon accepting the awards Major Mai said that his assignment with the division has been "a wonderful experience, with wonderful people."

"It's Good To Help Out" Village Refugees Receive Ivy Aid

By SP4 Hans Lange

BAN ME THOUT—For more than 2,500 Montagnard and Vietnamese refugees in and around the hamlet of Duc Lap, life was beginning to look glum.

They had been forced to leave their villages near the Cambodian border by retreating North Vietnamese Army (NVA) regulars who were being pursued by Ivymen of the 2nd Brigade, commanded by Colonel Herbert McChristal. Their very existence was threatened.

But hope was only a few miles away, at Duc Lap, since fighting had ceased there. It was a relatively safe spot to seek refuge. And they came—with their salvaged household goods, their elders, and their children.

The great influx of refugees stumped hamlet leaders. Where could they all be housed? The leaders arose to the challenger and so did the Ivymen of the 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel William C. Moore of Alexandria, Va.

The industrious Montagnards set up house in abandoned school buildings and make-shift shelters, but they were not homes. Food was scarce, and many of the people were sick or had received injuries in the exodus to Duc Lap.

Word of their plight soon filtered to the Cacti Blue civil affairs team, headed by

First Lieutenant Harry F. Bernard of Pittsburgh. They responded with medical aid, food and even tents.

Daily visits to the four primary refugee areas are now conducted. With the battalion surgeon, Captain Daniel Marks of Oak Park, Mich., leading the team, as many as 290 refugees have been treated in a day.

The day for the team begins in the early afternoon. There's other work to tend to in the morning. They load their three-quarter-ton vehicle with a medical chest, food, soap, toothpaste, candy and tobacco. Most of their supplies are donated by Ivymen. There is a chest in the S-5 tent for that purpose and it fills up every day.

Once the supplies are on the vehicle, the men climb aboard—usually two medics, two security men, an interpreter and anyone else who can spare a few hours. Captain Marks makes the trip when time permits.

This particular trip is to a refugee site that the Cacti Blue team has not visited before.

After a short drive from the battalion base camp, the vehicle pulls into the refugee area, and immediately it is swamped by the people there.

The interpreter, Private First Class William E. Carlson of Lander, Wyo., who is also a medic, jumps out first and begins asking

anyone who will listen to direct him to the chief.

Soon the chief is pointed out and PFC Carlson speaks to him.

"Tell your people that we have come to treat their illnesses and injuries. Have them form a line at the rear of the vehicle, we have men there who can help them."

The chief agrees and soon there is a line forming. The medics go to work.

The line keeps moving. Colds are treated, as are open, bleeding sores, skin rashes, boils and other infections. In less than two hours, 170 of the refugees have received some type of medical aid or advice. The day before the number was 290, but that took more than two hours.

"It's good to be able to help these people," says Specialist Howell. "They need so much."

After physical ailments are cared for, candy, soap, toothpaste and tobacco are passed out, giving a boost to the spirit. Food is then given to the chief. He is instructed to parcel it out equally among all the refugees in the camp.

The truck is then loaded again, but this time it's not as full; it is heading back. Tomorrow there will be more people, and more medicine, food, soap and candy for the kids. Only the site will change.



MECHANIZED POWER—Armored Personnel Carriers (APCs) and Huey helicopters are utilized in a sweeping operation near Ban Me Thuot in the central highlands. (USA Photo by SP4 Larry Hogan)

Panthers Surprise 'Charlie' As He Begins Attack

By SP4 Steve Wilson

OASIS — The enemy got the surprise of his life when he was stopped dead in his savage act of mortaring Pleiku Air Base in the early hours of the morning.

It was ironic, for the estimated platoon of enemy recoilless riflemen dug their foxholes and set up their rifle positions a mere 300 meters from the night perimeter of the 2nd Battalion (Mechanized), 8th Infantry's Charlie Company.

Company Commander, Captain John Barrows of Terre Haute, Ind., had reports that an enemy platoon with recoilless rifles had slipped into the highlands. That bit of intelligence was not taken lightly.

Just northwest of Pleiku, on a grassed-over plateau known as the Rocket Belt, the mechanized Panthers were ready for the enemy soldiers if they showed.

Unknowingly, that enemy was busy digging in, only 300 meters to the north. They likewise, must not have known that the company of armored per-

sonnel carriers (APCs) was so near.

The night was pitch dark. Not even a star showed through the shroud of heavy fog.

The time was 3 a.m.

Suddenly, the explosive reports of what appeared to be mortars awakened those Ivymen who were not on guard. The brilliant flashes were amazingly close.

Two such positions were spied through the thick fog. No more than nine or 10 projectiles had been fired when the Panthers' own mortar platoon was lobbing its own lethal shells at the entrenched enemy.

Then, when the enemy fire was fast being snuffed out, Captain Barrows directed his track commanders on the north side of the perimeter to open fire.

The deadly .50 caliber machine guns blazed, raining burning lead onto the enemy. One enemy soldier opened fire with a burst from his AK47 rifle, but much too high to disturb the panthers.

"It was the first time I've ever been on the wrong side of tracer fire," mused Sergeant

First Class Christopher Garland of Patchogue, New York.

Suddenly the enemy fire ceased. All was again quiet. Forward Observer, First Lieutenant Joseph Jurist of Cleveland, Ohio, called in artillery fire to saturate the enemy positions.

Buffalo Roping

OASIS — When village chiefs approached Specialist 5 Jim Wright of Lindsay, Okla., with their problem of water buffalo tramping their rice paddies, he fast applied a little cowboy ingenuity.

Specialist Wright was no novice when it came to roping.

His grandfather used to drive large herds of doggies up through Indian Territory to the Kansas railheads.

The civil affairs medic showed one hamlet chief how to make a lariat, and its use as a lasso. "Although the Montagnards are a bit rusty at such roping exercises," says Specialist Wright, "they are catching on fast in the cowhand's technique."

First Lieutenant Jerome Webber of St. Petersburg, Fla., led a squad of grenadiers just outside the edge of the perimeter. There they cut loose with a barrage of rifle fire grenade fire. The bamboo thickets ceased to whisper.

Early the following morning, the sharp-eyed Ivymen discovered just what they had knocked out during the night. Camouflaged amid thick bamboo clumps were almost a dozen foxholes, some dug trench-style. Each was projected with parapets.

As the Ivymen fanned out, they found the two 75mm recoilless rifle positions, and a total of canisters and carrier cases.

All around the enemy rifle positions were the telltale marks of the Panthers' own mortars.

"I'm really proud of our mortarmen," said Sergeant First Class John Bennet of Tacoma, Wash. "I know we got a goodly number of the enemy here."

Blood splashes told the story. More blood trails led north. On either side of a human body

imprint were the blazed marks of two mortar rounds.

Also found were a bandage, a chicom grenade and an empty AK47 magazine. Captain Barrows picked up a carbine shell.

"I estimate that we had 40 rounds of AK47 fired at us," he said. "And we probably received about 50 rounds of M-1 carbine fire."

Once having thoroughly examined the recoilless rifle positions, Captain Barrows formed his company of armored tracks on line. Then the massive iron monsters began their brush-crushing sweep through the dense jungle.

Halting on line, the Panthers opened up with a deadly reconnaissance-by-fire with their .50 caliber machine guns. The crackling sounded like a sledge hammer singing its way through the dense jungle thickets. The barrels began smoking with intense heat.

The enemy was not to be found. Charlie Company had succeeded in suppressing the recoilless rifle attack on Pleiku. The proudness of Captain Barrows showed on his face.

Heroes Receive Awards

Photo Essay By 4th Division PIO

AT BAN ME THUOT—The ceremony was marked by a solemn dignity. The platoon stood in rigid formation. In front of them, placed on a table, were the hats of their fallen comrades.

Brigadier General Albin F. Irzyk, assistant division commander, stepped up to the table after a series of commands and pinned the posthumous decorations—Bronze Star Medals with "V"—onto the hats of two 2nd Brigade LRPs, who had been killed in action.

The story of the ill-fated LRP patrol had begun the previous day.

Insertion was made south of Ban Me Thuot and the team continued traveling southward through dense vegetation. They halted after moving about 500 meters.

Apparently the foe, an estimated platoon size force, witnessed the drop and followed the LRP team until it halted. Then the Communists moved in.

Specialist 4 Dennis L. Ahrendsen of Olin, Ia., team leader, and Specialist 4 Joseph J. Kull of Philadelphia, Pa., assistant team leader, spotted the enemy. They opened fire.

The LRP team members held the enemy at bay for nearly one-half hour until their helicopter support arrived. Specialists Ahrendsen and Kull lay dead.

At Camp Enari an Ivy soldier was awarded the Army Commendation Medal with "V" device and a purple heart for saving a Montagnard village from a massacre by an estimated 30 Viet Cong.

First Lieutenant John Fonseca of San Antonio, Tex., a civil affairs officer with 4th Division's 4th Supply and Transportation Battalion, and his crew, who were a permanent security force in the village, had long settled for a quiet night.

In the early morning hours Viet Cong sappers crashed through the village outer perimeter, guarded by a Montagnard Regional Force, and attacked the Ivy soldiers' inner perimeter with rockets and small arms.

Shrapnel tore into the Ivyman's head as three more rockets peppered the small compound with steel. "I told my men to keep firing, and I ran across the open to get the radio."

A Viet Cong opened up on the Ivyman's dark figure darting through the black night.

"I hit the dirt, rolled over, and pumped four bullets in him," said Lieutenant Fonseca. "Then I reached the radio and called in gunships, while my men kept the VC off my back and out of the compound."

As the Ivy gunships buzzed overhead, enemy muzzle flashes faded in the highland night.

And at the Oasis, remembering savage battling in the Plei Mrong area, Major General Charles P. Stone, 4th Division commander, awarded Vietnamese Captain Huynh Chav Bao the Bronze Star with "V" device. To the Captain's side stood some of his battalion who together with him withstood numerous attacks on their Special Forces camp.

A soldier's struggle is remembered in many ways. . . A nation recalls historically with its decoration. With a country's medal, he is linked with all soldiers of all times, tied to the history of a people, to the constant struggle, to the chain of heroes.



(USA Photo by 1LT Robert Stewart)
MG CHARLES STONE AWARDS BRONZE STAR WITH "V" TO VIETNAMESE CAPTAIN HUYNH CHAV BAO.



(USA Photo by SP5 Ray Harp)
AFTER SAVING A VILLAGE FROM VC MASSACRE, 1LT JOHN FONSECA IS AWARDED ARCOM WITH "V".



(USA Photo by 2LT Jay Kivovitz)
IN MEMORY OF TWO LRPS KILLED IN BATTLE BG ALBIN IRZYK PINS ON BRONZE STARS WITH "V" TO THEIR HATS.

A Summary-Report By SP4 Mike Cobb

The Great Program—Rest And Recuperation

IVYMEN, HAVE YOU BEEN in Vietnam for three months? If so, you are eligible for one of the Army's greatest programs—Rest and Recuperation (R&R) leave.

Out-of-country R&R is a program to allow all soldiers in Vietnam to take a seven day leave in selected foreign countries.

To take advantage of the program you must submit an application through command channels.

There are ten leave centers available: Bangkok, Hong Kong, Hawaii, Australia, Tokyo, Manila, Taipei, Singapore, Penang, and Kuala Lumpur. You are eligible to visit one of these places for every 12 months you serve in Vietnam. If you decide to extend your Vietnam tour, an additional R&R is authorized for each 90 to 179-day extension.

The second one may be taken during, or prior to, your extension. However, first and second leaves may not be taken consecutively.

BANGKOK

Bangkok, largest and capital city of Thailand, lies on both sides of the Menam Chao Phya River. The city has two distinct sections, the old with its crowded, narrow streets, and the modern, with its well-planned, thoroughfares, park areas and Western-style buildings. The latter sector is located around the Royal Palace which stands on an island in the river.

You may bring in 200 cigarettes or 50 cigars and one bottle of liquor duty free. There is no limit on the amount of U.S. currency which may be brought in, but it is recommended no less than \$150 be taken with you.

The basic currency unit is the baht. The currency rate is 20.62 baht for each American dollar. You may find it easy to remember a baht is roughly a nickel.

Bangkok is famous for its fascinating nightlife and wide variety of merchandise available for purchase.

If Bangkok is your choice, have a great time.

HONG KONG

Located on the southern coast of China, we find Hong Kong over-looking the enchanting South China Sea.

With year-round climatic conditions being mild, it is recommended that you limit your wardrobe to light-weight clothing and be sure to take an umbrella.

The currency is the Hong Kong dollar. One U.S. dollar is equal to 5.75 Hong Kong dollars. Checks and money orders are easily cashed at banks or licensed money changers.

An unending line of shops offer a wide variety of goods for purchase. However, if you buy Chinese-type goods, you must have a Certificate of Origin to clear the article with customs.

Throbbing drums, twanging guitars, the clash of cymbals, and lovely young women may best describe the atmosphere of the Hong Kong night life.

If Hong Kong is your choice, take full advantage of the opportunities that await you.

AUSTRALIA

You may decide to choose Australia, if so, be prepared for a wonderful adventure in Sydney.

Sydney, oldest and largest city in Australia, is located on one of the most magnificent harbors in the world. Her 2½ million people are friendly and have an exuberance which expresses itself in sports, the arts, politics, and hospitality.

The city is centrally located in the midst of fine beaches, beautiful parks, and gardens. Being one of the more exclusive cities offered for R&R, it would be wise to carry a variety of evening clothing as you will be wearing a coat and tie most of the time.

The night life of Sydney is wide and varied. The larger more exclusive nightclubs and theater restaurants are located primarily in the downtown area. Small cabarets are located throughout the city.

HAWAII

With the moon reflecting through the glittering palms, sweet music from the Hawaiian guitars and bongo drums and your wife nestled in your arms—sound like fun—well it is all possible if you decide to take your leave in Hawaii.

The 50th state offers a variety of beautiful beaches, tropical gardens, deep-sea fishing accommodations and wonderful hotels.

Since Hawaii is a state, the custom laws are the same as the mainland. Upon departure for Vietnam, you must exchange your MPCs for the traditional "greenbacks".

JAPAN

Lying in the Pacific Ocean off the coast of China, we find four islands and over 3,000 small islets making up the pride of the Orient—Japan.

Japan welcomes the tourist, who has a wonderful opportunity to see fascinating glimpses of Japanese culture, art, and architecture.

Currency used in Japan is the yen, 36,000 of which equal \$100.

Japan's largest city, Tokyo, comes alive at night. A mass of blazing colors and neon lights, it offers just about everything the American serviceman is looking for.

MALAYSIA

Malaysia, one of the richest and happiest countries in Southeast Asia, offers two main R&R sites, Penang and Kuala Lumpur.

Penang, situated off the north-east coast, offers all the attractions of luxurious tropical beaches, and tax-free shopping in stores that

cater to all your needs.

Kuala Lumpur offers a great variety of tours, places to see and things to do. Many gardens, art galleries, museums and monuments are available for your enjoyment.

The main nightclub attractions of Penang and Kuala Lumpur are the restaurants and clubs of the larger hotels. Here you will wine, dine and dance to the music of excellent combos, in surroundings which are among the most beautiful in the world.

MANILA

Manila offers a welcome to all Americans who wish to view its treasures. Her warm welcome makes you feel at home even though the scenery, people and customs are foreign.

One of the first requirements after arrival in Manila will be to exchange currency to Philippine pesos and centavos. You are reminded that a peso is roughly equal to an American quarter.

American bands, artists and other musical troupes offer various types of entertainment in the nightclubs of Manila.

SINGAPORE

Singapore, a symbol of color and romance in the East, has all the overtones of European culture.

The city is a bewildering bazaar of things to buy at amazingly low prices. Being a tax-free-port, even imported goods are often cheaper than in the country of their origin.

The Malaysian dollar, worth 33 U.S. cents, is to be used in Singapore. There is no limitation on the amount of American currency which may be brought into the country.

When the sun goes down, the life in Singapore continues unabated, becoming gayer and more relaxed. It gives its wholehearted patronage to the amusement parks, nightclubs and other plentiful evening entertainments with which the country abounds.

Unusual decor—at least to the Western eye—featuring moon-gates and tinkling-glass establishments, adds to the atmosphere of Singapore nightspots.

TAIWAN

The name of this semi-tropical island is Taiwan, which means "terraced bay." To the Western world the island is known as Formosa, meaning "island beautiful."

The island lives up to its American meaning. It is a paradise of beautiful gardens, beaches and temples.

Bachelors are guaranteed to find the island exciting.

All Ivy men who have not taken their R&R or are authorized another, should check with the Special Services Office at Camp Enari for additional information concerning an out-of-country vacation.

Dolls 'Work Out'

Photo And Story By PFC Norman Pazderski

"ANYONE FOR SOME FUN and games," drawled a southern voice at the firebase of the 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry.

The owner of the voice was a Red Cross volunteer who, along with a friend, paid an unexpected visit to the 4th Division soldiers. The men in the field know them as "Donut Dollies."

As the two girls walked through the base to the command bunker, every pair of eyes along their path was watching them. The men were puzzled. What were they doing here? For a moment all thoughts of hostilities around the Ivymen ceased.

The Donut Dollies were flown in by helicopter and arrived just in time to help serve lunch to the men of the battalion, as well as those of the 4th Battalion, 42nd Artillery. For some reason, the food tasted 100 percent better than usual.

After lunch, the girls borrowed the briefing tent and set up shop. Puzzles and charades were the more popular games. Manicure sets, writing paper, envelopes and Kool-Aid were given to the soldiers.

"We hope the visit made the men forget the war for awhile," said Kay Brownfield of Tulsa, Okla.

"While we were taking part in the activities, I think we all forgot what was going on around us," said Private First Class Larry Smith of Haywood, Calif., of Company E, 1st Battalion. "We had a great time."

"We were overjoyed that the soldiers were so receptive. Our mission was a total success," said Sue Pulliam of Bristol, Tenn.

As they boarded the helicopter to leave that southern voice could again be heard. This time it said, "See you again, real soon."



RED WARRIORS RECEIVE HELPING HAND IN FILLING SANDBAGS.



BRING IT HERE—The 4th Division utilizes the CH47 helicopter to airlift supplies into the forward areas of the central highlands. (USA Photo by SP4 Johnston)

Battle Imminent

Chopper's Midnight Ride Rescues A Pained LRP

By SP4 Larry Hogan

BAN ME THUOT — A 2nd Brigade Long Range Patrol (LRP) team won a midnight race against time and enemy in the 4th Division's embattled Central Highlands jungle. As darkness fell, the team, headed by Sergeant Larry McJenkin of Gorde, Ala., settled down for the night. Everything seemed normal. Specialist 4 John Quientero of El Paso, Tex., felt a slight pain in his stomach, but he thought nothing to worry about, probably something he ate.

The night wore on slowly. Private First Class Walter Hoy of Gilman, Ill., was standing guard and with the exception of Specialist Quientero, the rest of the team was sleeping

soundly. Specialist Quientero had been awakened earlier by a sharp pain in his side. The pain was spreading, like an intense ball of fire raging within his body. Afraid of giving away his position, he fought the urge to call out in pain. The burning now held his entire right side and stomach in its vise-like grip.

His stifled moans finally reached PFC Hoy's ears; he quickly awakened the rest of the team.

While Sergeant McJenkins radioed for an evacuation chopper, PFC Hoy, PFC Dickie Finley of Sweet Springs, Mo., and Sergeant William Gore of Moutrie, Ga., began constructing a stretcher from poncho liners and shirts.

"All his symptoms seemed to indicate an appendicitis attack," said Sergeant McJenkin. "I knew we had to get him out of there fast."

Moving as quickly as the jungle darkness permitted, the men soon reached the landing zone (LZ).

Arriving at the LZ they made Specialist Quientero as comfortable as possible and then settled down to wait for the chopper.

From the surrounding woodline the team heard the ominous sound of a snapping twig. A bush moved for an instant and then stopped. More sounds

were heard. Someone was slowly creeping toward the team's position.

Only a few minutes had passed since the team reached the LZ, but the minutes seemed like hours to the small unit.

To aid the choppers in finding the tiny landing zone through the jungle blackness, PFC Hoy tied his strobe light to his rifle muzzle and thrust the improvised torch high into the cold night air.

Finally, the churning of a helicopter was heard overhead. First to arrive on the scene was a flare ship, which immediately went to work illuminating the area.

As the ship circled above the team, the pilot spotted more signs of probable danger moving toward the Ivymen.

"They were out there," Sergeant McJenkin recalled. "If it hadn't been for all those flares popping around us, the enemy probably would have opened up."

A few minutes later, the lift ship arrived, along with several heavily armed gunships.

As the gunships began opening up on the surrounding woodline, the lift bird climbed high above the battle and sped on its way.

Less than an hour after uttering his first moans of pain, Specialist Quientero found himself in the hands of Army doctors.

Regular Becomes MG's Aide

CAMP ENARI—Private First Class Dennis Reed of Des Moines, Iowa, with Company D, 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry, was chosen the weekly enlisted aide for Major General Charles P. Stone, 4th Division commander.

First picked as his platoon representative, PFC Reed was then chosen by his company commander, Captain Allan Mitchell of Buffalo, N.Y., to represent Company D at the battalion semi-finals.

Each company in the 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry, presented one representative, but none were able to impress Sergeant Major John McGuire of Philadelphia, battalion sergeant major, as much as PFC Reed with his outstanding knowledge of his specialty, military courtesy and bearing.

At the 2nd Brigade Headquarters, near Ban Me Thuot, he became the weekly enlisted aide to the division commander by outperforming representatives from the brigade's other two battalions.

He was given the chance to tour with General Stone, meet members of his staff, and see division operations.

"It was a great experience," said PFC Reed. "I even had a chance to see General Creighton Abrams and Admiral John McCain and be a part of the preparation for their arrival."

A former business major at Northwest Missouri State College, PFC Reed spent six months with Delta Company as an infantryman in forward areas.

Private Reed's outstanding performance did not go unnoticed. Members of the command staff recognized the effort put forth by him to gain the honored position.

He was then appointed permanent enlisted aide to Colonel Robert McAlister, assistant division commander B.

Another tribute to PFC Reed was the placing of his name on a plaque at the 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry headquarters. A letter of commendation, signed by General Stone, was sent to his wife, Pat, and a copy was placed in his permanent records.

"This is certainly more fun than digging foxholes," smiled the Ivyman.

ARTY Makes Move

DAK TO — Specialist 4 Robert T. Farrington of Rockford, Ill., is a member of Battery A, 6th Battalion, 29th Artillery. He has seen his share of combat and had more than his share of relocation.

The mere thought of a unit move is usually enough to throw the average soldier into states of depression because of the strenuous work involved. There are hills to be cleared, bunkers to be built, gun emplacements to be constructed, latrines to be dug and mess facilities to be set up.

So when Specialist Farrington heard that his battery was to change locations, he assumed

the worst. But this time the work was completed with unexpected ease.

Battery A replaced Battery B and when an advance party from Battery A arrived at their new site, they found the lion's share of work had already been completed. The hill had been cleared and all the bunkers and firing areas Battery B had used could easily be converted to meet their needs.

With the help of a few "hooks," the main weapons of Battery A were moved into position along with other major supplies, and the whole process was completed in one day.

Cav Adopts New Tank Testing

CAMP ENARI — The Ivy's 2nd Squadron, 1st Cavalry, has adopted a new tank crew proficiency test which tests the

Firearms

CAMP ENARI—Ivymen are reminded that mailing of all types of firearms at U.S. Army post offices is forbidden.

The Department of Defense has coordinated action with the Post Office Department to prohibit the mailing of firearms from within the United States when addressed for delivery through APOs and FPOs. Mailing of any type of explosives or ammunition is also prohibited.

The prohibition against mailing firearms will be spelled out in Chapter 8, AR 65-1, which is to be published soon.

Prior to this change in policy, a serviceman could send for a shotgun in the States and have it mailed to him. But under the new regulation this will no longer be possible.

In order to enforce this new regulation, fluoroscopes, manned by Military Policemen, are being installed in base post offices and air terminals in Vietnam, to prevent further mailing of firearms to and from Vietnam.

tankers' ability to engage targets with all the tank weapons and types of ammunition.

Patterned after "Range 42" at the Army Training Center in Grafenwoerher, Germany, tankers move their awesome machines at combat speed over a winding course which gauges the drivers' skill while tank commanders engage a series of targets, simulating troop movement and more monumental stationary objects.

As the .50 cal. machine guns zero in on a simulated vehicle target hidden by undergrowth, the tank's main gun pounds away at distant boulders and hard markers placed on mountain ledges.

Because co-ordination between driver, loader, gunner, and tank commander is the most decisive factor in actual battle conditions, the crew is allotted only a short time to identify, position, and fire the desired round before moving on to the next target.

At each of the eight target locations tank commanders and crew are awarded points based on technique, time to engage the target, and target effect.

SSG Donates His Pay To College Scholar Fund

CAMP ENARI—"I wish more men would contribute more to the fund than they have," said Staff Sergeant George Brill, of Syracuse, N.Y., in an interview at Dragon Mountain Service Club.

The sergeant was speaking about the 4th Division Scholarship Fund which was established by Major General Charles P. Stone, division commander, to provide a \$1,500 college scholarship to the eldest child of Ivymen who have died in action.

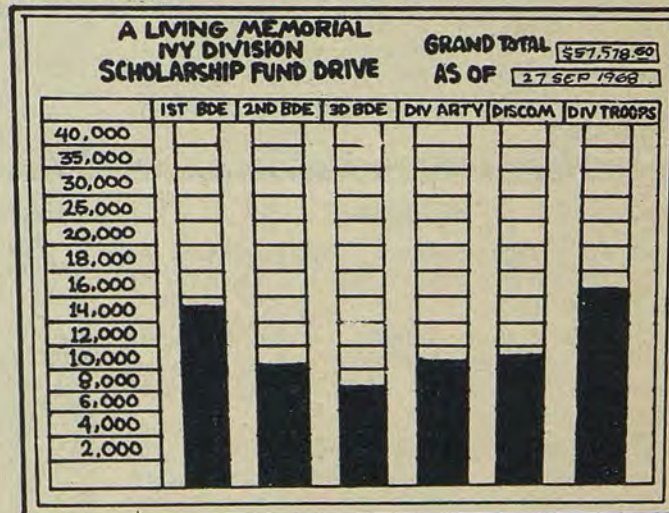
"I think it's a worthy cause. It takes the burden off the mother in trying to provide an education for her children. You know she can't do it on whatever insurance she gets and keep the family going," the sergeant added.

Sergeant Brill, a former platoon sergeant with Company A, 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry, departed for an assignment in CONUS last week. Prior to his departure he donated a month's pay to the fund.

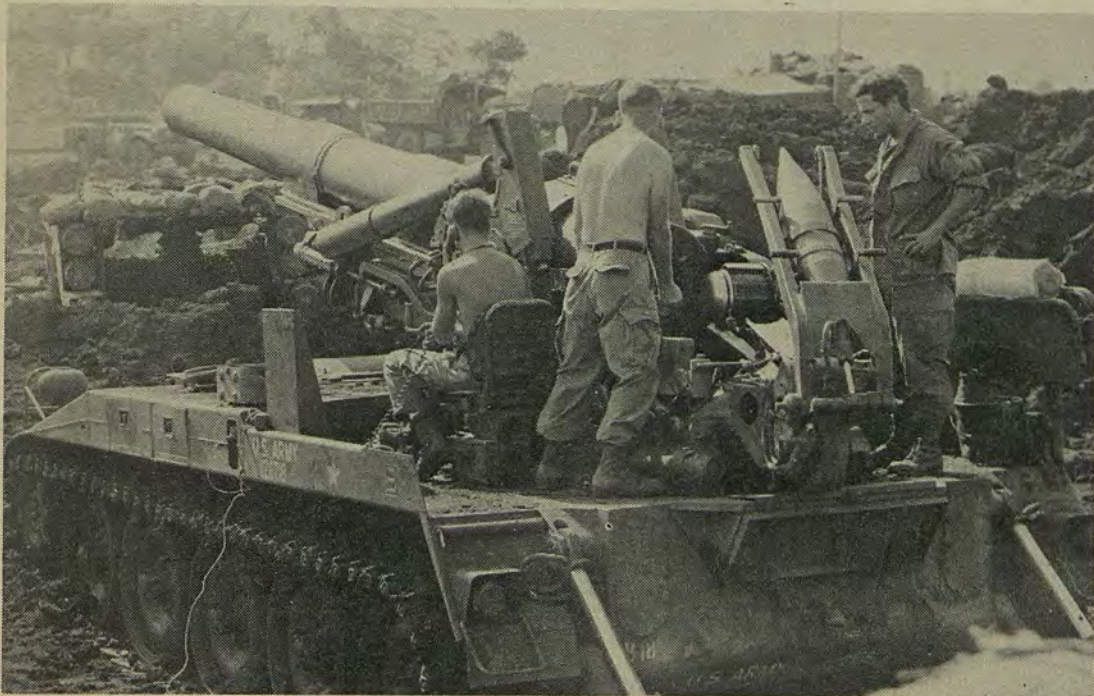
"I couldn't say exactly what prompted me to do it," he said. "I guess you could say I thought of my own. I have a wife and three kids, the eldest a boy, five years of age."

The fund was established in April of this year. As of September 24, over \$57,000 had been collected. Sergeant Brill's battalion has collected as much money as all other Infantry battalions combined.

The unit, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Jamie Hendrix, Meder, Ga., has contributed \$7,424.00.



"There's Always Room for One More ..."



BLAST OUT—Artillerymen take instructions from a forward observer, prior to delivering an 8-inch round in support of 4th Division infantrymen, above. And then comes the time of reckoning, top, when the artillerymen fire at the suspected NVA position.
(USA Photo by SP5 John Stidham)

ARTY With Cobras Aid Besieged LRPs

By SP4 John Trimble

OASIS—"There's a bunch of them coming up the hill," whispered Specialist 4 Raymon Anderson of Waterloo, Iowa, to his Long Range Patrol (LRP) team operating near the Oasis.

Two 3rd Brigade LRP teams have showed the NVA the effectiveness of artillery and gunships.

The first team to make contact, led by Specialist Anderson, was acting as a relay post for other teams in the area.

"We were sitting on top of a hill relaying messages back to the Oasis," said Specialist Anderson. Other teams were working the valley looking for enemy locations.

"It was going pretty good for us until Riu, a Montagnard scout, heard movement nearby," said Private First Class Vincent Copersino of New York.

An estimated platoon of NVA were coming up the hill in search of the 4th Division soldiers.

The team remained still. When the enemy soldiers got within 50 meters of the team, Specialist Anderson called artillery on them. The rounds rained on the enemy soldiers, cracking the jungle quiet.

"I called in artillery and we know it did some damage," recalled Specialist Anderson. "I called it as close as safety limitation permitted to our own position."

The Ivymen then spotted three NVA in front of their position. "We blew our claymore mines and that took care of them," commented an Ivymen.

Another team that was operating in the same area also ran into trouble, but managed to blast its way out with the aid of Cobra gunships.

"They must have spotted us

when we first started moving," related Specialist 4 Jean-Pierre Lauer of New York. "They were following us when I spotted two of them. They were carrying AK47's and wearing web gear."

The team was returning to the landing zone for extraction when the enemy soldiers again began harassing them.

"After I spotted the two NVA we took cover and prepared to ambush them," said Specialist Lauer. "I stood up to get a better look and there was one staring me in the face. I hit the dirt as he fired, missing me."

The LRP team returned the fire while Sergeant Michael Bartholomew of Memphis, Mich., the team leader, called for gunships and artillery.

Private First Class Larry Futrelle of Kinston, N.C., described the gunships. "When they came in we didn't hear them until they started firing. At first we didn't know what they were. They came in like jets and really worked over the area."

Sergeant Bartholomew estimated that a platoon of NVA were pursuing them. "After the gunships and artillery we had no more trouble," he said.

Villagers Cement Ivy Friendship

OASIS—After returning from a mission in the steaming hot jungle near Ban Me Thuot, the men of Company A, 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry, led by Captain Charles Laws, were greeted by a group of Montagnards who brought gifts for the Ivymen.

"They gave us bananas, chickens and fruit," said Sergeant Donald Gibson of Jamesville, Wis. "It was their way of showing they were our friends."

It had been a tiring day for Alpha Company as they made sweeps of the torrid jungle, uncovered several old bunkers that had been abandoned months ago. Now they were back in camp cooking chickens and enjoying fresh fruits.

"The Montagnards have always given fruits, eggs or just a drink of water when we pass through their villages," said one Ivymen. "They are good people and really trustworthy."

"If they find rifles, ammunition or anything that is important, they will turn it in to us. I remember one time we went through a village and the people brought us several clips of ammunition that some soldier had lost."

Another time a man brought a small child who had cut his hand to the Ivymen. The medic doctored the child's hand. The aged, gray-haired man thanked the soldiers in his native dialect.

"We couldn't understand him," said Private First Class Dennis Andrews, "but it was obvious, with his wrinkled face smiling, that he appreciated the help."

Jungle Is No Sanctuary

Duc Lap Sweep Garners 200 Bunkers

By SP4 Larry Hogan

BAN ME THUOT—After suffering heavy losses, the NVA were driven from the Duc Lap Special Forces Camp and forced back into the jungle.

Now, even the jungle offers little sanctuary for them.

Combined forces of 4th Division's 2nd Brigade, labeled Task Force Bright and commanded by Lieutenant Colonel John Daniels of Alexandria, Va., have pursued the communists deep into the forest and denied them the chance for a second attack on the camp. In a single day, elements of the 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel William C. Moore of Alexandria, Va., uncovered nearly 200 NVA fortifications southwest of Ban Me Thuot.

Bunkers Recent

The majority of the positions appeared to be less than two days old.

Heavy drops of rain still clung to the trees as the men of the Cacti Blue moved out on the day's operation.

Air and artillery power had earlier been employed in the area northeast of Duc Lap. It was now the battalion's task to move in and sweep the area.

Company B had barely begun its sweep when it uncovered a small complex of bunkers and foxholes tucked away in a shal-

low revine.

The company cautiously approached the complex. Reaching the first bunker, a Cacti Blue soldier thrust his M16 into the opening and cut loose with a quick burst, "just to make sure nobody was home."

As the dust settled, the Ivymen peered into the fortification.

Nobody home.

Moving out, the company soon found a smaller complex and the slow painstaking process started again.

Night Location

Nearby, the Cacti reconnaissance platoon uncovered an enemy night location.

Freshly dug foxholes and makeshift shelters offered mute evidence that the NVA platoon had used the facility the night before. However, the previous evening had seen a B52 strike fall a short distance from the NVA, probably making sleep impossible.

After spending what must have been a sleepless night, the enemy fled.

As the platoon checked through the abandoned night location, a sweep, conducted by Company A, under the leadership of First Lieutenant Donald Latella of Philadelphia, uncovered a well camouflaged NVA kitchen complex, complete with mess area and cooking facilities.

The stoves had been dug into the ground with a network of tree limbs criss-crossed over

their top. As smoke traveled through this network, it would be defused, making it more difficult to detect.

Large cooking pots were found scattered throughout the facility and freshly cut foliage covered the entire complex.

Hurried Departure

It appeared that "Charlie" had again been forced to run for his life.

Meanwhile, Company B was continuing its search of the area. While assessing the damage inflicted by the B52 strike, the company broke into a small clearing and discovered an abandoned anti-aircraft position.

"The place was littered with old ammo boxes and foxholes," recalled Specialist 4 Dick Larson of Stewart, Mich.

After stopping for chow, the units moved out again.

Company A made the final and largest discovery of the day.

Strange Bush

Sweeping along a ridge line, the unit's point man spotted a log protruding from a bush that "just didn't look right."

Moving in to investigate, the Ivymen uncovered a battalion-sized bunker complex.

About 150 bunkers with overhead cover were found hidden in the dense undergrowth. Some were sleeping bunkers and others were fighting positions, but all were less than 48 hours old.

As with the smaller complexes, the Ivymen carefully searched through the fortifica-

tion.

Smoke belched from the tiny entrances as grenades and rifle fire preceded the men into the underground dwellings.

All evidence seemed to indicate that the enemy had prepared the location, but had not had time to move into the bunkers.

Air and artillery units were notified of the discovery and plans were made for the destruction of the complex.

For the people of Duc Lap and the defenders of its neighboring special forces camp, the battle had ended, but for the surviving NVA, the fight was only changed.

Ivy Field

CAMP ENARI—The Hill-topper football field at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., was recently renamed in honor of an Ivymen who was killed while fighting with the 4th Infantry Division.

First Lieutenant Stephen H. Gerlach, formerly of the 4th Engineer Battalion, 4th Infantry Division, was killed in action in the Central Highlands on 26 March 1968. He received the Silver Star for gallantry while with a support platoon near Kontum.

Prior to coming to the 4th Division, 1LT Gerlach was stationed with the 1st AIT Brigade at Fort Leonard Wood.

Cavmen Down 30 Enemy...

(Continued From Page 1)

Sweeping in like birds of prey, the fighters unleashed tons of devastating ordnance on the enemy.

Night was now rapidly falling and the aircraft were forced to withdraw.

As darkness closed in on the jungle, the fires left by the air attack illuminated the hill with an eerie glow. Then, with the first light of dawn, Ivy troops returned to the area, hungry for another crack at the enemy.

Moving up the hill the unit soon saw the destruction caused by the massive battle.

The NVA had taken a beating.

The enemy lost 30 men on the hill but there was simply not enough left of the bodies for an accurate count.

Major Jack Glenn of Summerville, Ga., mission commander from the 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry scanned the area from his Cobra. Major Glenn is one of the few commanders in Vietnam who employs a Cobra as a command and control (C and C) ship. He is a Cobra pilot.

Moving away from the hill,

the Ivymen were checking a nearby woodland when the remainder of the enemy force appeared and the battle began again.

With fierce determination the NVA opened up on the choppers.

As before, an Air Force FAC was on hand. The moment fighting broke out, the word was flashed and jets were on their way.

Automatic weapons fire came flying up to meet the gunships as they flew pass after pass into the heart of the communist position.

Toward the end of the battle, a light observation helicopter followed a Cobra into the area. It was his job to assess the effectiveness of the Cobras' attack.

The "snake" came screaming through a ravine, the scout hot on his tail, and released his lethal fire.

As the observation ship moved through the gully, the faint sound of weapons fire could be heard by the pilot.

"I think I'm taking fire," reported the pilot.

In order to confirm his sus-

picion, the scout pilot made a second, but slower pass through the ravine.

This time there was no question.

The time had come for the Air Force to go to work.

A fighter bomber rolled in on the target, dropped his bombs and pulled up. The ordnance crashed to earth. There was the usual explosion, a momentary pause and then a second explosion, even more vicious than the first.

Black smoke curled upward 150 feet.

Suddenly another blast erupted from the target followed by black smoke. A supply of enemy rockets had been destroyed.

The air attacks continued and so did the secondary explosions. By the time the jets had made their final run, six secondary explosions had been ignited, an enemy heavy weapons company destroyed and the tiny Vietnamese town of Ban Dun saved from almost certain destruction.



WATCH THE SIDEBURNS — No matter how far out in the "boonies", a soldier still has time for the barber. Specialist 4 Donald Moffett of Gramby, Mo., above, cuts fellow soldier's hair. (USA Photo by SP4 Jeffrey Tarter)

Brings Home To Field

Brigade Gets MARS Hookup

By SP4 Hans Lange

BAN ME THUOT — A Military Affiliated Radio System (MARS) hookup at 4th Division's 2nd Brigade's base camp is closing the gulf between home and the war zone.

Telephone calls, relayed by radio, can now be made to friends, wives, lovers and parents anywhere in the free world without leaving the 2nd Brigade area of operation.

The hookup was proposed by Major Thomas E. Talkington of Harrington, Wash., brigade signal officer, who felt that some type of MARS affiliate should be within easy access to the men. He put out feelers, and to his surprise, found similar sentiment among the Air Force personnel who staff the MARS station at Ban Me Thuot Army Airfield.

A few days later, final arrangements were made; a conex was obtained, as well as a telephone and other odds and ends to make the user comfortable.

Specialist 4 James R. Scott of San Pedro, Calif., with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, and Air Force Sergeant Jack R. McCready of Petersburg, Va., with Detachment 9, 619 Tactical Air Command Control Squadron, set out to work, wiring the conex and preparing it for use.

Air Force Technical Sergeants Don Cooper of Blounttown, Fla., and Dick Dejaager of Lompoc, Calif., both of Detachment 1, 1879th Communications Squadron, made final checks and tested the equipment. They found the hookup ready to go.

Now, a 4th Division soldier from the 2nd Brigade can simply walk up to the conex, pick up the telephone and ask for the MARS station. Operators there will place the call on the waiting list—first come, first served. The MARS operator will also give an estimated time for the completion of the call. And when the call comes through, he will inform the caller.

Eleven men donate their spare time to operate this station in shifts.

The station at Ban Me Thuot Army Airfield has been operational since last December and is the only one within an 80-mile radius; it was built by men who volunteered their time. All equipment was donated.

Colonel Herbert J. McChrystal, 2nd Brigade commander, called the MARS hookup "a great morale booster for the men of the brigade."

In addition to relaying telephone conversations, the men who staff the MARS station work closely with the Red Cross to confirm emergency leave applications and all other emergency situations.

MARS-grams—written messages of 25 words or less—are also relayed through the system, free of charge.

"Birth announcements are a big thing with us, too," said Tactical Sergeant Cooper. "But they usually come the other way—from home."

MARS has a primary mission of providing a high frequency communications network for the transmission of tactical information. Its secondary mission is to provide personal telephone communication for the fighting man.

"We do the best we can," said Tactical Sergeant Cooper, "although sometimes that isn't enough."

"It helps if the party placing the call writes home and tells his people about when to expect it," added Tactical Sergeant Dejaager.

Last month over 10,000 calls were passed to the Continental United States by the Air Force MARS in Southeast Asia. The Ban Me Thuot station was instrumental in relaying messages after the Tet and the recent Duc Lap offensives. Soldiers who come in from the battlefield are given first crack at calling home.

The station is operational most of the day, but prime sending hours are those in early morning and early evening. Atmospheric disturbances interfere with the transmission during the rest of the day.

The only charge for placing a call through the MARS network is to the receiving party. When the radio transmission is picked up in the States, the receiver, most likely a member of the vast amateur ham ranks, calls the desired party by telephone and reverses the charges. The amount can vary from 10 cents to the maximum rate for three minutes.

Calls are limited to one per person per month. Duration of a call is also limited, from three to five minutes for each call.

Regional PX Offers Variety Of Services

CAMP ENARI—The Vietnam Regional Exchange (VRE), part of the Army & Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES), offers Ivymen a variety of services.

Through the many VRE stores throughout Vietnam, anything from toothpaste to automobiles for Stateside delivery is available. There are also exchange stores in four of the 10 Rest and Recuperation (R&R) Centers.

Four major U.S. automobile manufacturers operate concessions in 53 Exchanges. The 4th Division Exchange is one of these. These concessions order automobiles for delivery in the U.S. for eligible exchange customers at special prices that range from 11 to 18 per cent off suggested dealer retail posted prices.

The manufacturers' representatives in the concessions provide exchange customers information on their respective lines, options, availability, prices, including the full military discount each customer is entitled to, and other details such as overseas or stateside delivery, financing, extent of the new car warranty, transportation charges and sales tax.

R&R Exchanges

Servicemen going to Honolulu, Tokyo, Bangkok, or Taipei will find the exchange ready to serve their needs.

Fort DeRussy, which adjoins Waikiki Beach in Hawaii, probably will be the most convenient to the R&R traveler. This ex-

change has extended its services especially to anticipate the vacationers' needs. Shirts can be rented for 50 cents a day and a tuxedo for \$2.50 a wearing.

R&R Centers in Bangkok, Tokyo and Taipei can brief the serviceman about the exchange facilities available in their respective areas. As in Hawaii, the facilities are tailored to meet the requirements of men coming in for relaxation and fun.

Mail Order Service

Through the use of the Mail-A-Gift catalog, Ivymen can easily do their Christmas shopping. All they have to do is send their orders with check or money order payment enclosed to the New York address on the self mailing order form.

The catalog, illustrated in color, features recognized brands of U.S. items for delivery in the States. Over 1,000 gift items, including a wide array of toys, at Exchange prices, are carried in the catalog.

All merchandise ordered is fully insured and safe delivery in the U.S. is guaranteed. The shipment takes seven to 30 days between the time the order is received and the date it is delivered to the recipient.

No customs declaration will be required for goods since all the items are physically located in the U.S.

VRE has announced that 220,000 copies of the 1968-1969 edition of the catalog will be distributed shortly through the exchanges.

George—Scout Dog

OASIS — AS if being radio-telephone operator for a company commander were not time consuming enough, Specialist 4 Colin Barker of Philadelphia, now has more than he can almost handle.

When Company Commander, Captain John Barrows of Terre Haute, Ind., with 2nd Battalion (Mechanized), 8th Infantry, obtained his spirited German shepherd scout dog, Specialist Barker fast learned he had his hands full.

Named George, the year-old dog rides atop the armored personnel carrier (APC) beside his master, Captain Barrows.

Specialist 5 Barker and Neal McGraft of Ft. Worth, Tex., both take turns holding onto the spry animal. However, Specialist Barker thinks it's going a bit too far when the dog has to sleep with him.

The German shepherd is the progeny of a heroic dog family in Vietnam. His mother was a missionary dog, while his father served in a scout platoon.

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