

Engineers Repel Straw Men Trap

(2385)

By SP5 Jeffrey Tarter

OASIS—NVA forces set up straw dummies armed with wooden rifles to "ambush" a 4th Division engineer convoy, then sprang a real trap when the convoy came back.

But the live ambushers were no more effective than the straw men.

"We were convoying a bulldozer and a couple of earthmovers down to Plei Me," explained First Lieutenant Charles W. Friend of Enon, Ohio, a platoon leader with Delta Company of the 4th Engineer Battalion, commanded by Captain C. Hilton Dunn Jr. of Alexandria, Va.

"We were the first people on that road in six months, and we saw signs of the enemy all along the way."

Sweeping the road for mines, the engineers met a novel kind of harassment by the NVA—fake ambushes.

Half-hidden in the bushes along the road were straw dummies dressed in scraps of uniforms, poking wooden rifles out at the engineers. "From a distance it's a pretty scary thing," Lieutenant Friend admitted.

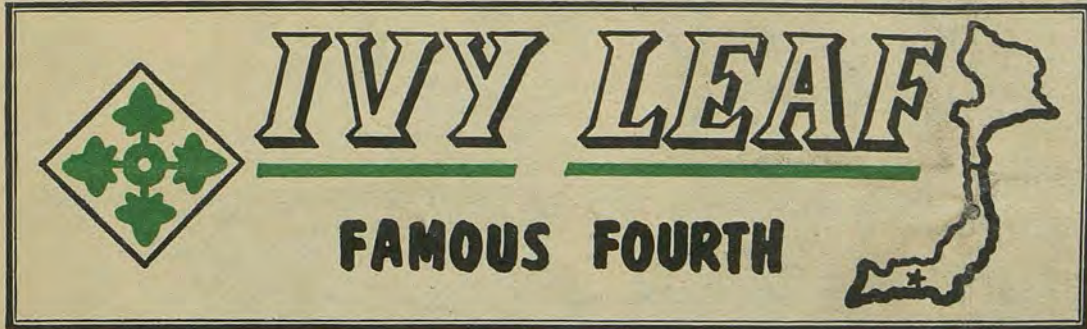
However, it wasn't until the small engineer convoy started back up the highway from Plei Me that it met real trouble. Halfway to the Oasis, the woodline 75 meters to the east erupted with heavy NVA fire. The convoy came to a fast halt.

Two truckloads of armed men jumped to the ground and began blazing back at the enemy. Tanks at the front and rear of the convoy peeled off and swept toward the woodline, catching the NVA in a crossfire of machine-gun and 90mm cannon fire.

Suddenly the convoy began receiving fire from the other side of the road. Returning fire from behind their trucks, the engineers swiftly silenced this attack also.

"The people on the ground were pretty much on their own," stated Lieutenant Friend. "They did a beautiful job."

Helicopter gunships were on
(Continued on Back Page)



Vol. III, No. 1

CAMP ENARI, VIETNAM

January 5, 1969



FRIENDSHIP TIES—This little Montagnard girl gets a helping hand with her first pair of shoes from Mr. Beverly Ritenour of the 4th Military Intelligence Detachment. The Ivy men

were visiting the village of Plei Chi Teh to deliver Christmas gifts from the citizens of Spokane, Wash.

(USA Photo by SP4 Robert Frechette)

Capture Weapons, Documents, Packs

'Regulars' Kill 10 VC In Jungle Sweep

By SP5 Peter Call
HIGHLANDER HEIGHTS — The sweep ended after three days of stalking through the Highlands, eight miles southeast of Kontum.

The choppers lifted out the Ivy men of the 4th Infantry Division's 2nd Brigade, commanded by Colonel Gordon "Duke" Duquemin of Annandale, Va., who took part in the sweep . . . except for one company.

Company A, 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry, hid in the dense grass and waited for the enemy to show himself.

"We didn't have to wait long," said Captain Charles L. Itschner of Macon, Mo., commander of Alpha Company.

"For the next four days we saw groups of enemy soldiers pass our position—sometimes as close as 75 meters," the captain recounted. "But we were waiting for something larger."

After several days of waiting, the Regulars were ordered to begin a second sweep, this one

to close the trap they had been patiently setting.

Spot Moving Enemy

In the early afternoon, helicopters from Delta Troop, 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry, commanded by Major Jack Glenn of Summerville, Ga., spotted an enemy force moving north and quickly sent in Huey Cobras, raking the foe with miniguns and high-explosive rockets.

At practically the same time, reports of contact on the ground came over the radio from the Regulars as they were moving to meet the enemy.

"The Cobras did a great job," said First Lieutenant James A. Myles of Pompton Plains, N.J., a platoon leader with Alpha Company.

"They pushed them towards us and broke the enemy's organization," the lieutenant continued, "and believe me, it made our job a lot easier."

The Viet Cong, fleeing from the gunships of Delta Troop, ran smack into the Regulars.

"We were moving south," said Specialist 4 Dean Jones of

Hillsdale, Ill., "when we saw two of them in black uniforms sitting on the side of a trail.

Surprise Each Other

"I don't know who was more surprised," the Highlander said, "them or us—but we shot first."

As the Regulars moved south, heavier contact was established, but with the help of the cavalry, each enemy attempt to break

out of the trap was beaten back.

During the afternoon's fighting, 10 Viet Cong were killed and one was detained by the Highlanders.

Weapons and equipment, including one mortar, a commo apparatus, AK47s and SKS carbines, B-40 rockets, back packs and documents were seized.

Clerk Picked As Aide

CAMP ENARI — Private First Class Gary A. Godfrey of Cleveland, Tenn., was chosen as the enlisted aide to Major General Donn R. Pepke, 4th Infantry Division commander.

The 23-year-old finance clerk who is assigned to the 4th Administration Company, commanded by Major John J. McNiff of Cranston, R.I., was first selected as Soldier of the Month for his battalion-size company.

Next, the dedicated Ivyman appeared before a board from

the Division Support Command. Again taking the honors, PFC Godfrey was named the enlisted aide.

For his outstanding performance, PFC Godfrey was presented an Army Commendation Medal for meritorious service along with a \$25 Savings Bond and a three-day in-country R&R.

"It has been the most rewarding thing which has happened to me since coming into the service," the University of Tennessee graduate said.

PFC Earns Silver Star For Bravery

DAK TO — During Organization Day Ceremonies, Brigadier General Robert C. McAlister of Monterey, Calif., the assistant division commander, presented the Silver Star to Private First Class Larry J. Conklin of Endicott, N.Y.

Private First class Conklin distinguished himself by his gallant actions on Oct. 13, 1968 as a member of Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry, commanded by Captain Mark E. Brennan Jr. of Atlanta, Ga.

Private First Class Conklin was walking point on a patrol near Firebase 29 when his unit came under intense enemy fire. Falling to the ground, he took the enemy force under such a furious barrage of fire that their first attempt to assault his unit's position was stymied.

The enemy force regrouped and again attempted to assault the position. Private First Class Conklin rose to his feet and charged the enemy while firing his M16 and throwing grenades with such deadly accuracy that the enemy was forced to take cover.

Returning to his position PFC Conklin hurriedly fixed the radio that had been damaged in the initial action. Retrieving the severed hand set, he used his hands and teeth to splice the cut wire before establishing
(Continued on Back Page)

From The Desk of
the
Commanding General



M G PEPKE

YOU—THE INDIVIDUAL SOLDIER, are one of the primary means of providing counterintelligence support for the 4th Infantry Division.

Many of us have a tendency to think of personnel involved in counterintelligence activities as spies who work in the dark of the night and gather information about the enemy. Nothing could be further from the truth. A counterintelligence section, the 4th MID, is the primary agency in support of the division's counterintelligence operations; however, a large amount of their effort is reinforced by the contribution that comes from the individual soldier.

JUST WHAT are we talking about when we speak of counterintelligence? Counterintelligence at the unit level is primarily concerned with the security of classified info and keeping as much information about our combat operations from the enemy as is possible. In other words, countering the enemy's efforts to gather information about us and our operations.

There are many ways we can contribute to this effort. At the forward fire bases, we can insure that all unofficial, unclassified waste, such as mail, is policed up before our unit evacuates the firebase. Copies of old letters provide the enemy with information about us that he will use against us if he can. We would not let our friends read letters which we had received from our wife or sweetheart; so why let the enemy read them?

ANOTHER ITEM which shouldn't be left laying around is official unclassified waste such as Field Manuals. Why tell the enemy how thick the hull of a tank is or the capabilities of a helicopter? He will only use this type of information to design a new weapon or a tactic which will destroy our equipment.

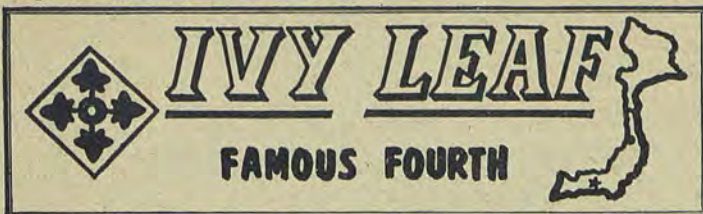
Another consideration is the information we may provide the enemy when we are engaged in a conversation with one of the seemingly-friendly indigenous people.

Then there is Communications Security (COMSEC). What about the information that you may be sending to other units over the telephone or in an electrical message? When we use a radio or telephone, it is impossible to see the enemy, and yet you and I both know that he is still there. When you see the COMSEC reminder on the telephone—"Charlie is listening"—you had better believe it, because he will be listening.

REMEMBER THAT SAEDA lecture which you had prior to going on out-of-country R&R? You might say, "Why did they give me that briefing; don't they trust me?" Everyone realizes that you are not intentionally going to give any secrets away; however, when you are approached by someone who is trying to obtain information about military operations, you will have that SAEDA briefing tucked away in the back of your mind as a reminder of what you are supposed to do in that particular situation.

There are many other counterintelligence measures which you are a part or and subject to, and all of them are designed to make you and your unit more secure. As you can readily see, there is a lot more to counterintelligence than spies working in the dark. You—the American fighting man—can do as much as anyone to counter the enemy's intelligence-collecting efforts.

Just remember—don't tell the enemy anything. Our task in Vietnam will be more easily accomplished if we help ourselves and not him.



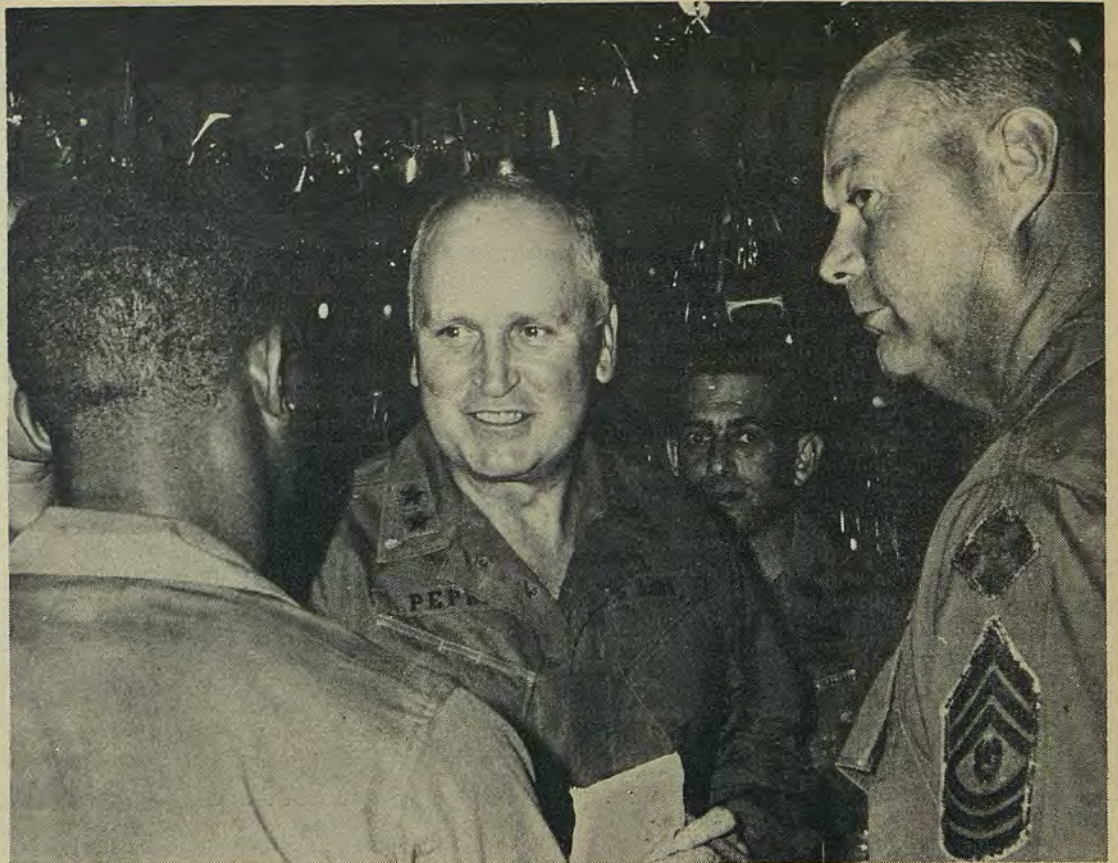
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GETTING ACQUAINTED—Major General Donn R. Pepke, commanding general, is introduced to one of the 4th Division's top NCOs during a gathering at Camp Enari. Making the introduction is the Division's Command Sergeant Major James L. Taylor Jr. (USA Photo by PFC John D. Warwick)

Since September 1966

Veterans Remain With Ivy's First

DAK TO—The Ivy Division's 1st Brigade, commanded by Colonel Hale H. Knight of Alexandria, Va., has served continuously in Vietnam since September 1966.

During that time, thousands of men have served with the brigade, but only two have remained the entire two years and four months.

They are Command Sergeant Major James C. Gilbert of Butler, Tenn., the brigade sergeant major, and Staff Sergeant Tran Van Manh, an interpreter with the Military Intelligence (MI) Detachment at Dak To, commanded by Second Lieutenant Richard Prochnow of Springfield, Mass.

Sergeant Major Gilbert entered the Army in October 1944 and earned the rank of sergeant major in May 1964. Before taking over the top enlisted spot in the brigade, he had served as the sergeant major of the 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry, in the United States, a unit which is still part of the Fighting First Brigade.

Decision Was Easy

His decision to remain in Vietnam after his first tour was an easy one he says, "Because I liked the way the brigade was run and the way it fought."

His primary duties consist of advising Colonel Knight on enlisted affairs and touring the firebases within the 1st Brigade to advise other NCOs. He plans to remain in the Army until he has completed at least 30 years service, but will return to stateside duty in June.

At that time, Sergeant Manh will become the only person who has served with the 1st Brigade since its arrival in Vietnam, a fact of which he is very proud.

Sergeant Manh is a 21-year-old native of Saigon who joined the ARVNs in 1965. He attended the Army Force Language School in Saigon for four months where he learned to speak English and then attended NCO school.

He was graduated as an E-6 and assigned to the 1st Brigade as soon as it arrived in country. He worked as an interpreter for

one month with the brigade S-5 and for another month with an MP platoon before being assigned to MI. He has been with them ever since.

Although he has a service obligation until he is 33 years old, he expects to be released within the next few years.

He explains, "I will be released when the war is over." He would then like to attend col-

lege or continue work as a translator.

Sergeant Major Gilbert and Sergeant Manh can recall the former 1st Brigade positions at Tuy Toa, New Plei Djurang, the Oasis, and Jackson's Hole. They can also recall the many battles won and the close friendships made.

They have served the 1st Brigade and their countries well.

CSM Taylor Speaks Out



MALARIA PREVENTION is serious business in Vietnam. A person who gets malaria, no matter how serious, is still a "casualty"—he is no use to his unit and might just as well have been wounded in battle.

Preventing malaria is best accomplished in one way—don't be bitten by a mosquito. However, many common sense rules apply.

IT IS KNOWN that the female anopheles mosquito has a painless bite, does not make a buzzing sound and bites during the early dawn and dusk hours. This is why we roll down our sleeves during the evening and night hours, sleep under mosquito nets, use insect repellent on exposed skin areas and use insecticide spray inside the sleeping nets.

The taking of the malaria prevention pills, which is specified by regulations and must be strongly enforced, is also necessary.

In the Central Highlands we take a daily dapsona tablet (white), which protects us from the deadly falciparum malaria. This strain of malaria is most prevalent in the Highlands. In addition, the chloroquine-primaquine (orange) tablet is taken each week to protect us against both vivax and falciparum strains of the deadly disease.

NOT ONLY should you take the pills while serving in-country, but the weekly pills should be taken for a period of eight weeks, and the daily pills from 28-30 days after returning to CONUS. Also, the malaria pills must be taken while a serviceman is on R&R.

A series of signs in the 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry, area say: "Malaria can keep you here when it comes time to leave." This is true. Recuperation time is from 14 to 19 days which could cause you to miss your port call.

So be a little selfish when it comes to malaria prevention. Do what is necessary and you will not be a loss to your unit, nor will you have to go through the agony of malaria.

LTC Lander Takes Command Of 'Golden Dragon' Battalion

OASIS—Lieutenant Colonel Robert B. Lander of Abbeville, S.C., assumed command of the Ivy Division's 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry at Firebase Rigid, the Battalion's new home.

Lieutenant Colonel Irving Monclova of Juan Diaz, Puerto Rico is leaving the battalion to attend the Command and General Staff College at Ft. Leavenworth, Kan.

Brigadier General Robert C. McAlister of Mayfield, Ky., Assistant Division Commander, said the Battalion had been "truly remarkable" in its recent successes at blocking NVA infiltration along the Cambodian border.

Before joining the Division, Colonel Lander served in Vietnam as Executive Officer of the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel and Administration.

A graduate of the University of South Carolina, he was commissioned a 2nd lieutenant in 1951. During 1952 and 1953, he served with the 5th Infantry Regiment in Korea, and between 1961 and 1964, with the Alaskan command.

In 1964 he was assigned to England for a year's training at the British Army Staff College. In January 1966, Colonel Lander joined the staff of the Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence in Washington, D.C., where he remained until coming to Vietnam in June 1968.

His decorations include a Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Bronze Star with "V" device, the Legion of Merit, the Purple

Heart, the Korean Service Medal, the United Nations Service Medal, the Senior Parachutist's Badge, the Good Conduct Medal,

the Army Commendation Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Korean PUC and the AGS Identification Badge.

Editorial

Safety Month

JANUARY IS USARV Safety Month. The goals are to reduce the command's accident rates and to instill greater safety awareness in each soldier. Prime targets are motor vehicle accidents, accidental gunshot wounds, burn injuries and water safety. These accidents continue to occur in increasing numbers, and additional impetus is required to reduce these losses to the lowest possible level.

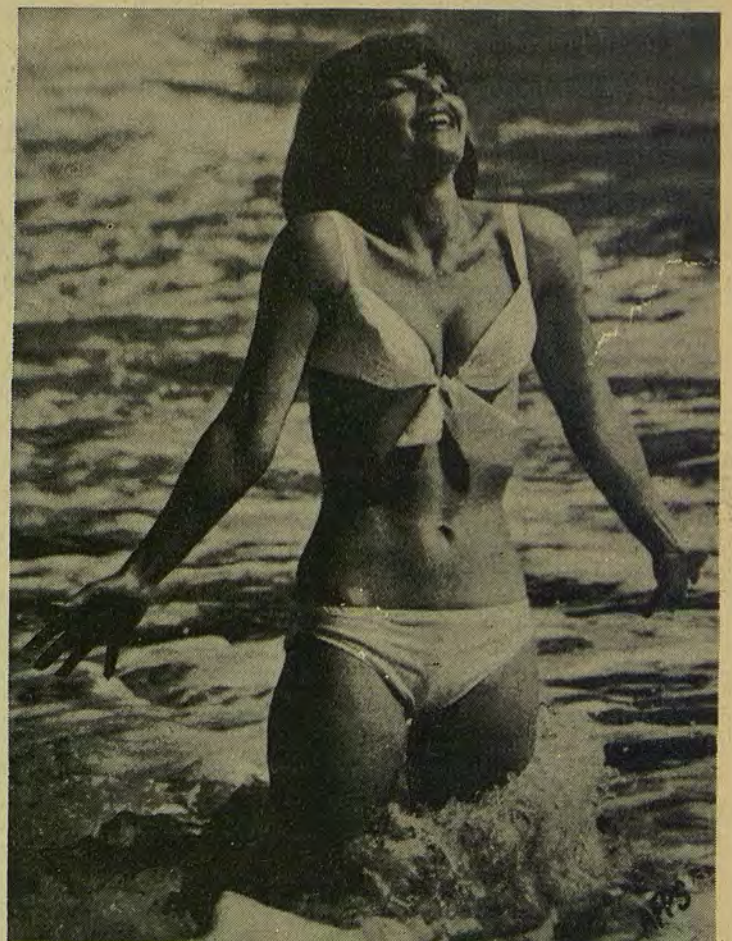
Some 166 USARV soldiers lost their lives and 1,091 were injured in accidents in July, August and September 1968. Some 97 Vietnamese Nationals were killed and 126 injured in accidents involving Army vehicles. The cost of these accidents exceeded \$11.5 million.

From July 1967 through June 1968, 688 USARV soldiers died and another 3,769 were injured. In addition to the US casualties from accidents, 337 Vietnamese died and 526 suffered injuries from similar causes.

THE 4TH DIVISION made an outstanding record in USARV statistics for 1st quarter FY 69. Of the seven Army divisions in Vietnam, we enjoyed the lowest rate of motor vehicle accidents and the third lowest rate of disabling injuries. The Division hopes to sustain and improve this record, and to continue to enjoy the benefits of lives saved and injuries prevented.

We urge each and every one of you to think "safety first" in order that you may live to see the day when you return to your loved ones in the United States. Too many men have become statistics in the records of the Division and will never experience that day we all anticipate. Safety is common sense and survival. An extra five minutes spent in getting safely to your destination in Vietnam, or taking the time to adhere to safe practices, may well assure you of reaching your ultimate destination in the United States. Reserve one of your New Year's resolutions for safety—for your own sake!

'Good Morning World' Star



SEE-WORTHY—Julie Parrish of CBS-TV's "Good Morning World" enjoys a late-season dip in the September surf. It's sure to be a good day with this bouncy miss on the scene.



THE NEW COMMANDER of the 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry, Lieutenant Colonel Robert B. Lander, is presented the unit's colors during ceremonies at Firebase Rigid.

(USA Photo by PFC John D. Warwick)

LTC Sulenski Takes Post

'Cacti Blue' Gets New Leader

OASIS—Colors of the Ivy Division's 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry, changed hands in a ceremony at the Cacti Blue command post on Landing Zone Sabre.

The new commander, Lieutenant Colonel Joseph S. Sulenski of Vassar, Mich., promised "to continue in the same vein" as Lieutenant Colonel William C. Moore, who had led the battalion since June.

Both commanders praised the men of the Cacti Blue for their recent combat achievements and Colonel Moore noted that the battalion was the first to test the concept of the Short Range Patrol, now used throughout the Ivy Division.

The battalion is currently opposing NVA forces along the Cambodian border near Duc Lap.

Present at the ceremony were Brigadier General Albin F. Irzyk of Washington, D.C., assistant division commander, and Colonel Stan L. McClellan of Ventura, Calif., commander of the 3rd Brigade.

"This is," said General Irzyk, "a simple ceremony. I think this is absolutely proper. From this firebase many thousands of artillery rounds have been fired, many individuals have gone off to fight the NVA in much hard fighting. It is a far more professional fighting battalion than when Colonel Moore assumed command.

"Thanks to this effort, the

enemy threat has been lessened," he said.

Praises Battalion

Colonel McClellan further praised the battalion's efforts. "You have done credit to yourself and honored the commander you have served," he concluded.

The battalion's former commander, Colonel Moore, departed after the ceremony for his new assignment with Headquarters, USARV.

Colonel Sulenski joined the Army in 1945 and was commissioned a second lieutenant in 1946. He has served overseas tours with the 7th Army in Europe and as G-5 with the 8th Army in Korea.

Between 1960 and 1964 the Colonel taught social science at West Point, then attended the Command and General Staff Col-

lege at Ft. Leavenworth, Kan.

After returning from Korea he was assigned to the staff of the War Plans Division of the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics in Washington, D.C. He subsequently worked with the Office of the Assistant Vice Chief of Staff as an operations officer and military operations analyst.

In June, Colonel Sulenski joined the 4th Infantry Division in Vietnam. Before taking command of the Cacti Blue, he was the division's G-1.

His civilian education includes a Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Education from the University of Illinois and an Master of Arts Degree in political science from Columbia University.

Ivymen Receive Rosaries

HIGHLANDER HEIGHTS — Hundreds of weather-resistant Rosaries are arriving at the forward areas of the 4th Infantry Division's 2nd Brigade, commanded by Colonel Gordon "Duke" Duquemin of Annandale, Va.

The metal links of ordinary Rosaries were rusting in the damp Vietnamese climate, so Chief Warrant Officer Edward M. Sheehan of Boston and Chaplain (Colonel) Joseph Sheehan (no relation) of Trenton, N.J., the former Ivy Division Chaplain, asked the people of Boston to donate the specially constructed Rosaries.

"We asked for ones with strands made of nylon or some other synthetic material which would not rust or mildew," said Mr. Sheehan.

Once they arrive at Highlander Heights, the Rosaries are given to Chaplain (Captain) Arthur J. Mahoney of Boston, who is the Highlander Catholic chaplain. "My assistants and I distribute them at forward firebases," Father Mahoney said.

"Ivymen in the field appreciate them and no matter how many we take with us, we have yet to bring one back," he concluded.



ALLIED SOLDIERS KEEP A CLOSE WATCH ON RIVER BANK AS THEY MOVE THROUGH A JUNGLE AREA WEST OF DAK TO IN SEARCH OF THE ENEMY.



A U.S. ADVISOR INSPECTS HUT FOR HIDDEN GRAIN DURING A COMBINED U.S.-ARVN MISSION WHICH NETTED 20 TONS OF RICE.

Story And Photos
By SP4
David Stamps



THIS HAPPY IVY WARRIOR IS ALL SMILES AS HE HELPS HAUL AWAY ENEMY RICE. (USA Photo by SP4 George Menke)



A 4TH DIVISION SOLDIER INSPECTS PART OF THE HUGE RICE CACHE CAPTURED FROM THE VIET CONG.



IVY SOLDIERS STACK BAGS OF RICE FOR RETURN TO ITS RIGHTFUL OWNERS.

Allied Forces Find 20 Tons Of Enemy Rice

MUSHROOMING FROM A ROAD-CLEARING mission into the largest US-ARVN combined war effort in the 1st Brigade's Dak To area in recent months, allied forces swept through a Viet Cong re-supply and training area, recovering huge quantities of rice and destroying enemy positions.

Elements of the 4th Division's 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry, teamed with elements of the 2nd Battalion, 42nd ARVN Regiment and an ARVN recon company in a cordon and search mission which netted more than 20 tons of rice as well as large quantities of enemy equipment.

Lieutenant Colonel William D. Old II of Austin, Tex., commander of the 1st of the 8th said, "With the ARVN forces protecting our flank, we were free to ferret out many enemy rice caches, thereby denying the enemy sufficient supplies to support a multi-regimental size operation."

According to 1st Brigade operations officer, Major Albert J. Sheehan of Columbus, Ga., the combined mission grew out of an effort to stem a wave of heavy enemy mining activity along Highway 14, the vital supply link between Pleiku and Dak To.

Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry,

commanded by Captain Mark Brennan of Atlanta, Ga., had been inserted near the road to intercept saboteurs, while Psychological Operations teams asked local villagers to turn in information about local VC and their activities.

Results garnered in the first 24 hours led to a cordon and search of the area.

The elements involved were the 42nd ARVN Regiment, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Dinh Tho Thoi, Bravo Company and Delta Company, commanded by Captain Ted K. Yamashita of Columbus, Ga.

Ranging in front of the main force, the ARVN recon unit detected a battalion-size base camp area and captured enemy weapons as well as training equipment, medical supplies and enemy documents.

Following up the base camp discovery, the allied force began an intensive search of the area.

A major break-through occurred when Bravo Company's point element, led by Sergeant Clarence Ball of Toledo, Ohio, heard movement to the left of the trail.

Moving cautiously off the trail, the squad detected two bamboo structures camouflaged in the thick undergrowth.

Inside the huts the Ivymen discovered nearly three tons of rice and several baskets of corn.

From then on the pattern was set as time and again the alert infantrymen detected hidden enemy caches, spiraling the amount of rice discovered up to 20 tons in a four-day search.

"Most of the rice was extorted by the VC from the neighboring villagers in the form of taxes," explained Captain Gary Olsen of Niles, Ill., civil affairs officer for the 1st Brigade.

The recovered rice will be returned to the villagers through the office of the Dak To District Chief, Major Bao.

"This points up one of the most significant results of the mission," revealed Major Sheehan, "that being, the favorable psychological effect on the villagers in the area who for so long were under strong VC influence."

A combined cordon and search involving the 42nd ARVN Regiment, National Police and Company A, 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry, commanded by Captain Stephen J. Sepanski of New York, displayed to the civilians of the village of Kon Mong Kho and the nearby fortified hamlet of Kon Honong the allied effort to eradicate local VC elements.

Kill Two Carbine-Carrying NVA

LRP Team Discovers Enemy Base Camp

By SP5 Jeffrey Tarter

OASIS—The Long Range Patrol (LRP) mission had the elements of a textbook classic: walk into an NVA base camp to reconnoiter, kill two enemy, then escape swiftly and call in airstrikes and artillery on angry pursuers.

A team from the Ivy Division's 3rd Brigade LRP Platoon, commanded by Captain Dale Wandke of Vacaville, Calif., found themselves in the midst of an enemy camp only moments after a helicopter dropped them off in an open field.

The camp consisted of a vegetable garden, a cluster of small thatched shelters and 10 to 20

campfire sites.

"We knew there were no allies in the area," said the team's point man, Private First Class Robert M. Hernandez of Hayward, Calif.

Cautiously, the LRP team checked the camp site for enemy troops. The area was deserted, but they found signs of recent activity.

Found Many Trails

"We found all kinds of trails heading every which way. We figured then it was a bigger place than we anticipated," PFC Hernandez went on to say.

Following one of the trails a short distance to the west, the team had its suspicions con-

firmed by a second camp site as large as the first one. Here they found battery parts and a metal block that PFC Hernandez said "looked like it came off some kind of tracked vehicle."

The team then moved into deep brush and set up an observation post overlooking a broad, heavily-used trail. An hour and a half later three NVA soldiers in khaki uniforms walked past them toward the camp site, followed by two women carrying packs.

"We were going to circle around the camp site and cut them off, but then we spotted two men coming along a side trail through the brush. They

were carrying carbines so we got down on our knees and waited. We shot them both before they knew we were there."

The LRP team then tried to catch up with the group of NVA they had been trailing. But the sound of rifle fire and exploding grenades had evidently scared them off.

Return For Gear

After calling in a spot report over their radio, the team returned to retrieve the weapons and gear of one of the NVA they had killed on the trail.

"We were afraid we were going to be ambushed," PFC Hernandez admitted. "Our radio

relay team could see everything through binoculars from where they were and they said a group of NVA were running toward our location."

An airborne Forward Air Controller was on station, guiding in airstrikes a few moments later. "They leveled that area out," recalled PFC Hernandez.

While the team was waiting for a helicopter to lift them off their landing zone, gunships came in and raked the area with more fire.

And as a parting blow, the LRP dropped off one of its members on the mountaintop relay point to adjust salvos of artillery onto the enemy position.



COLONEL WARREN D. HODGES, former chief of staff, is congratulated by Major General Donn R. Pepke, commanding general, after Colonel Hodges was presented the Silver Star, Legion of Merit and Vietnamese Armed Forces Honor Medal, First Class, in ceremonies at Camp Enari. (USA Photo by 124th Signal Bn.)

Col. Hodges Praised For Meritorious Work

CAMP ENARI—The United States Silver Star, the United States Legion of Merit and the Vietnamese Armed Forces Honor Medal, First Class, have been awarded to Colonel Warren D. Hodges of Lawrence, Kan., prior to his departure from Vietnam.

The medals were presented to the Colonel for gallantry and meritorious service while serving as commander of the 4th Division's 2nd Brigade and later as the division chief of staff.

Major General Donn R. Pepke, 4th Division commander, presented the U.S. awards, while Vietnamese Major General Lu Mang Lan, II Corps commander, pinned the Vietnamese award on the colonel.

The citation accompanying the Honor Medal cited Colonel Hodges for his exceptional tour as 2nd Brigade commander, particularly his work in civic actions and his efforts in advancing Vietnamese-American relations.

A graduate of the University of Omaha, Colonel Hodges has also attended the University of Kansas. He is a graduate of the Armed Forces Staff College, the Army War College and the Command and General Staff College.

Prior to coming to Vietnam, Colonel Hodges served as Deputy Assistant Chief, National Guard Bureau, Army, at the Pentagon. Upon leaving Vietnam Dec. 21, he returned to the States for assignment at the Pentagon.

Emergency Operation Saves Life

DAK TO—Captain Stephen N. Bell of New York is the commanding officer of Company B, 4th Medical Battalion with the Ivy 1st Brigade. He is also a surgeon and now good friend of Nguyen Bin Chanh.

It was shortly after noon when Company B received a call for a MedEvac chopper from a Civilian Irregular Defense Group (CIDG) unit near Mang Buk. A chopper was dispatched immediately.

When it returned to Dak To, Nguyen Bin Chanh was aboard and in pain. Captain Bell examined the man and found he was suffering from acute appendicitis.

"It's hard to tell exactly when an appendix will rupture," he explained, "but in this case, there wasn't much doubt the time was very near."

Not Enough Time

Cases requiring surgery are usually sent to the 71st Evacuation Hospital at Pleiku, but for Chanh there was not enough time.

So Captain Bell prepared for surgery. He was assisted by Captain Edwin Davis of Findlay, Ohio, who prepared and administered the anesthesia, and by Specialist 5 James Holzer of Montfort, Wis., and Walter Renkin of Pensacola, Fla., who served as operating assistants.

The operation lasted 45 minutes and when completed the infected appendix had been successfully removed. It was the first operation of its type in the 1st Brigade.

Chanh was placed in the hospital ward where he remained two days before returning home in excellent condition.

Flight Teacher Checks On Past Students

HIGHLANDER HEIGHTS — The teacher arrived in Vietnam and the 4th Infantry Division, to check on his students' progress . . . but he knew he would not be giving out grades at the end of his tour.

Captain Robert E. Bristow of Mineral Wells, Tex., operations officer for Delta Troop, 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry, commanded by Major Jack Glenn of Summerville, Ga., wanted to see how well his former students—helicopter pilots all—had learned their lessons at Ft. Wolters, Tex. So he followed them to the field, where they daily put into practice what they were taught.

"I was a civilian instructor working for Southern Airways of Texas, the contractor which operates the rotary flight training school," he said, "and I

put a lot of commissioned officers and warrant officers through their paces in the H23 'Bubble' course. After graduation, most of them were going to Vietnam to fly combat missions. I decided to see what they were up to."

Captain Bristow has almost 15 years of military service to his credit, dating back to 1954 when he spent three years in the Marine Corps. He has also served in the Marine Reserves and the National Guard.

He received his commission and pilot's wings while with Delta Troop, 1st Squadron, 145th Cavalry, 45th Infantry Division, a National Guard unit with headquarters in Marlow, Okla.

In July 1968, he reported for active duty at Hunter Army Airfield in Georgia for the Huey Cobra transition course. In early September Captain Bristow

joined the Shamrocks of Delta Troop, 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry, and began flying missions in the Highlands for the Ivy 2nd Brigade, commanded by Colonel Gordon "Duke" Duquemin of Annandale, Va., and other Ivy

units.

And did his students learn well? "They sure did," he says. "As a matter of fact, for a while, they were the teachers. Combat flying is a little different from school flying."

Infantrymen Go Artillerymen

CAMP ENARI—The 5th Battalion, 16th Artillery turned 12 newly-assigned 4th Division infantrymen into qualified artillerymen with a quickly devised and intensive three-day training program.

The Division Artillery (Div-Arty), commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Clayton L. Moran of Springfield, Va., met with his staff and decided that they would keep the men assigned, if they could become qualified to fill a slot in a howitzer battery.

Under the direction of Sergeant First Class Lawrence Gardiner of Campbell, N.Y., and section chiefs of Battery E, the men began their tough and comprehensive training.

Fuzes, projectiles, fire direction control, bore sighting, turrets, maintenance and log books were new phrases and procedures repeated over and over.

Finally, after nine days in-country, the 12 men were assigned to their first permanent unit. Not infantrymen any longer, but competent artillerymen.

5,000 Montagnards Turn From VC

By SP4 Bill Gibbons
CAMP ENARI—If Major John M. Beebe of Fayetteville, N.C., the S-5 of the 4th Infantry Division's 1st Brigade, commanded by Colonel Hale H. Knight of Alexandria, Va., ever leaves the Army, he can probably find a good job as a city planner. Working on four separate vil-

lage consolidation projects, Major Beebe and the S-5 officers of units within the 1st Brigade have managed to bring almost 5,000 Montagnards into the consolidated villages.

Convincing the chiefs of the wisdom of the move was perhaps the biggest problem in the entire operation. Montagnard

customs, reluctance to leave the homes of their forefathers, and increased distances from their rice paddies are of great importance to the villagers. So far all these problems have been handled successfully.

Major Beebe attributes most of the success to the hard work of the civil affairs teams and to

an unlikely outside influence—the Viet Cong.

"One village chief," he relates, "told us it was too much of an inconvenience to move his village. He said the VC never bothered them and further asked that we withdraw our defensive forces.

"We withdrew the forces and two days later the VC walked into the village. They warned the people not to move, not to cooperate with the Americans, and then abducted seven of their young men to serve as VC soldiers.

"The next day the chief called on us and asked if he could move his village inside our perimeter by nightfall."

Hamlets Surround Post

Most of the consolidated villages consist of three or four hamlets surrounding a centrally located command post. The command post is built in a style similar to the triangular French defenses used during the Indo-China War.

The command posts are presently manned by civil affairs teams, but will be replaced by Popular Forces from the villages as soon as they are trained. At that time the civil affairs teams will act as tactical advisors.

The Popular Forces will receive some "pre-basic training" instruction from the civil affairs teams, then attend a 12-week course in weaponry, defensive tactics, chain of command and discipline. After graduation they will be supplied and paid by the government of Vietnam.

Each hamlet within the consolidated village retains its own officials and a separate identity,

but an overall chief must also be selected.

Layout Demands Study

The layout of the hamlets around the command post must be given careful consideration. It is customary for Montagnard hamlets to place their rice huts on the outer edge of the village. This must also be done in the consolidated villages, but the rice huts of different hamlets may not be intermingled or placed too close to one another.

Some hamlets are also superstitious and will only build their homes in rows from east to west or north to south. The customs and prejudices of the various hamlets must be learned before they can be brought together.

The task of bringing the villages together often takes as long as six weeks because all the homes and personal possessions of the families must be transported to the new location.

"Wealthy" villages may have as many as 90 large houses and these must be disassembled to fit on the trucks the S-5 supplies. It often requires two trips per home, one for the roof alone, and one for the walls, floor, and personal property.

Once all the hamlets have relocated, they work together on building their common perimeter. Concertina wire is the most common form of defense with bunkers and small plots of punji sticks along the wire.

Although the majority of work in the four consolidated villages is completed, there is still much to do. Eventually Major Beebe hopes to have a school, a dispensary, and a village meeting house constructed at each of the villages.

Boasts 3,000 Books

Red Cross Starts Library

DAK TO — A forward area doesn't offer a soldier much in the way of relaxation, but now at least he can curl up with a good book in his spare time.

The Ivy 1st Brigade, commanded by Colonel Hale H. Knight of Alexandria, Va., now has a library. The idea was conceived by Chaplain (Major) Alan W. Brown Jr. of Fayette-

ville, N.C. and Jerry L. Jones of Ogden, Utah, the brigade's Red Cross field representative.

Although the brigade received paperbacks periodically, there just wasn't one central location where a man could select a book of his choice and exchange it for another when he had finished.

Chaplain Brown and Mr. Jones got the idea of establishing a

paperback library in the Red Cross office at 1st Brigade headquarters at Dak To. A call went out requesting books from individuals, and the response was excellent. Soon the newly built shelves filled with books, all grouped according to subject matter by Mr. Jones.

Additional books were acquired from 4th Division Special Services and now the library's inventory boasts more than 3000 volumes. Chaplain Brown has also requested books from several church groups in his home town.

For the benefit of the men located on the firebases who don't have the opportunity to come into base camp, cartons of paperbacks are sent up to them on a weekly basis.

Mr. Jones quipped, "I certainly didn't expect to become a librarian when I came to Vietnam, but I enjoy it."

Bulldozers Find Relics In Duc Lap Battlefield

By SP4 Larry Hogan

BAN ME THUOT—The final grim remnants of the siege of the Duc Lap Civilian Irregular Defense Group (CIDG) Camp are now falling under the dozer's blade and a stronger, more secure fortification is taking shape.

Several weeks ago the tiny

encampment near the Cambodian border came under a vicious attack by North Vietnamese Army soldiers.

Units from the 4th Division's 2nd Brigade, then commanded by Colonel Herbert J. McChrystal of Arlington, Va., were called in.

Many enemy soldiers were killed and the camp was secured.

In driving the attackers from the camp, it became necessary to destroy many of the existing fortifications.

With the battle ended, the task of rebuilding the camp was assigned to the 31st Engineer Detachment's team KB4, commanded by Captain Albert Guillard of Barre, Vt.

Air lifting their heavy dozers into the area, the team went to work on the ravaged hill.

"Our job is primarily one of advisors," Captain Guillard explained. "The members of the camp do a great deal of the physical labor themselves."

Most of the bunkers and the entire top of the camp's smaller hill had been destroyed in the fighting.

The team's first job was to clear out the rubble. Captain John Fravel of Philadelphia slowly began digging into the demolished hilltop with his dozer.

The shovel once pulled up an AK47.

Another dozer, driven by Staff Sergeant Barry Barth of Amsterdam, N.Y., scraped across the hilltop, uncovering other weapons, an enemy pack and two communist bodies.

Throughout the week, more equipment and bodies were found.

Award Granted

The award of the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal is authorized for service in connection with United States military operations in Korea, subsequent to Oct. 1, 1966, to a date to be announced.



20TH CENTURY ROYALTY — Lovely Stacey King is one of the beautiful young starlets at 20th Century-Fox Films and an intriguing addition to our file of pin-up pulchritude.



THE EASY WAY—This ingenious soldier has discovered an easier way to transport empty projectile containers at a 4th Division firebase in the mountains west of Kontum. He is a member of the 2nd Battalion, 9th Artillery. (USA Photo by 1LT Jay Kivowitz)

La Son Orphans Enjoy Christmas Social At Enari

CAMP ENARI—Christmas customs, best understood by children, were recently displayed during a holiday party for the children of the neighboring La Son Orphanage.

Sponsored by Ivy Special Service with the cooperation of the 4th Division's Chaplains' Office, headed by Chaplain (Lieutenant Colonel) Vaughn Leaming of York, Neb., the Christmas festivities were held at Camp Enari's Dragon Mountain Service Club.

Sullen faces turned to smiles and laughter as 120 orphans piled into the club to see an overstuffed Santa Claus surrounded by holiday ornaments. Christmas had not forgotten the youngsters this year.

Father Minh, the Catholic priest from the orphanage, sang "Silent Night" in Vietnamese as the children joined in with the chorus.

After receiving stockings filled with candies and small toys, the youngsters happily lined up to see Santa and decorate the bare Christmas tree. Individual packages of toys were also given to the children.

Miss Bunnie Revier of Boliva, Minn., program director of the service club, had brought the toys into the Central Highlands from the club's Saigon office.

Ivymen enthusiastically joined in the fun as large, wind-up bugs with colorful plastic wings began crawling around the party site.

After enjoying ice cream and cake, the happy children returned to their home along with the gifts from their third Christmas

with the 4th Division. Their hearts were filled with a better understanding of the special warmth that goes along with the holiday season.



IVY SANTA—A 4th Division soldier plays the part of Santa Claus as he presents a gift to this young man from the La Son Orphanage. The occasion was a Christmas party at the Dragon Mountain Service Club at the Ivy base camp. The orphans were honored guests. (USA Photo by SP4 Harry Guy)

Chaplain's Fund Pays Candy's Salary

CAMP ENARI — Fourth Division Chaplain (LTC) Vaughn F. Leaming lifted the tent flap and entered the crude classroom. A child's voice shouted a word that resembled "attention" and fifty youngsters jumped to their feet.

Not until their teacher nodded approval did they again take their seats. A visitor had arrived.

The purpose of the Chaplain's visit was to pay the teacher,

an attractive Montagnard girl named Candy, her monthly salary.

Candy teaches children of Plei Chi Teh, a consolidated village near 4th Division headquarters; but because she has not yet been government accredited as a teacher, she is not on the government payroll.

"We have designated monies from the chaplain's fund," Chaplain Leaming explained, "to pay qualified teachers while the long process of accreditation takes place."

The Chaplain's fund has provided salaries for six teachers in villages around Camp Enari since Oct. 1.

"I spend an afternoon a month going to villages to pay these teachers," the Chaplain commented, "and every time I see the children in the classrooms, I'm reconvinced this is one of the finest projects we're supporting. We're investing in the future of Vietnam."

"Who's the number one student?" Chaplain Leaming asked.

The teacher called a name and a smiling young man arose. The chaplain offered his congratulations.

After a promise to provide a blackboard and other needed

school supplies, Chaplain Leaming offered a salute to the class, chuckled at the awkward salutes given in return, and left the classroom to pay still another teacher whose effort is helping educate the Montagnards of Vietnam's Central Highlands.



CANDY, a Montagnard teacher at the village of Plei Chi Teh, is paid her monthly salary by Chaplain (LTC) Vaughn F. Leaming. Money from the 4th Division Chaplain's fund is being used to pay qualified teachers in the Central Highlands until those teachers are accredited by the Vietnamese government. (USA Photo by 1LT G. W. Hale)

Silver Star . . .

(Continued From Page 1) communications with his company headquarters. PFC Conklin then called in artillery and mortar fire forcing the enemy to leave the area.

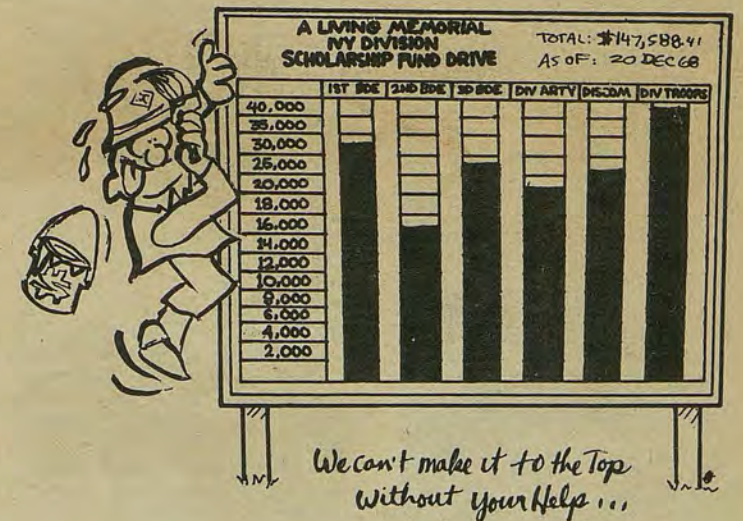
Turning to a wounded comrade, PFC Conklin splinted the man's fractured leg and comforted him until a medical evacuation helicopter arrived on the scene.

For displaying skills far above those expected of a man of similar rank and experience, PFC Conklin was also awarded a command direct promotion for heroism to the rank of Specialist 4.

Engineers . . .

(Continued From Page 1) station a short time later, raking the enemy positions. Between passes by the gunships, the tanks moved in again and pumped more rounds into the woods.

After the convoy finally disengaged and moved northward again, artillery and airstrikes continued to pound the ambush site and a nearby bunker complex.



Scholarship Nears Goal

CAMP ENARI—The goal of the 4th Infantry Division Scholarship Fund is at hand. During the month of December, Ivy units responded with a tremendous donation of \$28,961.45, bringing the grand total to \$147,588.41. As the New Year begins, the fund will soar well over the top.

The 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Richard X. Larkin, which has been the top unit in donations since the fund's inception, again have a solid hold on first place. Contributions of \$1,778.35 since the November payday boosted their total to a commanding \$15,055.45.

Second place is again held down by the 2nd Squadron, 1st Cavalry, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Donald Moreau, with a grand total of \$10,237.80. Contributions since the November payday were a tremendous \$2,942.70.

Lieutenant Colonel William Royle's 124th Signal Battalion garnered third place with \$9,152.65, following a December turn-in of \$2,272.35.

Special mention and congratulations are also in order for the 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Irving Monclova, with \$8,329.60, and Lieutenant Colonel Durad Ball's 704th Maintenance Battalion, with \$7,854.05.

Bring in the New Year right. Give to help the children of fallen Ivymen.