

# The Screaming Eagle



Vol IV, No.11

101st Airborne Division (Airmobile)

May 24, 1971

## Standdown For 3/506



**COLORS ENCASED** - SP5 Forrest Holt, holds the staff as SGT Gerald Koontz (right) and SP5 Joe Lovelady encase the colors of the 3/506th. (U.S. Army Photo)

### Ceremonies See Currahees Off

**CAMP EAGLE** - The rich and colorful history belonging to the 3rd Bn. (Ambl.), 506th Inf., was brought to a close with the furling and encasing of the battalion colors. The encasing took place at a recent ceremony here.

A contingent of Stand Alone troopers from the 3/506th represented the battalion during the standdown ceremony which was reviewed by MG Thomas M. Tarpley, commanding general.

The Battalion Commander, LTC Othar Shalikashvili, gazed solemnly ahead as MG Tarpley praised the battalion, saying, "We are seeing the departure of one of the great airborne battalions of all times. I chose

not to look on this as an inactivation, but rather as a rest or sleep of the battalion, until they are needed again. I feel confident that the 3/506th will rejoin the 101st again in the near future."

The Camp Eagle ceremony followed an earlier standdown ceremony held at the Phu Bai Combat Base, about seven miles south of Hue, during which LTC Shalikashvili officially bid farewell to his troops.

The Currahees colorful history began in World War II. After activation in 1942 the battalion fought in the battles of Normandy, Rhineland, Ardennes-Aisace and the Central European campaigns, earning two Presidential Unit Citations

as well as numerous other awards for valor.

Since arriving in RVN in 1967, the 3/506th has participated in over 16 major combat operations, including a thrust into Cambodia which resulted in the destruction of NVA sanctuaries and staging areas.

The 3/506th standdown was a part of the seventh increment of troop withdrawals and resulted in a space reduction of about 920.

An 18-man color guard representing the Stand Alone battalion will depart from Cam Ranh Bay for Ft. Lewis, Wash., where the final inactivation of the battalion will be held later this month.

**CAMP HOCHMUTH** - The dust settles on a once vacant landing pad as the last sortie is completed, bringing the Currahees of the 3rd Bn. (Ambl.), 506th Inf. to a battalion standdown - their last in the RVN.

Nearly 1,000 Screaming Eagles stand crowded around their tents in the standdown area. Many of the men remember such places as Cambodia, Hill 474 and Combat Alley.

Arriving in Vietnam at Cam Ranh Bay on October 2, 1967, the Currahees served as airmobile task force for MR2 until moving north.

It was in January 1970 when a C-130 left LZ Betty. The aircraft had been airborne for nearly two hours before it made the landing approach. The plane dipped through the clouds and felt for the runway, touched down and reversed engines. The place was Ban Me Thuot, 60 miles northwest of Nha Trang, and little could be said for the conditions which faced the Currahees upon their arrival.

The weather was foul, the rain and constant mist made life miserable. But there could be no dampening of the pride of these men, who, having been separated from the 101st since 1967, had lived the Currahee motto, 'Stand Alone.'

The task force, under the OPCON Of Task Force South, had fought the battle of Phan Thiet during Tet of 1968. The enemy left 500 dead in the wake of what became disaster for their aspirations in Binh Thuan Province.

In November 1969, at Ban Me Thuot, the Task Force was OPCONed to the 23rd ARVN Div., and shortly thereafter, to the 1st Bde., 4th Inf. Div.

Contact was light as the Currahees pursued an aggressive search and clear operation until their departure.

In late December, the C-130s were loaded again and a different destination awaited the Task Force. The Stand Alone troopers landed at Phu Cat and LZ English. The advance guard moved by CH-47 Chinook to LZ Uplift while the main element moved by truck. The Task Force was now under the OPCON of the 173rd Abn. Bde. The mission of the Currahees was to find the 2nd NVA Regt. and prevent it from disrupting the pacification program on the Bong Son Plains, a combined project of the 173rd and the GVN.

The possibility of an NVA thrust existed in Binh Hoa Province. The Stand Alone soldiers were immediately transferred from Chinooks to waiting UH-1 helicopters and combat assaulted into the Crossfoot Mountains.

Contact in the mountains proved to be light as the NVA troopers fled the approaching airmobile forces. In mid-January, the companies were shuttled to LZ English by truck.

As Tet 1970 approached, the thoughts of the Currahees drifted

**Story continued on pages 4&5  
with 3/506th pictorial review**



**COMBAT BRIEFING** - CPT William Robinson, company commander, Co. A, 1st Bn. (Ambl.), 502nd Inf., operating in the rugged mountains of MRI, explains his unit's tactical situation to LTC Richard Lang, battalion commander. (U.S. Army Photo)

## Hac Bao, Cav Team For A Luoi Rescue

**CAMP EAGLE** - While AH-1 Cobras buzzed angrily overhead, Hac Bao Rangers, along with seven U.S. helicopter crewmen, cautiously made their way south through steaming jungles near FB A Luoi, 18 miles west of Khe Sanh.

The Hac Bao, supported by elements of the 101st had weathered intensive enemy fire to extract these seven men from the clutches of the 66th NVA Regt. It was March 6, 1971, and as the South Vietnamese Rangers neared the designated pick-up zone, they realized that their job was almost over. The success of the mission was now in the hands of the Screaming Eagles.

The rescue mission had begun two days earlier

when a 101st UH-1 Huey, with the crew of seven, had been shot down over Laos while providing air support during Operation Lam Son 719. The helicopter had made an emergency landing just west of FB A Luoi, and the crew, escaping unhurt, had taken cover to await a rescue attempt.

A U.S. Air Force FAC, directing airstrikes nearby, made contact with the downed crewmen and began directing covering fire in their vicinity.

The Air Force continued to provide protective fire until darkness when an Air Force CH-53 helicopter attempted to rescue the seven men but was turned away by dense antiaircraft fire from

(Cont'd on back page)

# Straight Dope On Amnesty



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
HEADQUARTERS, XXIV CORPS  
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96349

ATTN:CG

SUBJECT: Letter of Appreciation

Commanding General  
101st Airborne Division (Airmobile)  
APO 96383

Now that Lam Son 719 has been completed and proven to be a significant milestone in the development and maturation of the South Vietnamese military establishment, I would like to take this opportunity personally to commend you and all 101st Airborne Division units and personnel who participated in the operation for their outstanding performance of duty. Their exemplary esprit, bravery, and achievements are truly in keeping with the proud traditions of the 101st Airborne. Only because of such men was Lam Son 719 a success.

Our main efforts turn now to other priority endeavors, and there is a continuing need for the same high quality performance. Therefore, XXIV Corps and our Vietnamese Allies will continue to look to the 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) to set the standard of excellence that will insure that future operations are successful on whatever battlefield they may be fought.

Well done "Screaming Eagles" and best wishes for continued success.

*James M. Thompson*  
JAMES M. THOMPSON, USA  
Lieutenant General, USA  
Commanding

The division Amnesty Program has been in operation since December and has proved very successful in combating the drug problem in the 101st. However, there have been some misconceptions concerning the program, and it hoped that the following guidelines of the Amnesty Program will help clear up these misunderstandings.

Every person coming into the Amnesty Program is made aware of the three main points of the program:

1. **DETOXIFICATION** is the physical withdrawal from drugs, if necessary. This is done at the nearest 326th Med. clearing station for as long as is necessary to withdraw with minimal severe discomfort, usually one to three days.

2. **AMNESTY** is a way to turn yourself in for help and be protected from punishment. This is a verbal agreement that includes these main points:

a. There can be no prosecution for having used drugs in the past, and there should be no persecution/harassment for having done so. If there is, tell your drug team about it.

b. All information that you give for amnesty and counseling is kept confidential and is destroyed when you leave the area. It does not follow you back to world with you nor in your record. The information put into your medical record may go back to the world, but it is confidential and cannot be used against you in court.

c. This is a "one-shot" program. That is, you agree to stay off all drugs now and in the future; if you use drugs you are automatically off amnesty and cannot come back into the program. However, if that happens, we tell on one. It is as though you never came to the program. All drugs includes

marijuana because, whether or not it is a good or bad drug, you have shown that you have trouble controlling drug use and therefore must also stay away from it. There is also the fact that the drug is illegal.

d. All your drugs must be turned in or destroyed.

e. You cannot now be under investigation (more than just suspicion) for drug abuse.

f. The Amnesty Program has no authority to change your MOS or duty assignment.

3. **COUNSELING** is that help provided for you, 24 hours per day, by your drug team so

that when you feel the urge to use a drug, you go to the drug team instead of to the drug. The details will be set up by you and your drug team.

This program will succeed for you only if you want it to succeed. The work is yours, just as it is your problem, but as long as you are trying to help yourself, the Amnesty Program will do whatever they can to support you. It is a verbal agreement. You agree to stay off all drugs now and in the future and the Amnesty Program agrees to support you by all means available.

## A Day To Remember

Memorial Day commemorates the men and women of our Armed Forces who have given their lives in the service or defense of our Nation and way of life since 1861.

First proclaimed as Decoration Day in 1868 by General John A. Logan, it was to honor the men who had fallen in the Civil War. After World War I it became known as Memorial Day and commemorated those Americans who died in all wars.

The occasion is marked by parades, patriotic observances, memo-



rial services and decorations of graves of servicemen and veterans with flowers.

Since the Civil War, many thousands of American servicemen have died in battle for the cause of freedom and democracy.

This Memorial Day holiday, as you speed on your way to the seashore or mountains, or relax in your backyard, take a moment to say a silent and grateful "Thank You" to the thousands whose supreme sacrifice made it possible to enjoy the freedom you have today. (AFFS)

## Screaming Eagle briefs



WASHINGTON (ANF) —

The Department of Defense has established a new education program in race relations for all members of the armed forces.

The program will have approximately 1,400 trained full-time instructors conducting race relations courses throughout the armed forces within a year. All military personnel will be required to undergo at least six hours of instruction every year.

The primary purpose of the program is to achieve a more harmonious relationship among all military personnel so that organizational efficiency and combat readiness will not be impaired by racial unrest, tension or conflict.

A Defense Race Relations Education Board has been formed to prescribe policy

guidance for the program.

A Defense Race Relations Institute will begin to operate in the near future. The Institute will train armed forces personnel as instructors in race relations, develop doctrine and curricula for the education program, conduct research, perform an evaluation of the program's effectiveness, and disseminate educational guidelines and materials for use throughout the armed forces.

Army Col. Edward F. Krise has been appointed director of the Institute. The Detroit, Mich., native has a doctorate in social welfare from the University of Chicago.

Staffed by about 44 officers, enlisted and civilian personnel, the Institute will have the capacity for training 100 race relations instructors per class.

The course of instructor will last about six weeks with classes beginning every three weeks. Instruction will range from minority history and sociology to teaching skills.

Students attending the Institute will be volunteers from all services selected to be trained as instructors on the basis of their backgrounds in teaching and group communications skills.

The Race Relations Education Program is expected to have an impact not only on the armed forces but also on the country as a whole. It is anticipated that results of the program will be felt in communities where armed forces are located and that there will be a carry-over into the rest of the country as servicemen return to civilian life.



## The Screaming Eagle

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| PFC Larry Gray . . . . . 1/502         | SGT David Grote . . . . . 101st Avn. Gp. |
| SGT Grady Brasfield . . . . . 2/502    | SP4 Philip Uimer . . . . . 136th Avn.    |

# LL66 Scout

# An Eagle's Vietnam

## Anh Carries AK-50

CAMP EAGLE - Hefting the well-oiled AK-50 which was "souvenired" to him by American friends, Nguyen Anh, a two year veteran Luc Loung 66 Scout serving with the 1st Bde, prefers to carry into the field the same type of weapon he carried as a onetime member of the VC before he rallied to the GVN through the Chieu Hoi program.

Now a member of the 1st Brigade's "Skyhawks" ARP, Anh carries it as a ruse. As pointman on many of the platoon's patrols, Anh says he is wary of times when he is apt to come face to face with NVA soldiers, and should that happen, he says, the AK-50 with its prominent "banana clip" ammunition magazine might well confuse the enemy as to his identity, if only momentarily.

"Maybe," Anh says, "I will call out to him: 'Dung Lai...' ('Stop...'). Then brrrrrrp." The sound in imitation of his AK-50 on full automatic serves to explain what will happen next.

"Skyhawk" platoon members do not think Anh's notion of beating the enemy to the draw is far fetched.

"A lot of our contact," says SP4 James Moran, "has been close enough so that something like that could happen."

In the words of SP4 Arthur Mesa, "an edge like that can make a difference in a surprise situation."

SP4 Mesa added, "Everyone in the platoon knows he's good up front. Most of us were pointmen ourselves in other units before volunteering for the 'Skyhawks'."



(U.S. Army Photo)

## Fla. Cousins Serve Together

FIREBASE BRICK - After basic training, friends usually part and seldom see each other again.

For Marcus and Virgil Raulerson, 2nd Plat., Co. C, 1st Bn. (Ambl.), 502nd Inf., basic was just the beginning of their tour together in the service.

They're not brothers, just cousins. PFC Marcus Raulerson is from Jacksonville, Fla., while his cousin, PFC Virgil Raulerson is from High Springs, Fla.

"We don't live far from each other but until we met at the reception center we didn't know

we were related," said Marcus Raulerson.

"It wasn't until someone called our name for a detail that we met. When we both jumped up, we started talking and found out that we are second cousins," added Virgil Raulerson.

The Raulerson cousins went through basic training, AIT and were sent to Vietnam together.

After they arrived in the First Strike battalion, PFC Virgil Raulerson started carrying an M-60. His cousin then volunteered to be his assistant gunner.

"I guess you could say the family that stays together, fights together," laughed the cousins.

### Rakkasan

## ATC Controls Air

CAMP EVANS - "Phony 57, Phony 57. This is Unreal 10. We're got 25 gallons of chug-a-lug to go on Pad 1," the RTO crackled over the radio to the in-bound UH-1 from his perch in the plexiglas control tower overlooking Rakkasan heli-pad here.

Sitting in the lofty three-man cubicle, SP4 James Rush, coordinates the supply and transportation for the Screaming Eagles of 3rd Bn. (Ambl.), 187th Inf. Keeping abreast of all Rakkasan field locations and conditions in the area and the nature of the LZ they'll be flying into.

"Using my radios and land-line telephone, I keep in contact with the incoming aircraft, the

various rear support personnel, and the TOC," explained the Rakkasan air traffic controller.

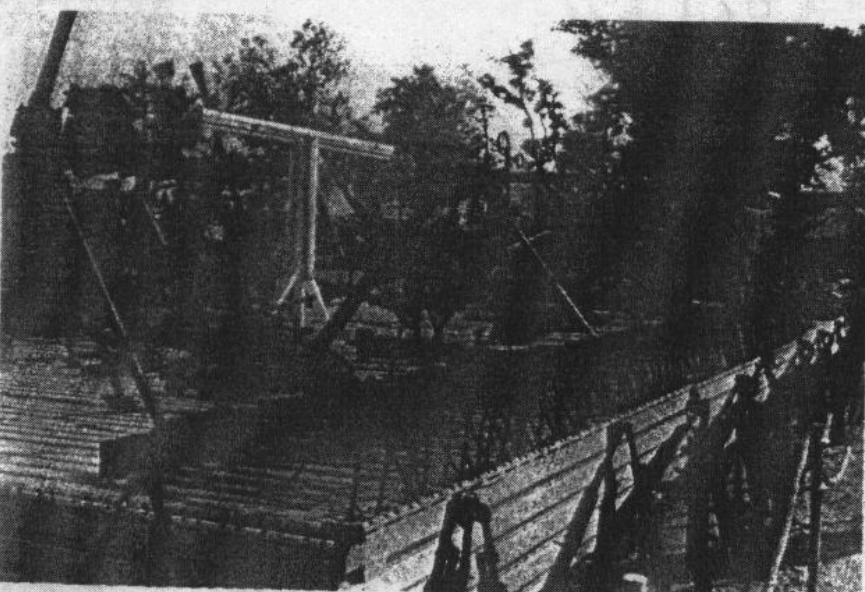
"We break the various companies' resupply down into sorties by calculating the amount of flying hours available and the pounds of ammunition, weapons, water, Crations, hot chow and personnel going out to the field." Rush continued.

The Rakkasan tower is also instrumental in relaying many messages from various locations when radio contact is poor due to bad weather or interfering terrain features.

### Taking A Bangkok R&R?

Check with the Thailand Chapter of the 101st Airborne Division Association. They have offered their help in getting boat rides, hotels, restaurants, sight seeing, free home cooked meals and a taxi service.

To get in touch with SFC Bossi for these services, dial MACT 2237 and ask for 37020.



ENEMY DEPRIVED - These weapons are a sampling of those captured by RVNAF forces during Operation Lam Son 719. The weapons were on display in Hue during a recent victory celebration. (U.S. Army Photo by SP5 Mike Warren)

## Airmobility Gets Gifts To Orphans

CAMP EAGLE - The 101st wrote another footnote to its chapter on the uses of airmobility not only in war but also in civil assistance operations aimed at helping the Vietnamese

people. The division's helicopters were part of the plans recently when the 1st Brigade S-3 Office pondered ways to deliver three special gifts to Vietnamese children. The gifts, playground

swing sets built by the 326th Engr. Bn. (Ambl.), were airlifted to "landing zones" at nearby Thien An Orphanage, Montagnard hamlet Ta Rau II and a nearby Vietnamese day care center.

## Brave Eagle

CAMP EAGLE - WO Raybert Doan, pilot of a UH-1 Huey of Co. C, 158th Avn. Bn. (AH) distinguished himself during a recent emergency extraction of a beleaguered ground element of the ARVN.

While attempting to extract the ground element, the lead aircraft of WO Doan's formation came under intense hostile fire and was downed. Immediately, Doan subjected himself to the intense barrage to locate the downed pilots. Spotting their position, he piloted his aircraft between the downed crew and the enemy positions, shielding them from the ground fire. He remained in such a position until the downed crew could be safely extracted.

Although Doan's helicopter received numerous damaging hits causing partial loss of control, he was able to pilot it to the safety of a secure firebase.

His actions, instrumental in saving the lives of three American soldiers, earned WO Doan the Silver Star for gallantry in action while in support of an element of combat troops.

CAMP EAGLE - Two members of Co. D, 1st Bn. (Ambl.), 501st Inf. were instrumental in saving the life of one of their comrades recently on FB Rakkasan.

When a fire blazed out of control and engulfed a comrade, SGT Robert Bowen and PFC Dudley Witt immediately took action trying to smother the flames. SGT Bowen removed his field jacket and covered his comrade's body as PFC Witt removed his fatigue shirt and joined SGT Bowen in his efforts.

Realizing that the comrade's clothes were saturated with fuel and without regard for their own safety, Bowen and Witt covered the man with their own bodies until the flames were smothered. Their actions were determined instrumental in saving the life of their fellow soldier.

For their actions, Bowen and Witt were awarded the Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving conflict with an armed enemy.



Stand Alone Bn. spearheads 4th Inf. Div. drive into Cambodia.

# Stand



Currahees from the 3/506th from the communist sanctuary.

## Standdown... cont'd from page 1

back to the 1968 Tet offensive. The 22nd NVA Regt. was expected to make a drive into the lowlands of Binh Dinh Province. The pacification program had hurt the VC and NVA, denying them rice and replacements from the villages of the province. The enemy was expected to make a show of force and the Task Force was to face the test.

The forward TOC and certain elements of the Task Force were moved from FB Tape and LZ English, the Stand Alone troopers and the 173rd were deployed in the An Lao Valley and the surrounding "Combat Alley."

It was on the afternoon of January 25th that Delta Company was moving up the slope of one of the hills enclosing "Combat Alley" when they began to receive intense small arms and heavy weapons fire. The battle for Hill 474 had begun.

For nine days, an intense air and artillery bombardment blasted at the granite caverns, but, in the end it was the infantrymen who had to dig the NVA soldiers out of the cave complexes. Many acts of heroism occurred in the days that followed as the men fought their way through the darkened citadel citadel with pistols and raw courage.

Tet was short for the NVA. They never left their staging areas as they were again met and defeated by the Stand Alone soldiers.

It was a long year for the men of the 3/506th. Soon June was to come and with it, the incursion into Cambodia to destroy enemy basecamps and supplies. Once again the Currahees penetrated NVA sanctuaries and seized large caches while dealing devastating blows to the enemy.

On August 26, 1970 Task Force 3/506th had its family reunion passing OPCON to the 101st. The Stand Alone battalion joined in Operation Texas Star in northern MR1. The summer campaign ended with great success leading into Operation Jefferson Glen/Monsoon Plan 70. The Screaming Eagles continued training and joint operations with RVNAF units, pacification programs, and assisted with civic action programs of the GVN to help the people by make their lives more fruitful and prosperous and develop community spirit.

Through their resources and strength, built upon courage and determination, the Stand Alone troopers have met their "Rendezvous with Destiny." And, although they have had their final standdown, the names of many Screaming Eagles and battles they fought will long be remembered.



Currahees move on a patrol in northern MR1.



After their return to the division Tomahawk. Below, the 3/506th



**U.S. Army Photos by  
101st Information Office**

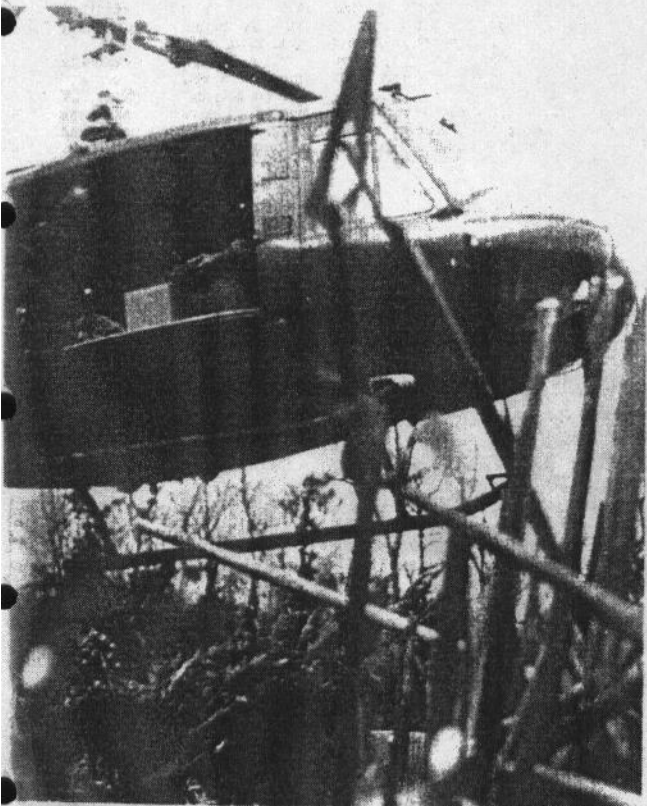
# Alone Bn--A Job Well Done



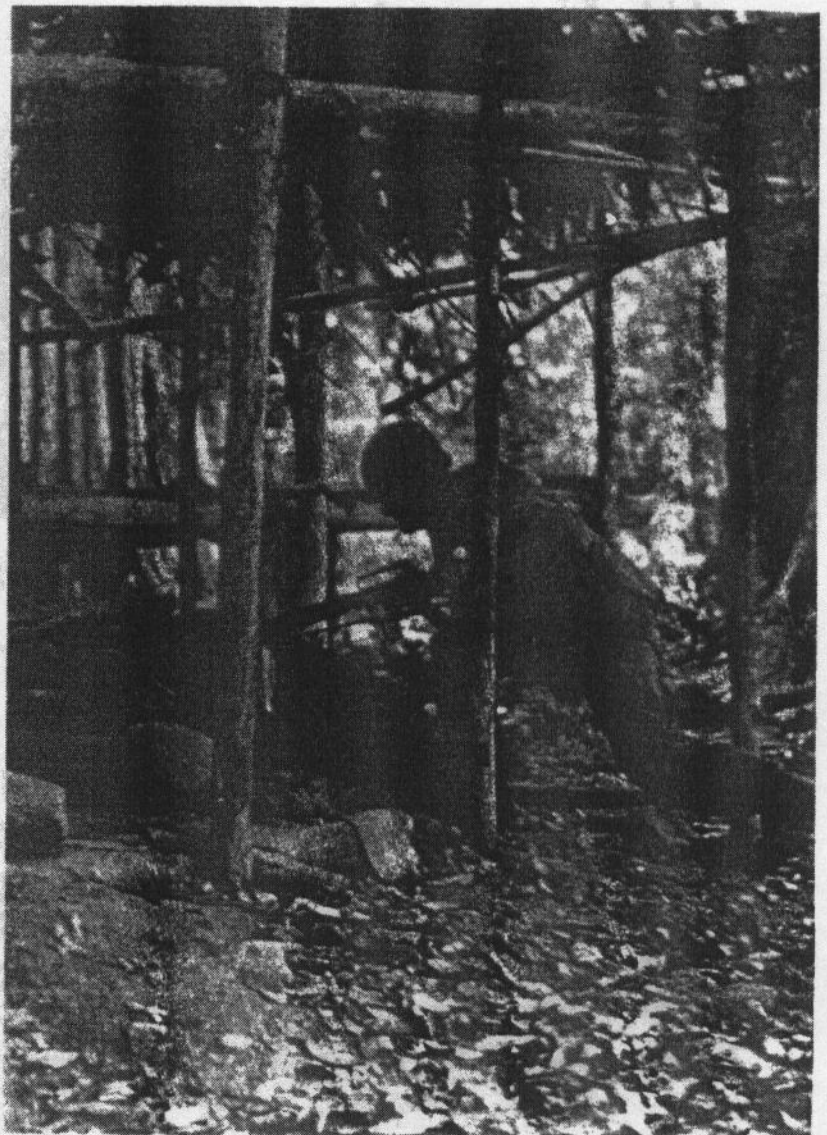
examine part of a cache of 825 individual and crew-served weapons taken by of Prek Drang, Cambodia.



"Nomads of Vietnam" return to the 101st last August.



above the Currahees receive food and supplies during a resupply near FB Brick late last year.



A Currahee goes into action capturing an enemy supply hootch. Action took place as the battalion operated in Cambodia.

# 158th Avn MEDCAP Has Different 'Combat' Mission

CAMP EVANS - Twice a week a helicopter lifts off from the 158th Avn. Bn. (Ambl.) Arena Pad at Camp Evans bound for the coastal district of Huong Dien. The "bird" soars high, nosing east toward the blue-green Tonkin Gulf of the South China Sea and a combat mission.

But this combat mission is not a clash involving men and weapons. Laden with a civic actions team, an interpreter, two medics, and at times the battalion surgeon, this helicopter is embarking upon another offensive in the fight against disease and infirmity existing within the villages and hamlets of this provincial peninsula. This is a MEDCAP mission which is a part of the overall civic actions program operating within the division area.

Upon arrival at the district headquarters hands were shaken, greetings exchanged, and the 158th medical team climbed aboard a three-quarter-ton truck with a crew of Vietnamese medics. Together they bounced down the dusty district road bound for any one of a number of small villages in the area to provide much needed medical treatment. Small children astride water buffalo waved from the roadside and shouted "OK!" as the well-known MEDCAP team went along its way.

Enemy troops swept through this area during Tet of 1968 and left an ugly path of death and destruction. Now the U.S. MEDCAP team travels along that same road bringing medical aid and

goodwill to these once oppressed people.

Surprisingly though, the ultimate goal of the team was to do nothing on the MEDCAP. Or at least as little as possible. ARVN medics, Vietnamese nurses and doctors now accept the bulk of the responsibility in the MEDCAP operations. U.S. personnel are present only to advise, give suggestions, and, to assist the operations. The actual medical treatment is provided by qualified local Vietnamese.

"The Vietnamese people want to stand on their own feet," said 1LT Weldon Harcum, S-5 officer for the 158th. "They are making rapid progress and are almost handling the entire program on their own. Our primary job now is to help these people help themselves by providing them with the necessary medical supplies."

And it is working. In Huong Dien, an average of about 40 Vietnamese are treated during each MEDCAP by their own medical personnel. The role of U.S. personnel is steadily decreasing in proportion to the increasing capabilities of the Vietnamese.

In the early afternoon, with the day's MEDCAP operation completed, the Screaming Eagle medical team climbed aboard their chopper and back here. But, one day soon the MEDCAP team will lift off from Huong Dien district with no need to return and on that day their mission will be complete.



IN MEMORY - LTC Carl Rodolph, left, division engineer and COL Donald Seibert pause beside the sign at Christie Memorial Field. The field was dedicated in memory of SSG Zane Christie, Co. B, 326th Engr. Bn. (Ambl.), who was killed in a mine sweep operation. (U.S. Army Photo)

## Eagles Aid Children

CAMP EAGLE - Proper equipment for learning can effect a child's performance in school, and Nam Hoa District school children recently were recipients of school-supply items from the 101st.

One hundred school kits consisting of chalkboard, chalk, writing tablets and pencils, were

distributed by the division's 1st Bde. to elementary students at Hai Cat Hamlet School, four miles south of Hue.

"The hamlet is a recently founded resettlement center," said 1st Brigade S-5 Officer 1LT Harold Fleischer, "and the villagers just recently completed construction of the school."

## CA Unusual

CAMP EVANS - The UH-1 circles over the jungle landing zone before making its final descent. Wallace, the cook, reaches for the M-60 machinegun snuggled at his feet; Ted, the truck mechanic, makes a final adjustment on the straps that bind the field radio to his back; John, the clerk-typist, inserts a loaded magazine into his M-16 and waits anxiously for the chopper to touch down.

No, this isn't the most typical of CAs, but it is a scene that is repeated several times each week near here. This is the beginning of the SERTS combat assault and sweep operation where every new Screaming Eagle, regardless of MOS is given a chance to learn, firsthand, how an infantryman lives and works in Vietnam.

The combat assault and sweep is the climax to the week-long SERTS training effort. In this tactical mission, each trainee applies what he has learned during his first week as a Screaming Eagle. The SERTS CA also gives officers their first experience in leading men in an actual combat situation. Behind each new officer is an experienced SERTS "Black-cap" instructor to offer advice and assist in the smooth running of the operation.

In the late afternoon shadows of nearby Camp Evans, the weary Infantrymen-for-a-day wind up their lengthy jaunt with a refreshing dip in a mending stream. This aquatic finale is a part of a river crossing course which requires each new Screaming Eagle to navigate a 40-foot-wide stream, fully clothed, and with steel pot and weapon, using a one-rope bridge suspended above the water. But after their day-long exposure to the hot tropical sun, the new troopers are only too eager to enter the cool current, even if it means a wet walk back to the SERTS training area.



MOVING OUT - Members of A Btry., 1st Bn. (Ambl.), 321st Arty. rush from a helicopter and prepare to set up their 105mm Howitzer during recent action. (U.S. Army Photo by SP4 Larry Hayes)

## Enemy Saved

FIREBASE BRICK - SP4 Dennis McManus and First Strike troopers of the 2nd Plst, Co. C, 1st Bn. (Ambl.), 502nd Inf., recently engaged three NVA soldiers and ended up saving one enemy's life before the contact was over.

The troopers were on a combat patrol, and were sent out to search for a suspected enemy trail in the area. Their search was fruitful and the riflemen found the enemy trail leading to a nearby stream.

The patrol found fresh signs of enemy activity and carefully began moving upstream in search of the NVA.

While moving upstream, the Screaming Eagles spotted three NVA soldiers moving in their direction. Being undetected, the troopers hid themselves in the thick vegetation and waited for the enemy. As they neared their position, the First Strikers made contact wounding one enemy. The other two NVA soldiers jumped into the brush and began firing their rifles.

After the firing ceased, SP4 McManus spotted the wounded soldier who was lying face down in the water and appeared to be drowning. McManus left his position and waded through the stream toward the enemy soldier.

While rescuing the wounded soldier, McManus was fired upon by the two NVA soldiers still in the brush. Again the First Strike troopers put suppressive fire on the enemy while McManus crawled back to their position with the enemy soldier in tow.

Soon the enemy fire ceased again, enabling the Screaming Eagles to move the wounded enemy soldier to a nearby landing zone for medical evacuation.

## First Strike MEDCAP Saves 3 Lives

CAMP HOCHMUTH - Medics of the 1st Bn. (Ambl.), 502nd Inf., unexpectedly encountered two emergency cases recently while on their regular MEDCAP in Phu Thu village, 8 miles east of Hue.

The medical assistance team was composed of Medical Platoon Leader, 1LT Claude Abbott Jr., SP5 Robert Santiago and PFC Jimmy Roberts.

The first emergency occurred when the First Strike medics came upon a 6-year-old boy who had been seriously injured in the explosion of a VC mine. The young boy had been accompanying his mother and father when the mine was detonated, killing his parents and leaving the boy with multiple fragmentation wounds in the legs, back and head.

Upon receiving word of the incident, the medical team abandoned their regular MEDCAP activities in the village and quickly responded to the emergency. Arriving on the scene, the Screaming Eagle medics administered emergency first aid and summoned a Dustoff helicopter, which evacuated the boy to the 85th Evac.

While returning to the village where they had been conducting the MEDCAP mission, Santiago and Roberts came upon an accident in which a motorcycle carrying two young Vietnamese boys had been struck by a truck. The medics once again administered emergency first aid and called for a MEDEVAC to take the boys to the 85th Evac.

"All in all it was quite a day. We were just glad to be in the right spots at the right time," concluded 1LT Abbott.



CSM Richard Dunn, right, reenlists for three years at a ceremony at the 7-8-9 Club. MG Thomas Tarpley administers the oath. (U.S. Army Photo)

# AWARDS and DECORATIONS

## SILVER STAR

LTC William N. Peachy, 158th Avn.; CPT John A. Bottman, 158th Avn.; CPT Donald C. Davis, 158th Avn.; CPT Vernon J. Padden, 477th ARA; CPT Jack W. Logsdon, 477th ARA; CPT David L. Nelson, 158th Avn.; 1LT John P. Mc Garr, 158th Avn.; CWO Robert A. Everts, 227th Avn.; WO Robert M. Doan, 158th Avn.; WO Nicholas E. Dreessen, 158th Avn.; WO Gregory M. Groover, 158th Avn.; WO Richard A. Kincaid, 477th Avn.; WO John G. Michelson, 158th Avn.; WO John P. Mc Keary, 158th Avn.; WO Gerald L. Rockwell, 158th Avn.; SSG Leonard E. Ledbetter, 2/501st; SSG Thomas E. Vennard, 2/506th; SGT Paul N. Kuykendall, Co. C, 75th Inf. (Paratrooper); SP4 Paul A. Langenour, 123rd Avn.; PFC Richard G. Rawdon, 3/187th.

John F. Hoey, 4/77th ARA; WO Joseph A. Hubbard, 158th Avn.; WO Donald W. Pickens, 158th Avn.; WO John B. Salaski, 158th Avn.; WO Thomas E. Schwitzer, 158th Avn.; WO Chibart G. Willson, 158th Avn. (2nd O.L.C.); SFC James M. Lane, 1/21st Arty.; SPS David J. Drinkwater, 158th Avn.; SPS Michael D. Marek, 158th Avn. (1st O.L.C.); SP4 David C. Baker, 158th Avn.; SP4 Ted M. Burckhalter, 158th Avn.; SP4 William D. Starbuck, 158th Avn.; PFC Arthur K. Griffith, 158th Avn.

## SOLDIERS MEDAL

SSG Stepan P. Tomasovic, 2/17th Cav.; SGT James L. Brannan, 26th S4; SP4 Mason Fellows, 2/506th.

## AIR MEDAL WITH "V" DEVICE

CPT Robert W. Burch, 4/77th ARA; CPT Stephen B. Cook, 158th Avn.; CPT Alfred Gallardo, 158th ARA; CPT Malcolm W. Jones Jr., 2/17th Cav. (3rd Awd.); CPT Arthur J. Klein, 4/77th ARA; CPT Larry D. Latimer, 2/17th Cav. (2nd Awd.); CPT John H. Scagg, 2/320th Arty. (2nd Awd.); CPT Richard M. Snow, 4/77th ARA (2nd Awd.); CPT Phillip E. Henderson, 4/77th ARA; 1LT Robert G. Kraft, HHC 1st Bde. (2nd Awd.); 1LT Jerry E. Miller, 4/77th ARA; CWO Stephen M. Booker, 4/77th ARA (2nd Awd.); CWO Russell D. Capps, 4/77th ARA (2nd Awd.); CWO David A. Fuller, 2/17th Cav. (1st Awd.); CWO Thomas P. Strom, 4/77th ARA; CWO Kenneth J. Webb, 158th Avn.; WO Nicholas E. Dreessen, 158th Avn.; WO William C. Golden, 2/17th Cav.; WO Fred R. Hayden (II), 4/77th ARA; WO Wendell R. Mock, 4/77th ARA; WO Larry D. Mosley, 158th Avn.; WO Steven D. Proctor, 4/77th ARA; WO Guy G. Sogah, HHC, 1st Bde.; WO William D. Sorenson, 4/77th ARA; WO Delbert C. Willson, 158th Avn.; SSG Gilbert Oldrissen, 158th Avn.; SPS Michael D. Monroe, 158th Avn. (3rd Awd.); SPS Harry R. Snow, 158th Avn.; SFC Douglas R. Young, 158th Avn. (4th Awd.); SP4 Gilbert Alvarado, 101st Avn.; SP4 Louis T. Clinkscales, 158th Avn.; SP4 Jimmy W. Costran, 158th Avn.; SP4 Dennis P. Duclos, 158th Avn. (4th Awd.); SP4 Stephen E. Fisher, HHC 1st Bde.; SP4 Gregory D. Prazier, 158th Avn.; SP4 Michael C.

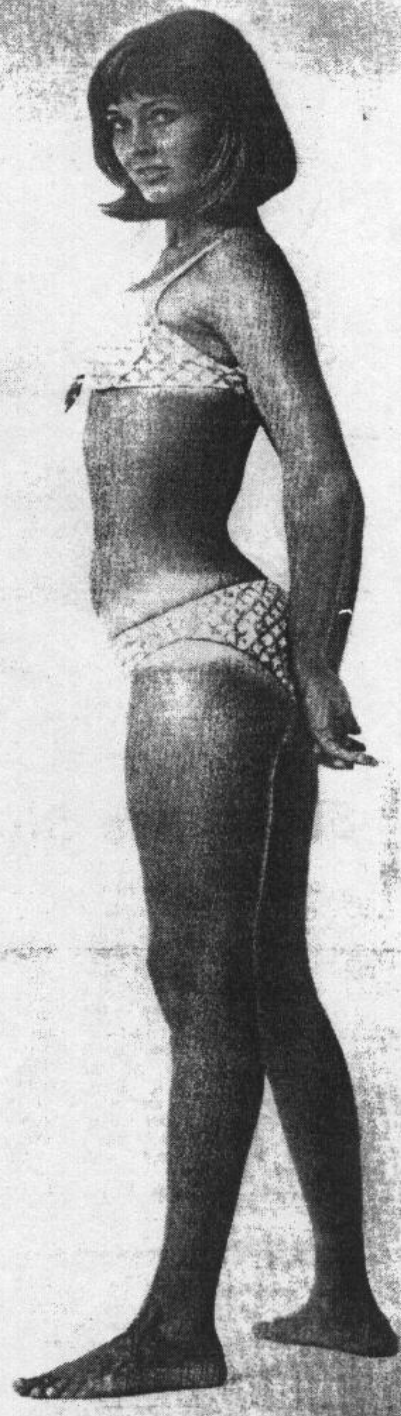
Groundwater, 2/17th Cav.; SP4 William G. Inge, 158th Avn.; Claude C. Johnson Jr., 158th Avn. (2nd Awd.); SP4 Norman Madsen, 2/17th Cav.; SP4 Tommy Northern, 158th Avn.; SP4 Anthony Pascanella, 2/17th Cav.; SP4 Robert J. Pakiewicz, 158th Avn. (9th Awd.); SP4 Richard K. Reade, 158th Avn. (2nd Awd.); SP4 Donald Reese, 158th Avn.; SP4 Frank P. Sauer, 158th Avn.; SP4 Daniel M. Schultz, 158th Avn.; SP4 Douglas G. Russell, 158th Avn.; SP4 Milton W. Solomon, 158th Avn.; SP4 John R. Tscacs, 158th Avn.; SP4 John L. Willson, 158th Avn.; SP4 Douglas G. Wilson, 326th Med. (10th Awd.); PFC Jerry D. Carter, 2/17th Cav.; PFC Paul W. Fisher, 158th Avn.; PFC Stephen G. Lee, 158th Avn.; PFC James L. Moody, 2/17th Cav.; PFC Donald W. Pipes, 158th Avn.; PFC Richard W. Schafaw, 158th Avn.; Willie C. Warner, 2/17th Cav.; PFC Walter A. White, 158th Avn.; PFC Clark E. Womble, 158th Avn.

## BRONZE STAR WITH "V" DEVICE

CPT Peter F. O'Halloran, 326th Engr. (1st O.L.C.); CPT Raymond Williams, 319th Arty. (2nd O.L.C.); CPT Loren D. Zimmerman, 2/501st; 1LT Ulysses Blakney, 2/501st; 1LT Peter D. Durney, 1/501st; 1LT Paul B. Gochnour, 2/501st; 1LT James W. Malow, HHC 101st Avn.; 1LT John T. Savier, 326th Engr. (1st O.L.C.); SSG Wilson L. Gailion, 326th Engr.; SSG Mark S. Hawk, 2/501st (1st O.L.C.); SSG Arthur C. Janvey II, 326th Engr.; SSG Walter H. Notter, 2/187th; SSG Billy W. Vance, 326th Engr.; SGT George H. Geines, 326th Engr. (1st O.L.C.); SGT Steven L. Gilmore, 3/187th; SGT Larry L. Welch, 2/501st; SPS David Manser, 326th Engr.; SPS W. G. Scott, 326th Engr. (1st O.L.C.); SP4 Jaun A. Baez, 326th Engr. (1st O.L.C.); SP4 Steven A. Boles, 326th Engr.; SP4 Raymond J. Christopher, 1/327th; SP4 Bruce Corbett, 2/501st; SP4 Albert E. Davidson, 326th Engr.; SP4 Dwight W. Feylar, 326th Engr.; SP4 William T. Hollay, 326th Engr. (1st O.L.C.); SP4 Robert J. Ivey, 2/501st; SP4 John D. Meyer, 326th Engr. (1st O.L.C.); SP4 Curtis Sumpter, 1/501st (1st O.L.C.); PFC Grady G. Diers, 2/501st; PFC Alexander Hewlett, 2/506th; PFC Donnell Hopkins, 2/501st; SFC Ray L. Johnson, 3/506th; PFC James E. Lindsey, 2/501st; PFC Louis D. Pegues, 326th Engr.

## DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

CPT Charles D. Allen, 4/77th ARA; CPT Gary N. Grubb, 4/77th ARA; CPT Herbert P. Hood, 2/17th Cav.; CPT Michael M. Jacobi, 158th Avn.; CPT Joseph L. Kelley, 158th Avn. (2nd O.L.C.); CPT William E. Lopez, 158th Avn.; CPT Joseph H. Maurer, 158th Avn.; CPT Loyd V. Mc Carthy, Jr., 4/77th ARA (1st O.L.C.); CPT Michael Petty, 158th Avn.; 1LT Philip E. Henderson, 4/77th ARA; 1LT Robert G. Kraft, HHC 1st Bde.; 1LT Wayne T. Lemme, 4/77th ARA; 1LT Jerome M. Remond, 4/77th ARA; 1LT Lance E. Ruch, 158th Avn.; 1LT Ted J. Taylor, 2/17th Cav.; 1LT Kenneth B. Wells, 4/77th ARA; CWO Francis A. Bastow, HHC 1st Bde.; CWO Stephen M. Booker, 4/77th ARA (2nd O.L.C.); CWO James B. Bowman, 158th Avn. (2nd O.L.C.); CWO Russell D. Capps, 158th Avn. (3rd O.L.C.); CWO Bruce A. Durgy, 2/17th Cav. (1st O.L.C.); CWO Michael Gott, 2/17th Cav. (1st O.L.C.); CWO Alan P. Stevens, 4/77th ARA (1st O.L.C.); CWO Richard F. Sponas, 158th Avn. (1st O.L.C.); CWO Kenneth J. Webb, 158th Avn. (1st O.L.C.); WO Burton G. Amos, 158th Avn. (1st O.L.C.); WO Jon Drake, HHC 1st Bde.; WO Douglas G. Dunham, 158th Avn. (1st O.L.C.); WO Michael Fitzgerald, HHC 1st Bde.; WO Michael L. Harrington, 4/77th ARA; WO Fred R. Hayden III, 4/77th ARA (1st O.L.C.); WO



**SOMETHING TO HOLD** - Charming Sharon Clark, a former playmate, reminds us that while your thinking of things to hold—don't forget your HOLD baggage. You can send your baggage as soon as you receive your orders. For E-4 or below you are allowed 200 lbs. gross weight. For E-5 to E-9 your allowed 400 lbs net weight. For ranks WO1 to O-5 you may ship 600 lbs and O-6 & O-7 may ship 800 lbs. All higher ranks may ship 1,000 lbs. (Photo Courtesy of Playboy)

## Monkeys Ambush First Strike Troopers

**FIREBASE BRICK** - NVA soldiers hiding in an ambush and enemy boobytraps and mines are what Screaming Eagles must be most cautious of in the dense jungles of northern MR1. First Strike troopers of the 1st Plat. Co. C, 1st Bn. (Ambl.),

502nd Inf., have been plagued by another enemy that hides along the trails in the heavy vegetation. This enemy is a huge group of monkeys that have been "ambushing" the First Strike riflemen and pelting them with rocks and pieces of wood.

"All we can do in ambushes like this is wait until they run out of ammunition," says 1LT Brian Vissers platoon leader. After the ambush, the First Strike troopers laugh the matter off as the monkeys dash off to prepare their next trap.

## Gingeland, Hendrix Nuptial Said



The bride and groom depart for honeymoon. (U.S. Army Photo)

**PHU BAI** - 2LT John Hendrix, a pilot with 2nd Sqdn. (Ambl.), 17th Cav. recently flew with his favorite copilot—his bride. The former Miss Patti Gingeland, Cleveland, and 2LT Hendrix were married in a ceremony in the Prince of Peace Chapel on Easter. The bride is a nurse at the 85th Evac. Hospital. The couple's trip from the ceremony to the reception at the 85th Evac. Officers' Club was armobile, in a LOH which was flown by the groom. The newlyweds spent their honeymoon in Taipei.

## Rakkasan Wins 'Shoot-Out'

**FIREBASE JACK** - A rather large Screaming Eagle M-60 gunner from Co. B, 3rd Bn. (Ambl.), 187th Inf. and an NVA rice carrier recently met face to face near FB Jack, 15 miles northwest of Hue, in an unnerving dual reminiscent of western movies. "My squad was cutting through the thick underbrush," explained SP4 Mark Carroll, the

tall M-60 gunner, "when we discovered a well-used enemy trail." "Two of us proceeded down the trail to check it out, when we heard a rustling in the brush ahead of us," the Screaming Eagle continued. "We set up a hasty ambush and waited." The lanky, 6-foot-4 Rakkasan didn't have to wait long and soon found himself face-to-face

with a surprised and much smaller NVA soldier, halted less than 10 feet away. "For a split second we both froze," SP5 Carroll related, recalling the tense situation, "and then it was a race to see who could get the first shot off." The giant Rakkasan proved to be the "fastest gun," resulting in one enemy KIA.

# Combat In Review



**HOT JOB** - SP4 Dennis Smith hefts a hot brass power cinnister ejected from the breech of a 105mm Howitzer during a fire mission. The crewmen is a member of A Btry., 2nd Bn. (Ambl.), 319th Arty. (U.S. Army Photo by SP4 Joseph Morgan)

## SFC Gets Shaved

**FIREBASE RENDEZVOUS** - While on a recent low-level reconnaissance mission 25 miles southwest of Hue, SFC James Lane, Hq. Btry., 1st Bn. (Ambl.), 321st Arty., received a haircut and a "close shave" - the hard way.

"We were conducting a reconnaissance survey of the area," remarked SFC Lane, "when we spotted an NVA element. Our OH-6 LOH moved in for a closer look, and I engaged the enemy with machinegun fire."

SFC Lane killed one of the

NVA soldiers. However, the surprise for Lane came when the aircraft maneuvered closer to the ground element.

"We began receiving ground fire," continued Lane. "The next thing I knew a round went through my helmet. The round hit the visor, was deflected, and went out the side of the helmet. Another round hit the top of my helmet and just grazed the top of my hair. I pulled my visor down - the bullet hole was exactly between my eyes!"

Lane was given the slightly altered helmet as a memento of his hair-raising experience.

## Rescue.....cont'd from page 1

enemy positions. By this time darkness was upon them and the downed crew settled in for an uneasy night filled with the pop of illumination rounds overhead and the thunder of distant airstrikes.

Rescue operations continued through the next morning but were unsuccessful. Tension mounted as elements of the 66th NVA Regt. closed in around the seven Americans.

That afternoon the 2nd Sqdn. (Ambl.), 17th Cav., was called in to assist in the recovery operation. A plan was devised to insert the Hac Bao and the work began.

While an LZ was being prepared by airstrikes and ARA Hueys from the Cav. roared toward the insertion area. As they neared the LZ, the helicopters came under intensive ground fire but with the help of suppressive fire from Cobra gunships. The Hac Bao were successfully inserted. Once on the ground, the Vietnamese Rangers moved south of the LZ and set up an NDP with the hopes of reaching the helicopter crewmen the next day. During the night, the Hac Bao were surrounded by the NVA soldiers and subjected to harassing fire from the enemy. The NVA troopers shouted for the intrepid ARVN soldiers to surrender, but the Hac Bao responded with hand grenades.

The next morning the Rangers were pounded by 60mm and 82mm mortar fire from the entrenched enemy prompting the Hac Bao to start numerous grass fires in an effort to break through the line of NVA troops. The maneuver worked and the Hac Bao moved to within 100 yards of their objective. Here they were stopped but only momentarily.

Cobra gunships from the 2/17th Cav. arrived on

the scene and began blasting the enemy positions with rockets, mini-guns and grenade launchers. Under this umbrella of fire the Hac Bao launched a fierce attack killing five NVA soldiers and fighting through three enemy ambushes before reaching the seven survivors.

Now the Cav's gunships began a deadly duel with the enemy. Braving antiaircraft fire, the Cobras pounded the NVA soldiers and directed tactical airstrikes. Skimming low over enemy positions the Cobra pilots continued the barrage, and with the aid of Air Force strikes silenced three enemy antiaircraft positions.

The battle had now reached a feverish pitch. While air and artillery strikes thundered into the ridges north of the PZ, ARA helicopters and Cav. gunships saturated the approach routes around the LZ with devastating fire in preparation for the coming extraction.

The enemy began to wither under the fury of the attack as 17 Hueys from the 2/17th raced toward the PZ. Coming in low and raking only moderate fire, the helicopters converged on the LZ and promptly extracted the Hac Bao and the seven Screaming Eagles. With the mission complete, the entire area was subjected to air strikes.

As a result of precision teamwork involving extraordinary air cavalry, tactical air strikes, aerial rocket artillery and field artillery and the heroism of all participants in the extraction, seven lives were saved. In the process, the enemy suffered heavy losses. The Hac Bao Rangers were credited with 27 NVA soldiers killed, and 30 AK-47 rifles and four B-40 rockets destroyed. The air support and artillery killed 40 NVA troops and destroyed seven 12.7mm machine guns plus numerous enemy emplacements.

**FIREBASE RAKKASAN** - While on a routine patrol in the triple canopy jungle 12 miles west of Hue, the 3rd Plat. of Co. C, 2nd Bn. (Ambl.), 506th Inf. recently encountered a volley of small arms fire from an unseen enemy force to their flank. After returning fire on the suspected enemy position the Currahees platoon began pursuing the now-fleeing enemy. After a chase of several hundred yards, the troopers came upon a small hut and two nearby bunkers.

The Screaming Eagles halted their pursuit briefly to establish that the enemy complex was deserted, and then resumed their search and found the body of an NVA soldier equipped with an AK-47. The enemy soldier had collapsed during his flight after being wounded in the firefight. The NVA hut and bunkers were destroyed.

**CAMP EVANS** - A enemy team was successfully employed recently by 3rd Bn. (Ambl.), 187th Inf., here.

The team was composed of Rakkasans from Co. E and men from SERTS and acted as an observation post outside the perimeter in the near dusk hours.

After sighting two approaching enemy soldiers they opened fire killing the two VC and capturing one AK-47 and one CHICOM pistol.

**FIREBASE GLADIATOR** - Currahees from the 2nd Plat. of Co. B, 1st Bn. (Ambl.), 506th Inf. discovered an NVA bunker complex while securing a landing zone for their battalion's Mortar Plat. which was scheduled to stage a raid in the triple canopy jungle near abandoned FB O'Reilly, 25 miles west of Hue.

The three camouflaged bunkers contained several NVA rucksacks, clothing, and two B-40 rockets. The enemy equipment was evacuated and the bunkers were destroyed by explosives.

**CAMP EVANS** - A recently occupied NVA bunker containing two AK-47, more than 150 rounds of ammunition, 60 blasting caps and medical supplies was found by the Rakkasans of 2nd Plat., Co. A, 3rd Bn. (Ambl.), 187th Inf., 13 miles northwest of Hue.

The condition of the ammunition and weapons indicated that the enemy had visited the bunker less than 24 hours before the Rakkasans discovered the cache.

The NVA supplies and weapons were evacuated for proper disposition by local authorities.

**FIREBASE MAUREEN** - Thanks to the sharp vision of their executive office, Currahees of the 2nd Bn. (Ambl.), 506th Inf., recently discovered an NVA bunker complex less than 800 meters from here.

The discovery occurred when MAJ Stephen Perry was peering through an M-65 telescope that had been set out by the moriarmen of Co. E, he spotted what appeared to be the entrance to an underground bunker. The camouflaged portal was located on a ridge leading away from the mountaintop firebase.

After blasting the area with mortar fire, a squad from Co D, was sent out to reconnoiter the site. The Currahee troopers soon found that the bunker was one of five that encircled a small knoll opposite the artillery base.

Found inside the enemy bunkers were five one-gallon cans of liquid tear gas, one bag of powdered tear gas, a B-40 rocket, one grenade and a magazine of AK-47 ammunition.

The captured munitions were evacuated to the firebase, and the bunkers were destroyed.

## Redlegs Warn Enemy

**CAMP EAGLE** - During a recent artillery raid to a firebase near the A Chau Valley, cannoners of the 101st left more than just death, destruction and empty C-rations cans behind.

The 2nd Bn. (Ambl.), 320th Arty. has been erecting signs on the firebases for NVA soldiers to read and contemplate. "They (the NVA) always come up on the firebases when we leave," said Battalion Executive Officer, MAJ William A. Luther Jr.

The signs bear the battalion's crest on the left and an eagle, its wings spread and a Howitzer in its talons, on the right. The sign also carries a message written in Vietnamese for the enemy. One such message read: "Welcome men of the 324B Division to the firebase of the 2nd Bn. (Ambl.), 320th Arty. We are looking for you. We will find you. We are going to blow you away."

## Mamie Visits 2nd Bde

**CAMP HOCHMUTH** - It's not everyday that you have a famous movie star come into your office to use your telephone. PFC William Montgomery, 108th Arty. Gp. and SSG McKinley Smith, HHC, 2nd Bde., recently had the pleasure of sharing their telephone with talented actress Mamie Van Doren.

Miss Van Doren stopped at the 2nd Brigade to make a telephone call to Thailand. While there she had her picture taken with Smith and Montgomery before going to 85th Evac. Hospital where she was preparing for a show.

Miss Van Doren is touring Vietnam presenting shows in officer and enlisted men's clubs.

