

Clerks Defend Dak To

By SP4 Jeffrey Tarter

DAK TO—The military dilemma that faced the 1st Brigade was a classic one: finding the men to launch a strong offensive against NVA border operations, while defending its base camp at Dak To against attack.

The threat to Dak To could not be minimized. Rocket attacks, intelligence and ground probes all pointed to a major enemy assault.

But combat troops were needed elsewhere, to defend outlying firebases and pin down the NVA's 101D Regiment in the hills around Dak Seang.

Dak To's clerks, cooks and engineers had the skills and the firepower to defend the base camp.

The solution: Task Force Cavalier.

With a battle-seasoned command section under the direction of Major Melvin Geiger, executive officer of the 3rd Battalion, 8th Infantry, and manpower from technical support units, the new reaction force beefed up Dak To's defenses—and left infantry units free to fight elsewhere.

Guarding the base camp itself were platoons from the Forward Support Areas; Company A, 704th Maintenance Battalion; Company A, 4th Engineer Battalion; Company D, 299th Engineer Battalion; and the V100 section of the 4th Military Police Company.

Under the guidance of the new task force, Dak To's defenses were systematically strengthened.

Dozens of bunkers and firing positions sprouted from the ground almost overnight.

Bulldozers cleared new firing lanes. Underbrush was burned away.

Extra guards manned perimeter bunkers at night.

Throughout this surge of activity Dak To's support units also maintained their regular missions.

Said Colonel Joseph E. Fix III of Alexandria, Va., the brigade commander:

"During this critical period they not only defended the base, but didn't falter in their key job of supporting the Brigade so it could continue its daily combat operations.

"In a pinch, the spirit, the determination and the professionalism of these headquarters and service personnel rival that of professional combat troops."

"Task Force Cavalier," he added, "proves the point that a soldier is a soldier first and a technician second."

Rots 'o Ruck

OASIS—The incident occurred as Company B, 1st Battalion, 35th Infantry, led by Captain Jonathan Tower of Essex, Conn., was making a sweep of a large hill two miles from its night location near Kontum.

"Nothing had happened all day," said Specialist 4 Depremo of New York. "Suddenly sniper rounds started coming at us from our rear. We took cover and began returning fire instantly."

The battle lasted only a few minutes. The 3rd Brigade soldiers sent the enemy fleeing.

"I couldn't believe my eyes as I looked at my rucksack," he said. "There was a large hole in it." It was a sniper round.



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CAMP ENARI, VIETNAM

September 22, 1968

Ivy Units Down Over 100



ON TARGET—Smoke rolls skyward as an F100 pulls out of dive after disposing its lethal bombs just outside the perimeter of the 4th Division's 1st Brigade's base camp at Dak To. For the full, illustrated story, see pages 4 and 5. (USA Photo by SP4 Don McIntosh)

Battles Destroy Enemy

By SP4 Obelit Yadgar

CAMP ENARI—Ivy and allied forces killed over 100 enemy soldiers and captured a huge supply of arms and rice in week-long ground fighting in the Central Highlands.

For the most part, action was light and scattered, and mainly in the southern flatlands near Ban Me Thuot.

In two separate light contacts Ivy's 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry and a company of the 173rd Airborne Brigade killed six enemy soldiers near Ban Me Thuot. And about 16 miles south of the city the 4th Battalion, 45th ARVN Regiment reported taking in five Hoi Chanh.

North of Dak Seang 4th Division observation helicopters reported five NVA killed by airstrikes and artillery.

In its continuous search for the enemy, the 1st Battalion, 45th ARVN Regiment reported finding 155 enemy bodies near the Special Forces Camp at Duc Lap, along with 10 AK47s and assorted ammunition.

In a light scrap with an unknown-size enemy force, Ivy's 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalrymen, killed two NVA soldiers near Ban Me Thuot.

Farther north, a company of 3rd Battalion, 8th Infantry, found four NVA bodies and several weapons west of Dak Seang as the company continued its sweeps west of Dak To.

An observation air craft reported sighting three NVA killed by 4th Division forces west of Dak Seang.

An air raid southwest of Duc Lap on enemy mortar and machinegun positions killed an estimated 11 troops.

Throughout the week Ivy and ARVN forces discovered several road mines set up to disrupt U.S. convoys on major routes in the Central Highlands.

Ivy's 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry
(Continued On Back Page)

Panthers Watch NVA Blasts, Find School Amid Bunkers

By PFC Steve Wilson

OASIS—The mechanized Ivy men were doing a bit of stargazing when they spotted nine enemy rockets zooming toward their mark.

The men of Company A, 2nd Battalion (Mechanized), 8th Infantry, estimated the launch site to be only 5,000 meters away.

Forward observer, Second Lieutenant Ben Johnson of Oyster Bay, N.Y., of Battery A, 4th Battalion, 42nd Artillery, keenly observed the flashes, fast read an azimuth, and called the Redlegs to bombard the site.

Shortly after dawn that morning, Captain Charles W. Lauderdale of Midland, Tex., led his company on a thorough sweep of the brush-tangled area.

"We discovered very unusual diggings," he disclosed, "and believe the site was a training area for North Vietnamese Army mortar men."

Later as the Panthers swept north of Plei Blo O' Dung I, the 3rd Platoon discovered ammunition and control bunkers.

Still more fresh diggings, found across a nearby stream,

proved to be four launching sites and four pits where the enemy rockets were assembled to fire.

"Our Kit Carson scouts led us to the pits, dug just prior to the rocket attack," said Captain Lauderdale.

The Panthers captured a valuable arsenal left behind by the NVA soldiers. The prize of that find was a 122mm Chinese made rocket.

That one high-ranking NVA officer lost no time deserting the area was fully shown when the mechanized infantrymen found a major's helmet.

Also uncovered were fuses,

caps, plugs and other assorted equipment for launching rockets.

Further found was an old trench complex used as an escape route, along with six spider hole fighting positions. Fresh trails interlaced the area.

The Panthers observed that the enemy mortar men apparently are forced to improvise their own aiming stakes, as those that were found were simply bamboo sticks.

"The Redlegs hit their mark all right," mused Lieutenant Johnson, "for we found a get."

Field Expediency Wins Over Mud With Logs

OASIS—As the armored personnel carriers (APCs) churned through the monsoon mud, Captain John Barrows of Terre Haute, Ind., fast realized his company of steel tracks would have trouble crossing a silt-filled stream bed.

Two of the iron monsters proved their way through, but

when a third bogged down, peeling off one of its own tracks, strategy called for an expedient crossing.

At that moment Alpha Company showed up, led by Captain Charles Lauderdale of Midland, Tex. His men set to work chopping down trees while their sister company began laying the

logs across the stream bed.

Other Ivy men applied their own technique to log moving. They cut their trees some distance upstream, allowing them to float in the swollen stream to their destination.

Once the log planking was completed, both company tracks rambled across the mud-ridden stream with ease.



R&D&U

NEW AND experimental weapons, ammunition and equipment are frequently sent to the division for use, testing or evaluation.

In some cases the idea or need for the new items was generated within the division itself and the product represents the results of our request. Others are in response to requests by other units in Vietnam and are also given to us for use.

But self-generated or not, this is our opportunity to participate in the continuing effort to make our Army the best equipped in the world.

Your part in the program is to provide new ideas, use the equipment, and provide constructive comments and recommendations. Failures and shortcomings as well as successes must be reported. Your failure to report deficiencies or provide recommendations for improvement may result in the Army buying inferior equipment which could be a burden rather than an aid to our effort here in Vietnam.

You do not have to be an engineer to submit new ideas for equipment. All you have to provide is what you know best—the job it must be able to do and the general characteristics desired. Or maybe you know of an item which is on the civilian market that can do a particular job for you. The 4th Engineers obtained the chain saws they are now using to clear fire bases from the civilian market.

You will be seeing several new items in the near future that will make your task easier and safer. Variable armor vests that will provide better protection against small arms will begin arriving in the Division soon. A simple safety device will be added to the hand grenade to keep the grenade handle in place, should the safety pin be unknowingly removed from the grenade. The clip can be removed with a flick of the thumb at the same time you pull the pin. The engineers will be receiving new lightweight water purification units and mine detection equipment to make their job easier.

If you think you have a good suggestion or you find faults with new equipment issued to you, I urge you to let your commander know how you feel. The ultimate key to the success of our research and development program is you.

Charles P. Stone



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Change Becomes Jazzmen

OASIS—Soldiers stationed with the 4th Division's 3rd Brigade received a welcome change from the sound of machine gun and small arms fire that normally fills the night around the Oasis—they were treated to a jam session by members of the 4th Division Band.

After playing the appropriate music during a dinner on behalf of General Brownfield, the musicians "let their hair down" and put on a jazz and pop music show for the officers and men of the 3rd Brigade.

Where "Ruffles and Flourishes" was played at the general's arrival, "Sam's Boogie" could be heard later that night, performed by the same group.

The band consisted of Private First Class Steve Campbell of Charleston, West Va. on bass; Corporal Ken Hall of Houston on the organ and saxophone; Specialist 4 Willie Driffin of Charleston, S.C. on tenor sax; Private First Class Ken Bertram of Green Bay, Wisc. on trumpet and accordion; Specialist 5 Jay Blaine of N.Y. on trombone; Specialist 4 Guy Fatone of Niantic, Conn. on alto sax; and Private First Class Ken Pesile of Staten Island, N.Y. on drums.

The group was given the opportunity to perform at the Oasis when the "slicks" they were supposed to return to Camp Enari on were used for a combat assault.

"We play instrumental pieces almost exclusively," said Specialist Blaine. "The only time we have vocals is when our trombone player gets up enough nerve to sing in front of an audience. Fortunately, that doesn't happen too often."



Publishes Pamphlet

SJA Plans Autopsy

CAMP ENARI—"I plan to have a legal autopsy program—that is to dissect administration and proceedings to find where someone has failed and how we could prevent a recurrence in the future," said Captain Kenneth A. Rosenblum of Brooklyn, N.Y.

"The research and evaluation council is a selected group of officers and noncommissioned officers who get together to evaluate the Army's Disciplinary system," said Captain Rosenblum, "we attempt to develop positive and negative reinforcement projects for the man."

"Each month we published a pamphlet concerning such things as a dishonorable discharge and its after effects on

military offenders. The publication is concerned with individual studies we have come across."

A recipient of a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English and a Bachelor of Law Degree from Brooklyn College and a Master of Law Degree from New York University, Captain Rosenblum wrote in the field of Chronic Alcoholism prior to joining the Army.

Captain Rosenblum plans to develop a personal affairs preventive maintenance program. "It is my personal theory that many man hours are lost in disciplinary and administration action or remedial counseling which can be avoided by prevention steps taken before hand," stated Captain Rosenblum.

Administration Co. Stands For A Certain Kind Of Importance

CAMP ENARI — They take care of the important aspects of an Ivyman's tour—things like R&R, finance, mail and out-processing. They are cooks and clerks in the daytime—perimeter guards at night. They make up the 4th Division's largest company—the 4th Administration Company.

"We support the 4th Infantry Division in all aspects of personnel actions and provide Ivy-men for the Commanding General's Special Staff," said Captain George M. Long of McKeesport, Pa., 4th Administration Company commander.

The former commander of Company B, 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry, Captain Long noted that all the rumors of base camp desk jobs being a "sham" are not true.

The battalion-sized company is divided into seven main sections which handle the bulk of the division's administrative support.

First, the company headquarters, commanded by Captain Long, consists of the orderly room, a mess hall, sleeping accommodations and recreation facilities.

The job of providing for and training the Ivy-men belongs to

First Sergeant Robert T. Hollis of Petersburg, Va.

The Adjutant General section is the largest of the company. Lieutenant Colonel Robert W. Krug of Colorado Springs, Colo., heads this group, which is responsible for all personnel actions in the Famous Fourth.

Providing religious guidance to the Ivy-men is the Chaplain's section, headed by Division Chaplain, (Lieutenant Colonel) Vaughn F. Leaming of York, Neb. Here, the soldier away from home finds a listening ear and a man who wants to help, regardless of the problem.

Lieutenant Colonel J. C. Childers of Walnut Ridge, Ark., heads the Ivy's Finance Section. All aspects of pay for the 4th Division soldiers are controlled by this group.

Coordinating all public affairs and providing complete news coverage for the Ivy Division is the Information Office, headed by Major Donald D. David of Logansport, La.

Always ready to listen to an Ivyman's problem is the Inspector General, Lieutenant Colonel Don Anker of Menlo Park, Calif. This section also conducts an annual inspection, checking the efficiency of each

Ivy unit.

Lieutenant Colonel Darrell Peck of Sun Prairie, Wis., heads the Staff Judge Advocate. This section provides any legal assistance an Ivyman may need.

Along with each individual section, 4th Replacement Detachment, commanded by Captain Lester C. Dalrymple of Atlanta, is under the company's jurisdiction. All replacements and hospital returnees coming into the Ivy Division are processed through the "Repo Depo". Here, the new men receive a five-day class on Vietnam, qualify with the M16, and receive orders assigning them to a unit in the Famous Fourth.

"Besides providing personnel support," Captain Long continued, "these Ivy-men are ever ready to be called on for emergency use as infantrymen. In fact, many of the personnel used to fill administrative jobs are ex-infantrymen."

Soldiers from the 4th Administration Company also perform perimeter guard, construct bunkers, and pull patrol duty.

"The greatest difference between an administration company in the states and one in Vietnam," concluded Captain Long, "is the never ending threat of an enemy attack."

Panthers Get NVA Supplies

By PFC Steve Wilson

OASIS—In a recent two-day combat assault, Bravo Company, 2nd Battalion (Mechanized), 8th Infantry seized a raft of North Vietnam Army equipment as the enemy fast retreated.

Commanded by Captain James E. Bilderbeck of Colorado Springs, Colo., Company B was airlifted by helicopter into the jungled hills northwest of Plei Mrong.

Here, the Panthers were joined by Company C, 1st Battalion, 35th Infantry, commanded by Captain John Sans of Pleasure Ridge Park, Ky.

While the two units sought an estimated two platoons of NVA regulars, air strikes were called in on the objective. Once the lush green jungle was pounded by the lethal attack, the Ivymen began their sweep of the riddled area.

In their careful search, they discovered 20 sleeping bunkers with overhead cover, and an additional 25-30 others without overhead protection.

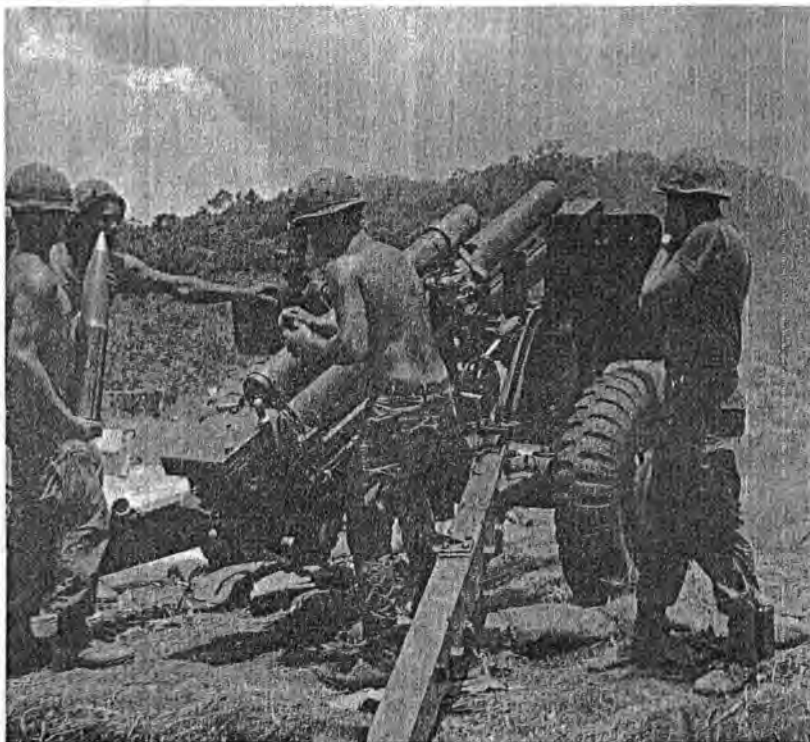
The following day the Panthers fanned out over the site and fast discovered the enemy had hastily retreated, leaving much of their equipment behind.

"Our patrols found six rucksacks," Captain Bilderbeck continued.

"Each pack held new NVA uniforms."

Also found were new protective masks, new sandals, cooking gear, canteens, 50 rounds of AK47 ammo, and even vitamin tablets.

As the Ivymen further swept terrain, they found a drum for a chicom machine gun, the plate and bipod for an 82mm mortar, 30 pounds of rice, NVA pith helmets, powder charges for mortars and ARVN combat boots.



READY—Cannoneers of the 4th Battalion, 42nd Artillery, get ready to blast enemy positions in the flatlands of the Central Highlands near Ban Me Thuot.

(USA Photo by 2LT Jay Kivowitz)

47 Men Operate 5,000 Daily Calls

CAMP ENARI — Over 5,000 calls a day from more than 400 different telephones rush through 2,150 tiny, vulnerable wires. A team of 47 men operates and maintains this massive and fastidious telephone network, keeping the 4th Infantry Division "on the line" 24 hours a day.

These are but a few of the complications Ivymen working for the Camp Enari Wire Head and Telephone Exchange are faced with, but still these men fulfill their mission of providing the 4th Division with telephone

communication.

A nine-man team on a 12-hour shift makes up the staff of telephone operators. These nine men handle all calls coming to and going out of Camp Enari. They are able to connect your phone on base camp.

If you wish to call elsewhere in South Vietnam, you must go through them to reach the VHF operator.

A group of nine Ivymen make up the repair team.

Any repairs, from broken wires to a faulty receiver, are fixed by this group.

In three or four months a new dial system for Camp Enari will come into operation. "This new system will raise our capability of handling 400 phones on Camp Enari to 1,000," said First Lieutenant Jerry Loftin of Loganport, La., the telephone exchange officer-in-charge.

"Considering the equipment we are now working with, the number of men we have, and the fact the system is operational 24 hours a day, I feel the men are doing a fantastic job," said Staff Sergeant Donald Hopkins of Augusta, S.C.

Ivy LRP Hits NVA LRP

By SP4 Jeffrey Tarter

DAK TO—A team of 1st Brigade LRP's recently fought with what they believe were their tiger-suited NVA counterparts.

The LRP team was setting up camp just north of Dak To when its team leader, Staff Sergeant David Ramirez of Kansas, Mo., heard coughing.

"Ever since lunch I'd heard branches breaking behind us," he said. "We were moving along through real thick stuff, and I thought it might have been twigs falling from trees. Or it might have been birds or monkeys—we were attacked by a bunch of monkeys once."

"But now I figured someone was observing us," he added.

The Ivymen quietly crawled toward the suspicious sounds and spotted four NVA soldiers wearing tiger-suits and soft caps. Twigs and branches were woven into their gear for camouflage, and they carried no packs.

The LRP team moved back and set up fighting positions.

"We kept hearing movement all around to the east, then to the south. We figured they'd wait until dark and then move in," he continued.

Sergeant Ramirez radioed Dak To that the LRP team was going to move to a pre-arranged landing zone nearby for extraction.

Suddenly the enemy opened fire from no more than 40 meters away.

"If the rounds had come any closer," Sergeant Ramirez recalled, "I'd be wearing a second skin."

Firing back at the NVA, the Ivymen killed at least one enemy. They then grabbed their rucksacks and took off across an open field to the LZ.

A round burst near them, but gunships were already firing on the enemy patrol as the LRP team was lifted to safety.



BG Albin Irzyk

BG Albin Irzyk Becomes Asst. Div. Commander

CAMP ENARI — Brigadier General Albin F. Irzyk assumed duties as Assistant Division Commander (ADC) on September 3rd. Prior to his arrival here he was Commanding General, U.S. Army Headquarters Area Command in Saigon.

The general was commissioned a second lieutenant, Cavalry Reserve upon graduation from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Mass., where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in English. His long and colorful military career began July 1, 1940 when he was assigned as a platoon leader in the 3rd U.S. Cavalry at Ft. Ethan Allen, Vt.

After serving with the 3rd Cavalry he joined the 10th Armored Division at Ft. Benning, Ga., before being assigned to the 4th Armored Division. He remained with the 4th Armored Division through Tennessee Maneuvers, desert training, and at Camp Bowie, Texas, and sailed with the division in 1943 for the European Theater of Operations.

While serving with the 4th Armored Division in Europe he was promoted to Major and saw action in five campaigns with the division. In December 1944 he assumed command of the 8th

Tank Battalion of the 4th Armored Division.

After V-E Day he remained with the 4th Armored Division during occupation of Germany and served as Division G-1, G-3 and later as Chief of Staff. After 44 months overseas, he returned to the States in September 1947 and was assigned to the Staff and Faculty, the Armor School, Ft. Knox, Ky.

In 1949 he was selected to attend the Command and General Staff College, Ft. Leavenworth, Kan.

After graduation he served in a variety of staff assignments including Director of Training and later G-3 of the 3rd Armored Division and as Chief of Tactics Division of the Armor School at Ft. Knox. He also had an assignment in the J-3 Division, Headquarters Commander-in-Chief, Pacific, with duty station in Hawaii.

While serving with Chief, Pacific he was promoted to Colonel.

He returned to Washington to attend the National War College from which he graduated in 1958. After graduation from the War College, the 28-year veteran was assigned to the Pentagon and detailed to the Army General Staff. During this tour he

served as Deputy Chief of International Plans and Policy, and as Chief of the Office of International Affairs and served as Military Secretary of the Army Policy Council.

In 1961 he returned to Germany where he commanded the 14th Armored Cavalry Regiment at Fulda, along the East-west Inter-Zonal Border.

In 1963 he became Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3 for Headquarters, Allied Land Forces Central Europe. He was promoted to Brigadier General in April of that year.

After his European tour he was assigned as Assistant Commandant of the Armor School and remained there until 1967 when he was transferred to Vietnam.

The highly decorated general has the Distinguished Service Cross, the Silver Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Legion of Merit, three awards of the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart among his decorations. He also has numerous service medals.

In addition to being a graduate of the University of Massachusetts, he has a Master of Arts degree in International Relations and Organization from American University.

TOC Hit By Rockets —Then Blasts Back

By 1LT Alex Cooper and SP4 Jeffrey Tarter

THE ROCKETS came whistling into the 1st Brigade base camp at Dak To 10 minutes after the daily five-o'clock briefing began.

Within seconds, the Tactical Operations Center (TOC), nerve center of Dak To's offense and defense, was ready to fight back.

While men scampered for cover to the sound of a wailing siren, the men in the TOC began to gather the data and issue the instructions which would neutralize the damage an undetected enemy could do.

Radio reports began to yield key details. Firebase 6 spotted flashes to the south and radioed the TOC with an azimuth. Firebase 29 quickly followed with an intersecting azimuth. Observers from the 6th Battalion, 29th Artillery, inside Dak To's perimeter, called in the position of each rocket as it landed.

Inside the TOC, Colonel Joseph E. Fix III of Alexandria, Va., the 1st Brigade commander, and his staff took this data and plotted it on the operations map.

Enemy rocket launchers, they found, were firing from either of two grid coordinates.

As soon as these coordinates were plotted, Captain Edward Hill of Wathford, Tex., assistant S-3 of the 6th Battalion, 29th Artillery, quickly confirmed no friendly troops in these areas.

Six minutes after the first rocket struck Dak To, 155mm Howitzers were blasting back at the two suspected positions.

Elsewhere in the TOC, the Brigade Assistant Air Liaison Officer, Major Duane Aasted of Santa Barbara, Calif., directed an airborne forward air controller (FAC) to inspect the two positions.

FAC pilot Captain Wayne Abbey of San Francisco, Calif., was flying an O-2 Birdog south of Firebase 6 and spotted the enemy position only two kilometers away.

"I was practically on top of them when I saw the flashes and smoke," he later said.

With the launching site now pinpointed, artillery air observers in smaller spotter planes took over and guided a rain of artillery onto the enemy's rocket site. Shortly afterwards, air strikes brought more devastation.

The rocket attack was quickly silenced. But at the TOC, radios continued to crackle out their urgent messages. Perimeter Defense was receiving reports of movement to the southwest: trip flares had been set off, bunkers had taken sporadic small arms fire.

The warning siren came alive again to signal a possible ground attack.

Reactionary forces moved quickly to occupy reinforcing bunkers.

Colonel Fix ordered a "duster" to take up a position guarding the threatened southwest perimeter.

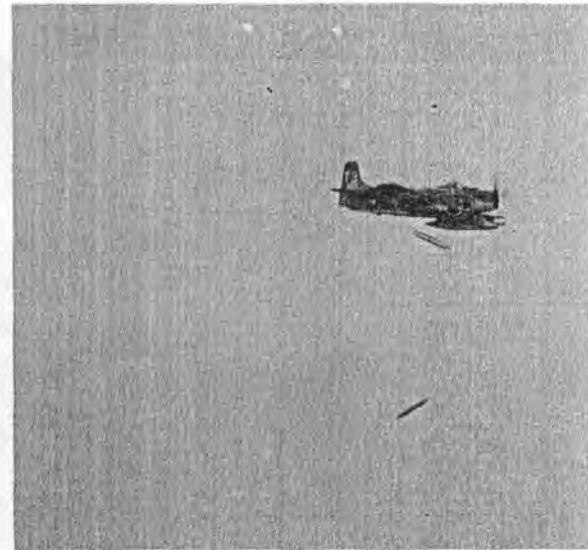
Captain Abbey guided his FAC plane back over Dak To and marked the woodland south of the Dak Poko River with a smoke rocket. A1E Skyraiders then dove in and turned the forest into a maelstrom of fire and thunder. F100s followed their course and dumped more ordnance.

Whatever enemy troops were hiding in that forest would do no fighting today.

And the attack was over. Tension let up in the TOC as the all-clear sounded. The men who directed Dak To's defense stepped outside to watch the last air strikes come in across the Dak Poko River.

Out loud, Colonel Fix asked no one in particular.

"Whatever happened to that five o'clock briefing?"



SKYRAIDER RAINS IN DESTRUCT



THE SKYRAIDERS AND JETS ARE GONE, BUT NO

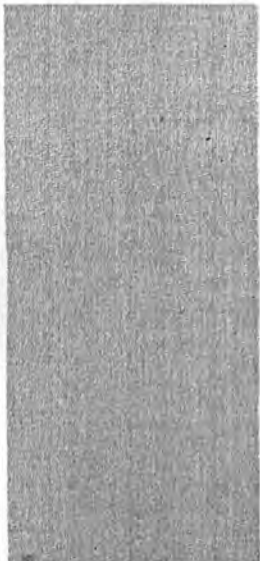


A SCREAMING F100 JET STREAKS UP AFTER DESTROYING ENEMY POSITIONS.

USA Photo by SP4 Don McIntosh



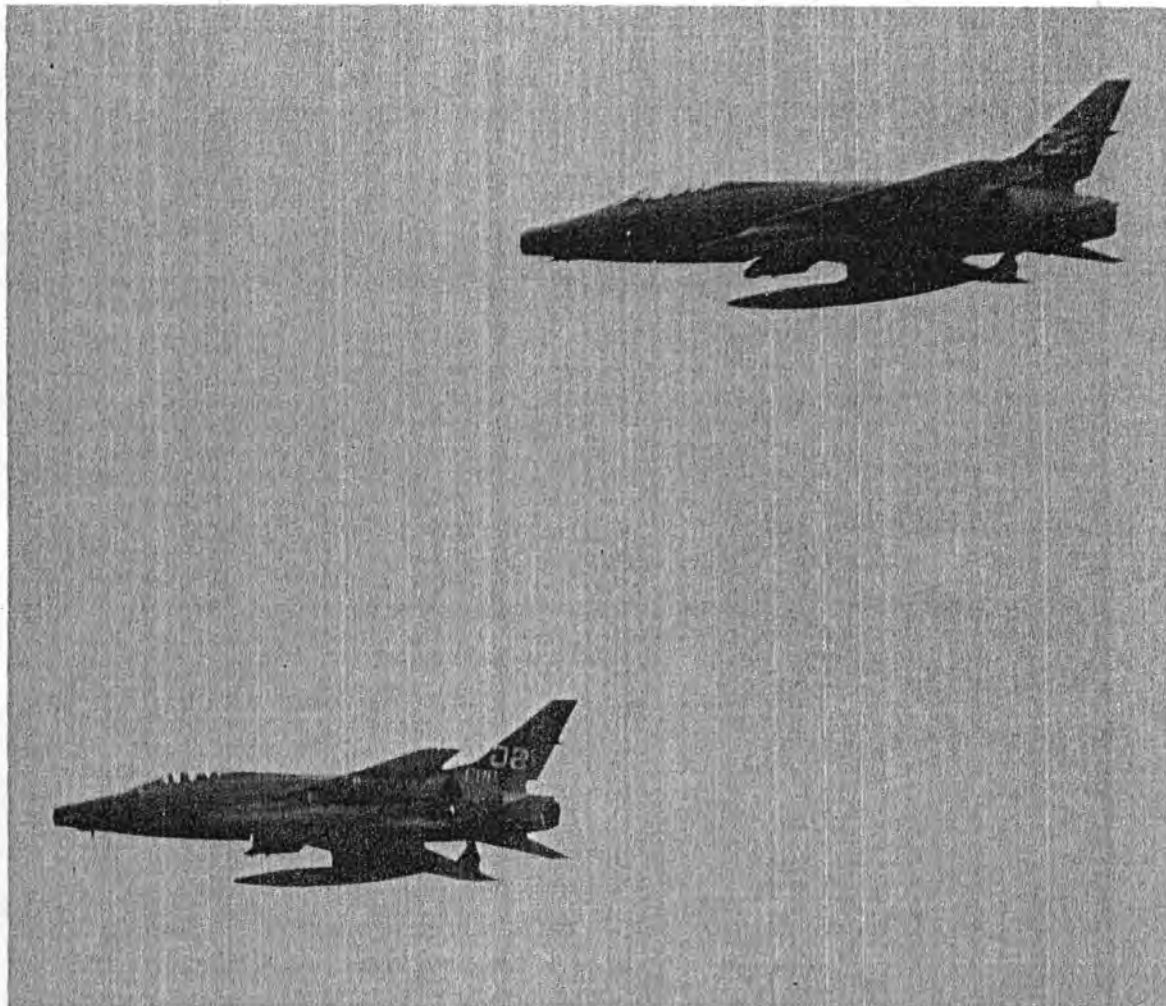
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USA Photo by SP4 Jeffrey Tarter



USA Photo by SP4 Jeffrey Tarter
FTEREFFECTS.



AIR FORCE JETS LEVEL OFF AFTER BOMB RUN.

USA Photo by SP4 Don McIntosh

Reward In Their Smiles

Villagers Join Swing-Along

Story and Photo by PFC Steve Wilson

OASIS—They scrounged pieces of wood. They conjured rope. They furnished hours of sweat, hard labor and goodwill.

They are the civil affairs team members of the 2nd Battalion (Mechanized), 8th Infantry. Their patience and dogged determination gave two Montagnard villages their first playground equipment.

Newly installed swings, dangling from an overhead thatched roof, were treated by the Montagnard youngsters like a strange new toy.

"Several weeks were spent garnering the necessary paraphernalia," explained Staff Sergeant James Black of Cedar, Okla.

Specialist 5 Jim Wright of Lindsay, Okla., saw to it that the swings were installed on schedule. As the final tie was made, a throng of wide-eyed children stood by, pondering their first sight of the weird gadget.

It was a simple swing, but the happiness it spawned made it seem as if an act of

Providence created it especially for the brown-skinned children.

One by one they came forward, at first apprehensively. Eyeing the gadget closely, then carefully touching as if it might bite, one loin-cloth-clad youngster climbed aboard after a little coaching from team member Specialist 4 Bill Gallagher of New York.

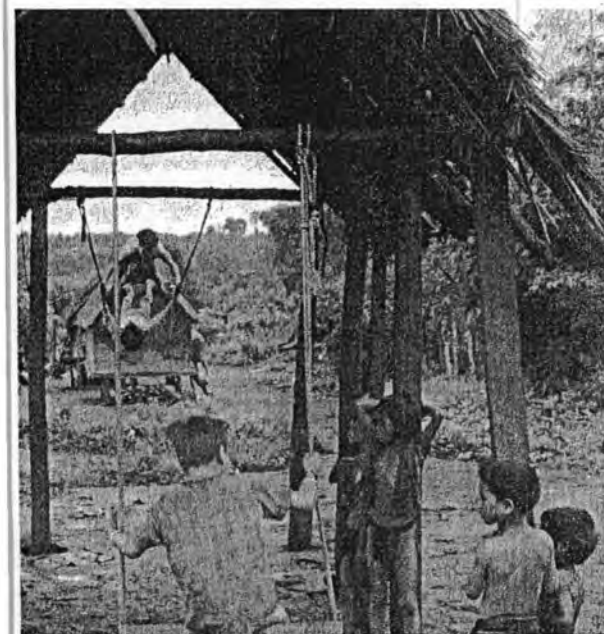
The village chief watched pensively, then cracked a wide smile.

He ambled up to the swing, and gently pushed the lad it cradled. His smiles turned to chuckles.

Mothers with babes wrapped on their backs scudded closer to join the gala. Older children watched from a distance.

Finally, a young lad pushed his friend as two other youngsters stood on a notched pole on either side and assisted in the oscillation.

The newness would not soon wear off, the team members were sure.



INDIAN CHILDREN SWING ALONG ON IVY-BUILT SWINGS.



FLOCK OF BIRDS—4th Division choppers float to the ground during a combat assault near Ban Me Thuot. (USA Photo by SP4 Peter Call)

Popcorn Smells Good

Ivyman Cooks Up A Storm

OASIS — As the afternoon sun disappeared behind a high, jungle-covered pinnacle west of here, the men of Bravo Company, 2nd Battalion (Mechanized), 8th Infantry, settled down to relax from the day's rigors.

First Platoon Ivyman, Specialist 4 Larry Neb of Ft. Lupton, Colo., had his own special recipe for such merriment.

That afternoon he received a package from his parents containing two boxes of popcorn, salt and cooking oil. Specialist Neb conjured his own butter, small cooking stove, improvised a pot and scrounged a

box to hold the finished product.

As the tasty aroma sifted through the night air, Specialist Neb soon had visitors. Privates First Class Harvey Enz of St. Peter, Minn., and Pete Weeks, of Napanoch, N.Y., smelled the nostalgic odor and fast scudded to the armored personnel carrier (APC) where their noses led them.

Specialist Neb shuffled the pot as the corn danced crazily within. Soon the popping stopped. By that time squad leader Sergeant Mike Rosset of Jacksonville, Fla., showed up. Following close behind were Privates First Class Robert Hurd of Dove, Del., and Don Cantacessi of Lake Elsinore, Calif. Next ambling up was for-

ward observer Private First Class Charles Neidel of Oklahoma City which his curiosity got the better of him.

Then Specialist Neb dumped the steaming white kernels into a newspaper-lined box, added a dab of butter, a sprinkle of salt, and began munching.

As his fellow Ivyman drooled enviously, Specialist Neb shoved his delight toward the men.

"Would you like some?" he queried.

He received no answer, only five or six hands groping furiously for a fistful of delicacy.

Specialist Neb did his best to keep the box partly filled through the evening. As the fine aroma sifted down to neighboring tracks, one Ivyman overheard Captain James Bilderbeck of Colorado Springs, Colo., complaining that he didn't have any popcorn.

Scout Dogs Have Lisa For Leader

OASIS—The men of the 40th Scout Dog Platoon sat discussing one of their missions late one night. Suddenly Lisa, the platoon mascot, came racing through the tent on her way to the bunker outside.

The 3rd Brigade soldiers immediately filed into the protective structure moments after the little dog. Seconds later enemy mortar fire echoed in the distance.

"Every since our detachment acquired Lisa from the villagers of Duc Pho a year ago, she's been our own personal radar system," said Specialist 4 John Zipf of Lake Ronkonkoma, N.Y. "She has warned us of mortar attacks many times in the past."

"She's also the self-proclaimed leader of the 28 German Shepherds in our platoon," added Sergeant Donald Dunn of Middlesboro, Ky. "Even though she only comes up to the other dogs' knees, Lisa thinks she's something special, because she's the only dog allowed to run free."

The huge scout dogs, whose average weight is 90 pounds, have mixed feelings about Lisa. Turk, the platoon's Bronze Star awardee, was Lisa's best friend before he went into semi-retirement. Anywhere the 105-pound Turk went, Lisa was sure to be close behind.

"Once when Turk was younger he was nearly killed by an explosion," said Specialist Zipf.

"To this day Turk still makes a mad dash for his hutch when somebody yell's 'fire in the hole.'"

"Lisa has spent so much time with Turk that she has also acquired the habit," he continued. "Now when we yell 'fire,' there's a race between the two dogs for Turk's hutch."

Some of the other German Shepherds aren't as enthused about Lisa's presence. Lisa knows enough to steer clear of Rip, who, at 57 pounds, is the smallest and most vicious of the scout dogs.

Lisa's activities have not been confined to the 3rd Brigade base camp. On several occa-

sions she has gone on patrols with handlers and their dogs. Specialist Zipf told of one instance in which she came in contact with the enemy:

"Each dog has his own special way of informing his handler that he's sensed something," he said. "Some dogs point, others yank on the leash, and mine growls and points in the direction he thinks the enemy is located."

"Lisa reacted in a way I'd never seen before, though. As soon as she thought she had spotted someone, Lisa tore off in the direction we had originally come from. I doubt that we have to worry about Lisa winning a Bronze Star," concluded Specialist Zipf.

4th Div. Sponsors Contest

CAMP ENARI — Ivy shutterbugs, military and civilian, have a chance to get their photos printed in the command newspaper, the "Ivy Leaf", and at the same time vie for top prize in the Division Photo Contest.

The contest is being sponsored jointly by the Information Office, Special Services and Division G-1.

Entries must be submitted in one of four categories: Combat Action, Combat Support, GI Life in the Division, and People and Culture of the Central Highlands.

The top entry will receive a 3-day in-country R&R and a \$25.00 Savings Bond. Second prize is a \$25.00 Savings Bond with Honorable Mention receiving a \$10.00 cash prize.

Entry date closes October 15. Photos will be judged by the Commanding General; Officer-in-Charge, "Ivy Leaf"; and Officer-in-Charge of the Signal Photo Facility.

Complete information on the contest is contained in the 4th Division Command Information Fast Sheet Number 9.

Slow Sweep Nets Holiday Bunkers

DAK TO — Recently Company A, 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry conducted a combat assault (CA) in the Dak To area at a suspected enemy stronghold.

The Golden Dragons found between 65 and 75 bunkers. The bunkers were believed to be about a month old, and last occupied two weeks prior to the CA.

"It was like an R&R center for the NVA," said Specialist 4 Walter Freden of International Falls, Minn.

Two of the bunkers were about 15 feet deep with running water; they proved to be mess halls. Cooking equipment was scattered throughout the bunkers.

Individual sleeping bunkers were found measuring eight feet wide and eight feet deep. Each bunker could accommodate four men.

Various types of equipment were found by the Golden Dragons, including numerous field packs, an enemy protective mask, mortar rounds, AK47 magazines and ammunition.

Khaki and green camouflage uniforms were also found, along with ponchos.

"The bunker complex was built under a thick jungle canopy," said Captain John Watson of Allegan, Mich.

After a thorough search the bunkers were destroyed.

Xmas Rush

CAMP ENARI — Too early to start thinking about Christmas, you say. Not according to the Department of Defense and the Post Office Department.

In order to ensure that packages arrive overseas in time for Christmas, Ivyman should inform their relatives that the following mailing dates are suggested by DOD and the Post Office Department.

Surface mail, Oct. 14 to Nov. 9; space available mail (SAM), Oct. 21 to Nov. 23; parcel air lift (PAL), Oct. 28 to Nov. 30; and air mail, Nov. 30 to Dec. 11.

Government officials also urge senders to use SAM and PAL services to take advantage of the lower shipping costs. Packages should be wrapped securely and addressed correctly, using the APO or FPO number.



GENERAL VISIT—General Albert F. Haines, CINCUSARPAC chats with Lieutenant Colonel Jamie Hendrix (with helmet) of Meter, Ga., commanding officer, 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry, while Major General Charles P. Stone (center), 4th Division commander, and Colonel Joseph Fix of Alexandria, Va. (right), look on. The scene took place during General Haines' recent visit to the division. (USA Photo by 124th Signal)

SP4 Obelit Yadgar Retells:

A Corporal's Trek To Freedom

Photos by SP5 Dennis Bailey

(LE HUNG, a 21-year-old former NVA corporal, walked in Firebase 19, held by the 4th Division's 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry on August 31, 1968, under the Chieu Hoi Program. The following is his story as compiled by the 4th Infantry Division Information Office).

CAMP ENARI—I have come here to liberate the south—but what is there to liberate? I have infiltrated to the south to kill Americans and Vietnamese.

Vietnamese!—but why?

A sudden chill ran through him. The jungle mud slushed beneath his frail body. A sprinkle of rain fell on his stern, yet pale face.

His comrades were withdrawing before the 4th Division forces.

Slowly the last of his comrades disappeared in the black night. An occasional crackle of a machinegun echoed through the thick jungle northwest of Dak To.

He lay in a clump of vegetation covering his wet and muddy figure, not far from the 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry firebase.

It is the 30th of August, he thought, resting his chin on his folded arms. I left North Vietnam on December 12, 1967. Since then I have had no news from home—from mother, father, brothers, and sister.

I have not heard from my girl. She is very beautiful.

A sudden rustling of weeds nearby pounded in his ears as if with a sledge hammer. His hand slowly slithered in the mud and rested on his AK47. His eyes pierced through the black night, searching.

Nothing. Just the wind.

Military service was my duty, he excused himself. Americans and South Vietnamese were the invaders of the country. I was told that many times. How could I not believe what I was told? I had never been in South Vietnam.

They came to the province and they spoke on loud speakers. They gathered everyone together several times during a month. I believed them.

Then the letter came; it came in July of 1967. The North Vietnamese Army was under general mobilization. I was willing to fight, to destroy the invaders. I believed.

The chill of the highland night filtered through him. He shuddered. Fear and terror filled his heart with erratic pounds.

We were infiltrating to the south to fight, for as long as it took. My battalion, about 500 men, was going to drive the Americans out of Vietnam and reunite the south with the north.

I believed them. I was wrong.

He sighed. All quiet—only the morbid rhythm of a night in war.

Will this night ever end, he thought? Will I live through it? Or will my comrades return to find me? I will die if they do—but why?

I wish it were tomorrow, the end of this nightmare. And tomorrow?—what shall happen tomorrow, and the day after that?

Home... when?

On the morning of August 31, 1968, LE HUNG, a 21-year-old former NVA corporal walked in the free world.



LE HUNG, LEFT, TELLS SP4 YADGAR, RIGHT, HIS STORY.



LE HUNG SHOPS IN PLEIKU...



...THEN TALKS TO VIETNESE.



"RETURNEE" GOES THROUGH CHOW LINE AT CAMP ENARI.

'Aloha Airlines' Holds High Score—300 Kills

By SP4 John Trimble

OASIS—A small helicopter swoops out of the clouds, spraying the ground below with machine gun fire. Three unsuspecting Viet Cong fall.

Aloha Airlines has done it again.

The 3rd Brigade's Aloha Airlines originally functioned solely as an observation outfit. It later flew combat missions in addition to observation flights.

To most people, the name Aloha Airlines is synonymous with an Hawaiian commercial airline. But to the men of the 3rd Brigade, it is a hard-fighting helicopter support section.

When the 3rd Brigade was stationed in Hawaii before coming to Vietnam, its aviation unit took the name of Aloha Airlines as its call sign.

The men in the unit used the name jokingly at first, but later it stuck. Permission was obtained from the actual airline to use the name, and ever since there have been two Aloha Airlines.

The unit originally boasted four OH23 heli-

copters, "bubbles" as the men who fly the small aircraft call them. Today it has three light observation Cayuse helicopters and one OH23.

Aloha has earned an outstanding reputation in Vietnam, having accumulated a confirmed record of 300 enemy killed. All kills were made by gunners sitting next to the pilot, holding M60 machine guns in their laps.

While flying observation missions in the early days, the small helicopters would often receive heavy fire from enemy ground positions. It was then pilots began taking gunners along for protection.

"We really didn't become a combat unit until we moved to the Duc Pho area," explained Chief Warrant Officer Charles Grigsby of Steubenville, Ohio. "In addition to flying observation missions, we began to fly in support of combat assaults.

"We flew in support of the 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry one day and got a count of 25 NVA killed," continued Mr. Grigsby. "We were flying about 10 feet from the ground. We flew so low the enemy was throwing Chicom grenades at the ship. It was hit 18 times by AK47 rounds."

Aloha's gunners came from many different

sections in the brigade.

Staff Sergeant John B. Howard of Louisville, Ky., a mess steward, flew 85 missions with Aloha—on his time off from cooking.

"I flew in the mornings when I was off duty," he said. "Many times the VC and NVA wouldn't suspect that we were carrying machine guns."

Aloha Airlines in Hawaii, having learned of the unit's record with the 4th Division invited all those who had served with Aloha in Vietnam to stop by their offices, if they were ever in Hawaii.

On his R&R Mr. Grigsby went to Hawaii and visited the airlines.

"They gave me the royal treatment," he said. "They took me on a tour of the islands and I had a great time."

The commercial airlines also supplies the helicopter unit with stickers saying "Aloha Airlines," and with T-shirts that have "Aloha Airlines" written across the front.

Aloha no longer maintains a combat status, but to many men who have served with the 3rd Brigade, the daring maneuvers and blazing machine guns of the bubble will never be forgotten.

Over 100...

(Continued From Page 1)

try, on a cordon and search mission about 24 miles north of Ban Me Thuot, discovered a 10-ton cache of rice, which was evacuated.

The ARVN 1st Battalion, 45th Regiment came in contact with an unknown-size enemy force near Ban Me Thuot. Airstrikes were called in on the enemy positions, believed to have been a regimental enemy command post, causing two secondary explosions. When the enemy retreated, the ARVN soldiers counted 50 NVA bodies.

In other action, the 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry's, Golden Dragons killed four NVA and captured four AK47s near their night perimeter seven miles west of Dak Seang.

A short distance to the north, Ivy's 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry, found two khaki-clad NVA soldiers, while another unit of the same battalion killed three NVA and captured two AK47s just to the south.

Later, the Ivy men reported killing two more NVA in a short firefight in the same general area.

Throughout the week numerous enemy sightings were reported around the city of Ban Me Thuot. The sightings were confirmed when soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 45th ARVN Regiment ran into a company-size enemy force near the city. The ARVN soldiers killed 11 of the enemy in the short contact.

During the week, the 4th Division welcomed Brigadier General Albin F. Irzyk of Salem, Mass., to its headquarters at Camp Enari. General Irzyk will be Assistant Division Commander.

New Butler

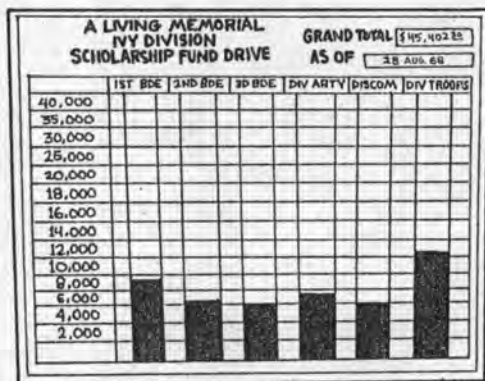
CAMP ENARI—With the new supply system set up by Chief Warrant Officer James Mattson of Killeen, Tex., soldiers of the 2nd Squadron, 1st Cavalry, can be outfitted with clothing and equipment almost on the spot.

"What we've done," says Mr. Mattson, "is housed a whole supply unit on the re-designed body of a five-ton vehicle."

Every week Specialist 4 Dick Gosey of Baylas, Ariz., a squadron supply clerk, stops at each bridge site on Highways 14 and 19, so the men can exchange old clothes for new.



COME OUT, COME OUT, WHOEVER YOU ARE—Ivyman inspects an enemy tunnel while on patrol in the Central Highlands. (USA Photo by 4th Div IO)



"Room at the Top ..."

Scholar Fund Drive

THE HEAT IS ON as the Ivy Division Scholarship Fund Drive thermometer indicates. As of August 28, a grand total of \$45,402.30 has been collected, only \$104,597.70 short of the Division's \$150,000 goal. Division Troops are sizzling, with over \$10,000 con-

tributed while 1st Brigade runs a hot second with an \$8.5 thousand donation.

In a cause worthy of your support, the Scholarship Fund will be utilized to provide a college education for children of each Ivyman who lost his life in the struggle for freedom.

Admin Eatery—Tops

CAMP ENARI—Ivy men of the 4th Administration Company seem to be eating "high off the hog."

"Considering we feed over 500 men per meal, and have only a 10-man staff, I can honestly say that we have the cleanest mess hall of its size and put out the best chow on Camp Enari," said Sergeant First Class Jack Dotson of Hometown, W. Va., company mess sergeant.

Besides serving more people than any other mess hall on base camp, the mess hall is also used as an EM and NCO Club.

"We are open from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. daily, offer a variety of snacks and beverages and show a movie five nights a week," he added.

The mess hall is presently under repairs. A grant of \$1,300 was allotted the mess hall for a new roof, curtains, chair covers, and a tile floor.

Mail The IVY LEAF Home

FROM: _____

TO: _____

POSTAGE

3rd Class 4 cents

Air Mail 10 cents

Fold paper three times and secure edges with staple or tape before mailing. Does not meet requirements for "free" mail.

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