

STEADFAST AND LOYAL FAMOUS FOURTH VIETNAM

Vol. 1, No. 1

May 18, 1969

VIP Successful In An Khe Area

By SP5 Mike Cobb

CAMP RADCLIFF—The 1st Brigade's Voluntary Informant Program (VIP) has again proven its worth, as volunteers from Vietnamese villages neighboring An Khe turned in a total of three 1,000 pound bombs, 179 105mm artillery rounds, 26 81mm mortar rounds, ten grenades and 31 M79 grenade rounds during a two and a half week period last month.

Major Presley Kendall of Carlisle, Ky., the brigade's new S-5 was accompanying Captain David Schnieder of Albany, N.Y., the 4th Battalion, 60th Artillery's S-5 on a tour of the 1st Brigade's new area of operation in An Khe.

As the two civic action workers and their assistants wheeled into a nearby Vietnamese village, a local villager approached them and said he knew the whereabouts of four 105mm artillery rounds.

Villagers Help

Lieutenants Andrew Le Peilbet of Placerville, Calif., and Kyle Herrick of Seattle, Wash., assistant S-5s for the brigade followed the villager to an area approximately 200 meters from the highway. Here they found the four rounds which were the kick-off to a day filled with information and munitions.

During the afternoon, 25 additional artillery rounds were turned in, while a lead to the location of a 1,000 pound bomb was also given.

The following morning, Master Sergeant Richard Finkenbinder of El Paso, Tex., and other members of the 4th Battalion, 60th Artillery's S-5 team were led to the location by the Vietnamese informant.

1,000 Pound Bombs Found

Approximately 48 kilometers east of An Khe, they found not one, but three, 1,000 pound bombs laying in a field. The bombs were blown in place by a 1st Brigade explosive ordnance disposal team.

Returning to the informant's village, the S-5 team was welcomed by other villagers who led them to 49 more 105mm rounds.

These incidents were repeated over and over as the VIP became more and more successful. Psychological operations, with G-5, were responsible for dropping 1,290,000 leaflets in the area advertising the VIP program. There were 4,000-5,000 posters placed in the area, and loudspeakers mounted in airplanes broadcasted the message of the VIP to the residents of the area.

Plasters Paid

A total of 260,400 plasters were paid to the Vietnamese and Bahnar Montagnards who aided the Famous Fighting Fourth Division troops.

"The VIP is really growing," noted Sergeant Finkenbinder, "at first the villagers were a bit reluctant, but now their response is excellent."



SENTINEL—Private First Class Donald Taylor of Bravo Company 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry, uses the jungle to help him blend into his guard position. PFC Taylor with his M79 remains alert for enemy movement outside the Red Warrior perimeter.

(USA Photo By SP4 Andrew Rakoczy)

PX Has Grand Reopening

CAMP ENARI—There were overcast skies in the Central Highlands April 28, but they did not dampen the gala atmosphere that prevailed over Camp Enari as the Main Exchange (PX) held its grand opening.

The PX was destroyed by fire last year, necessitating the construction of a new exchange. The wood and concrete structure was built by Company D, 20th Engineer Battalion.

500 Witness Opening

Approximately 500 Famous Fighting Fourth Infantry Division troops gathered in the shopping center parking lot for the opening ceremonies. Music was furnished by the Division band.

The Famous Fourth's commanding general, Major General Donn R. Pepke, with an assist from Private First Class Rank Russo, cut the white silk ribbon which symbolized the opening of the exchange. PFC Russo, assigned to Headquarters Company, works at the store.

Attending the ceremonies from the Vietnam Regional Exchange System were Lieutenant Colonel Stephen Elerby, commander of the Qui Nhon Exchange and Lieutenant Glenn Spencer, deputy commander for operation, VRE.

Provides Savings

The Camp Enari Exchange, one of many VRE stores throughout Vietnam, offers Division soldiers a variety of merchandise — from toothpicks to the latest stereo equipment — at excellent savings.

The new PX is double the size of the old store. There are 8,800 square feet in the building with 7,200 square feet devoted to the main floor. The remainder of the footage is utilized for the manager's office and stock room.

"The extra space allows us to have more display area than in the old building," commented 1st Lieutenant Howard Bulta, exchange officer. "This also makes stocking the store easier. Items will not run out so fast."

Several other conveniences have been added to the new store. For the first time in the Central Highlands the store is completely air conditioned. Six check-out counters have been installed to speed the flow of customers. In addition, each counter displaying critical items has check out capabilities.

Credit Cards Available

Also at the camera and stereo counters, division troops who do not have the MACV "credit cards" will be able to have them made at the time of purchase of a critical item.

Exchange concessions that were located in the old exchange building are not located in the new exchange except for Caribe Diamonds. Plans have been formulated to locate the various concessions, in the old generator shed. At present they are located.

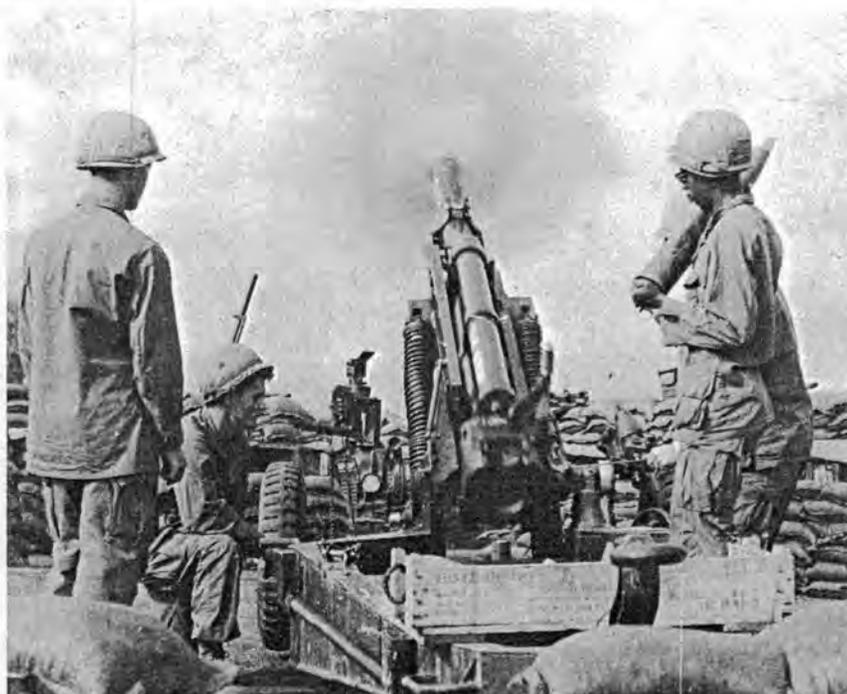
(Continued on Page 6)

A New Name For Fourth's Newspaper

CAMP ENARI—This week marks the beginning of a new era for this publication. A new name, "Steadfast and Loyal" will replace the familiar "Ivy Leaf" because it is felt a closer association will be formed between the newspaper and the tradition of the Division.

The Famous Fourth's motto, "Steadfast and Loyal," has epitomized the tradition of the Fourth Infantry Division since it was formed more than 50 years ago.

It is the intention of the Division's Information Office to provide, both to the men who began the tradition and those who currently remain "steadfast and loyal," a paper worthy of that ideal.



STANDING TALL—Erect as a coiled Cobra about to strike, this 102mm Howitzer strikes with the same speed and power. Redlegs from Bravo Company, 2nd Battalion, 9th Artillery, fire support for Famous Fighting Fourth Division soldiers from their Lancing Zone (LZ) English position.

(USA Photo By 1LT Jim Hughes)

From The Desk of

 the
 Commanding General 
 M G PEPKE

Security Obligation

ELEMENTS OF THE Fourth Infantry Division continually dispose of material or matter by unauthorized means, and thereby contribute a wealth of official and unofficial information to the enemy.

Constant spot checks of disposal and burn areas by counter-intelligence personnel reveal that many units are careless in this respect and are not adhering to pertinent security regulations and directives when disposing of waste. Vietnamese Nationals and possibly "Charlie Cong" have daily access to trash areas.

They sift through trash and are exposed to all sorts of unofficial and official unclassified waste, which, when properly analyzed, can be used to obtain order of battle and technical information concerning units, personnel and equipment.

A classic and somewhat shameful example occurred on March 19, 1969 at the Fourth Infantry Division sanitary fill when a Vietnamese laborer was apprehended by a security guard for having a U.S. classified document in his possession.

Where did he obtain it? Allegedly he found it in the trash—in that "unclassified and unofficial" waste that counterintelligence personnel spot check all the time!

Vietnamese employees are supposed to be thoroughly searched prior to departing the base camp area; they are supposed to be under constant surveillance while they are working on post. But, how thorough are these searches, and how well are indigenous employees kept under surveillance?

No one individual can detect every disclosure of information resulting from someone else's carelessness which might assist the enemy; however, he can properly safeguard all "official" information, whether classified or unclassified, for which he is personally responsible, by disposing of it in the proper manner.

Commanders can and must insure that security regulations are adhered to and that all personnel are complying with them. In summation, security is everyone's business. No matter how unimportant information seems to be to you, the enemy can use it.

CSM Taylor Speaks Out



As I Leave You

WHEN IN THE COURSE of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bonds which have connected them with another..." So wrote Thomas Jefferson in drafting the Declaration of Independence.

So it is with members of the military with a few exceptions. We are not bonded by political ties nor does it become necessary to completely dissolve the bonds. There are times, however, when some of us must leave after a specific tour of duty is completed.

We all look forward to the day we can return to our loved ones and friends. Yet, when the time comes for our departure, it is sometimes hard to leave old acquaintances—men with whom we have worked and fought side-by-side.

So, as I prepare to depart the Famous Fighting Fourth Infantry Division, I will take with me many memories. My tour with the "Steadfast and Loyal" Division has been enjoyable, under the circumstances.

During the past year the Division has successfully banded together to rout the enemy at every turn. In my travels to fire bases throughout the Division, it is evident that the individual soldier is our greatest asset. The soldiers of this Division have shown great courage and determination in repelling the enemy. Each of you are to be commended.

Not only has the soldier on the front shown great courage, but also those who work in support of the fighting man have devoted themselves in supporting the cause of freedom.

I express my appreciation to all officers and noncommissioned officers of the command for their fine cooperation and assistance. Even though I will be leaving the Division my heart will always be with you.

I wish that I could say goodbye to each member of the Division personally.

I sincerely wish the best to each of you and hope that you will have a safe return home.

I salute the men of the Famous Fighting Fourth Infantry Division, the Steadfast and Loyal Division.

Chaplain's Message

Do People Really See You?

By Chaplain (CPT) John Lynch

A few years ago, a bus full of excited and jubilant high school football players was returning home from a victory. The bus was winding its way through one of

the many Colorado mountain roads. Suddenly, the bus began to pick up speed, moving faster and faster down the mountain. The brakes had given out.

The bus driver, with all the skill he had, managed to avoid a truck moving up the mountain and a car moving in the other direction down the road. The occupants of the bus were tense, to say the least. They became sick, and disaster seemed imminent. Finally however, the driver, having reached a level stretch of road managed to bring the bus to a halt.

As the pale students were exiting the bus, one boy bent down and picked a paperback book from under the driver's seat. The book shrieked of SEX. The driver looked at the boy and asked him, "Is that your book?" The boy, with eyes lowered, said, "Yes." The driver asked, "Then what's it doing under my seat?" The boy answered, "I guess I thought it was the end and I didn't want them to find it on me."

The poor boy was concerned about what others would think. He didn't want them to find the dirty book in his dead hands. He was anxious about his reputation. He thought it more important to seem decent in the eyes of men, than to be such in the eyes of God.

And so it is with many of us. We tend to put the emphasis on reputation rather than character. Reputation is what people think we are. Character is what God knows we are. Reputation

can be likened to wallpaper which can cover the weakest and dirtiest of walls making them seem to be strong and beautiful. Character however is the wall. Strip the paper off and all that is wrong and defective appears.

In parts of Europe cloth is measured in meters. In the United States it is measured by the yard. The difference between the two is very small. The difference between reputation and character is the difference between happiness and disaster.

Some day each and everyone of us will have to stand stripped of the wallpaper, reputation. There we will stand, known just as we are.

We will be likened to tourists passing through the customs inspector on some border. All the false bottoms of our suitcases opened and we will stand accused.

The border that we all must pass is eternity. The inspector will be God himself. The consequences of self-deceit will be great.

In one of his plays, Shakespeare put into the mouth of Polonius some very important words and advice to the young, "... See thy character, give thy thoughts no tongue... And this above all, to thine own self be true for it must follow as the night the day, thou canst't be false to any man."

Be true to yourself. Strive after that which you wish others to think you are. Be men of principle and character. Any other achievement in life will corrupt in the grave.

'Yard Chief Says No To NVA Troops

CAMP RADCLIFF — Through the cooperation of a Montagnard chief, elements of the 1st Brigade uncovered and destroyed a complicated bunker complex, and a high-speed enemy infiltration route.

According to the chief, approximately 40 to 50 North Vietnamese Army regulars came into his village for three consecutive evenings, each time taking members of the village into the jungle and attempting to indoctrinate them with propaganda.

On the third and final night of their escapades, the enemy soldiers learned the chief was sympathetic to the allied cause. This prompted them to demonstrate their power and hurl a CHICOM grenade into his hut.

However, the grenade did not explode, and to even further prove his allegiance to the allies, the chief openly carried the grenade to military police guarding the brigade's perimeter.

An Aero-Rifle Platoon from Delta Troop, 2nd Squadron, 1st Cavalry was taken to the suspected NVA hide-out by the chief. Here, they uncovered an NVA tunnel and bunker complex, several enemy storage huts and the infiltration route.

Employing artillery and air power, the enemy hide-away was destroyed.

The chief was rewarded with Vietnamese plasters for his services under the 1st Brigade's Voluntary Informant Program (VIP).

Top Recondo Grad Named

CAMP RADCLIFF — Staff Sergeant Ronnie A. Ferguson, Jamaica, N.Y., a member of the 1st Brigade Rangers, was named Honor Graduate of his Fourth Division Recondo School class.

The honor also carries promotion to the next highest rank. In Sergeant Ferguson's case, it meant E6 stripes. Colonel Hale H. Knight, 1st Brigade commander, was on hand to pin the stripes on.

The two week Recondo training program includes instruction in patrolling, map reading, artillery adjustment and first aid.

"I've received training in most of the subjects before," commented Sergeant Ferguson, "but this course was by far the best."

The top five graduates in each class also attend a three week MACV Recondo School in Nha Trang.

Sergeant Ferguson has been with the 1st Brigade Rangers for the past five months.

"I prefer operating with the Ranger method," stated Sergeant Ferguson. "In order to defeat the enemy you have to first find him, and the Rangers know how to find him."

Calling All Alphas

This week we thought we'd follow up on last week's "Combat Cooking" column with some more of the same. Send your suggestions and helpful hints to the Steadfast and Loyal, and share your experience with the troops of the Famous Fighting Fourth.

Remember, we need your help to continue to make this feature a success.

1. There's always a lot of discussion about how to make a good cup of coffee from the ingredients in your accessory pack of your C-rations. We've found that 2 coffees, 2 creams and 2 sugars in half a canteen cup of water to be the ideal combination. What do you use?
2. If you can get your hands on some rice, here's how to fix yourself some field expedient rice pudding: Put the rice in a plastic PRC-25 battery bag. Saturate the rice with water and add 2 creams and 2 sugars from your accessory pack. Mix by squeezing the bag and then let the mixture stand for about ten minutes. A hard core favorite. Delicious.
3. You can fix a field expedient chicken stew with rice, boned chicken, and salt in your canteen cup. Heat the rice first and drain the excess water. Then stir in the chicken in small pieces as you heat over a low flame to avoid burning. Salt to your taste.
4. Perhaps with all this cooking your canteen cup has become charred and discolored. But who has soap pads in the field to scour their cookware with? A small piece of cloth and an abrasive mixture of salt and a little water will do the trick. For the tough jobs, use sand and water.

That's about it for another week. Let's hear your suggestions, platoon sergeants. Spread the good word!



(Circulation 8,000)

STEADFAST AND LOYAL, an authorized weekly publication, is published by the INFORMATION OFFICE, 4th Admin Co., 4th Infantry Division, APO San Francisco 96262, for 4th Division forces and is printed in Tokyo by Pacific Stars and Stripes.

The opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Department of Army. Mailing address: STEADFAST AND LOYAL, INFORMATION OFFICE, 4th Admin Co., 4th Infantry Division, APO U.S. Forces 96262. Telephone: Camp Enari 2318.

Commanding General Major General Donn Royce Pepke
 Information Officer Major George M. Maxwell Jr.
STAFF

Officer-in-Charge 2LT Brian P. Levy
 Editor SP5 L. Joe Perdue
 News Editor SGT David C. Drew
 Editorial Assistant SP4 Michael O. Jones

Pleiku Citizens Look To Future

By SP4 David C. Drew

EDITOR'S NOTE: Famous Fighting Fourth Division soldiers enjoy spending time, in their off duty hours, in Pleiku City shopping in the unique little stores, exchanging ideas with the people, tasting Far Eastern foods and participating in a culture strange to them before but a little more familiar with each visit. For a better understanding and appreciation of the Vietnamese and how the 4th Division has influenced these people and the Central Highlands this series of articles will report and analyze various activities and institutions in the area. Through these articles perhaps it will be more evident that certain characteristics pervade any individual's makeup and that people are basically the same all over the world.

PLEIKU—Ravaged by many years of war and struggle the Vietnamese people haven't given up their personal fight for existence. They have fought for the overt conditions of freedom while in the same breath have continued a fight for personal dignity. Fighting for improvement against unbelievable odds can be discouraging, yet these people have continued to wage an energetic war for themselves, their country and their future.

In a country predominately Buddhist in background,

a good-sized Catholic minority has become an active voice in this community.

Pleiku City contains within its boundaries and closely surrounding areas approximately 80,000 people, both Montagnards and Vietnamese. Of these, more than 20,000 are of the Catholic faith.

The diocese is supervised by 13 priests, a number of sisters and a small group of laymen who serve as teachers for the schools. These elementary schools follow a lesson plan set up by the Vietnamese government and supplemented with basic teachings of the Catholic faith.

Currently one of the biggest projects Catholics face is the construction of a new cathedral. An ultra modern structure, the new Nha Tho Quan Do Cathedral will be completed in 1970. Twenty-five hundred people will be able to worship together in the church. The building will also offer a conference room for the community. A new school will be connected to the church that will easily accommodate the 570 children now attending classes under the guidance of the church. The modern architectural design will also include a bell tower and clock which will make the structure one of the largest in the city.

The project, started on June 22, 1968, has been delayed several times because of a shortage of money and supplies. Most of the money has been donated by the

Vietnamese people.

In a self-help project of tremendous scope the people contribute, in addition to their financial support, their time to the actual construction of the structure. Approximately 50 people are now working on the cathedral most of whom have little architectural ability, but certainly lack nothing in desire and energy.

The U.S. military has continued to provide support to projects in the community and has contributed, in addition to time advice, 1,000 bags of cement.

Most of the initiative for the building comes from two men. Both are serving their people by acting in a dual role as priests to their people and chaplains to the soldiers of the Vietnamese Army. Their determination has been the driving force in the accomplishment of this task.

Chaplain (LTC) Le Thanh Anh and Chaplain (CPT) Phan Huv Hau are enthusiastic about the completion of the Catholic cathedral. Their efforts have made the cathedral, from the modern design to the tinted glass windows, a reality. When talking to these men one can see the finished structure reflected in their eyes.

Although bare wire now holds the supporting skeletal structure and the signs of war and struggle can easily be seen, the enthusiasm, spirit and faith of these two men and their people are the assurance that the job will be carried to its completion.



OASIS—What began as a quiet evening for a reconnaissance patrol from the Famous Fighting Fourth Division's 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry, ended with three NVA killed in action.

The patrol had set up in its night location when they heard a radio playing and saw eight NVA regulars laughing and joking while walking down a trail. One of the enemy had a radio held up to his ear. It was loud enough that the patrol could hear the Armed Forces Vietnam Radio Network.

As the NVA advanced toward their position, the patrol detonated Claymore mines and raked them with M16 fire. The NVA scattered but two bodies were found immediately, and, in a later sweep of the area, one more body was discovered.

One day later, another patrol from the squadron had contact with three to seven Viet Cong. They also used Claymores and small arms. This action netted three VC bodies and three SKS rifles.

Mario Has Faith In Self, People, GVN

By 1LT Jim Hughes

OASIS — Interpreting is a two way street. A man who acts as an interpreter must keep communications flowing in two directions at once. He must have the ability to create and foster understandings between people of nearly opposite ways to life.

Mario, an interpreter for the Famous Fighting Fourth Division's 3rd Brigade, is such a man. He began his work nearly five years ago with the then 3rd Brigade Task Force. Since that time he has been working continuously with the Brigade's S-5 section.

A native of Duc Co, Mario now lives in the 3rd Brigade village consolidation project. When not interpreting for the S-5 team, Mario is moving from project to project in the village supervising and offering assistance at each stop.

Barbed wire is being strung for the perimeter. Wells are being dug at central locations. New water points are being constructed. Wood from the old village sites must be stockpiled for a future school and a dispensary.

All, however, does not go as planned. Traditions and old ways of doing things tend to hinder progress.

Mario must explain to the Montagnard tribesmen that the firewood stored under their still-legged homes presents a health hazard. Rats infest the wood piles and carry the deadly bubonic plague into the household. Animal pens also breed diseases and must be removed from the convenient positions near the homes.

These are the immediate problems Mario must deal with daily. Because he too is a Montagnard and because he has chosen to live in the village the people there trust him. They tell him their needs and seek the help of the Americans and the Vietnamese through his friendship.

Before the consolidation Mario had to explain to his Montagnard tribesmen the necessity for the consolidation. He had to explain to the people who had never been to school that through consolidation they could build a school and educate their children.

He had to explain that the diseases attributed to evil spirits were curable if they built a dispensary. He had to explain that the terrorism and taxes of the Viet Cong could be escaped only through the security of the consolidated village.

Mario has seen the words of the Americans translated into actions. He has seen and acquired a faith in a better way of life. As an interpreter he has had to confront the traditions, superstitions and fears of his own people daily with his faith in the intentions of the Vietnamese Government and the US forces in their desire to improve the way of life for the Montagnard and to protect his freedom.

A man who was merely a translator could not do the job. Much is lost in a translation. Besides, a better way of life can not be translated. Nor can traditions, fears and superstitions.

Such is the job of an interpreter, a man like Mario. His own faith and understanding are the catalysts that will create understandings in his people that will result in a better way of life.

For Mario the war has lasted for nearly a lifetime. His primary ambition is for peace, a peace in which the Montagnard can continue to build a place in a new and revitalized society.

Arty's Implementation

Modern Warfare Technology

By SP4 John Rowe

OASIS — The artillery round slammed into its target. The demolished NVA bunker meant the enemy would be deprived of another fighting position in the mountainous Central Highlands.

As the artillery batteries prepare themselves for another firing mission, the METRO station at the Oasis, home of the 3rd Brigade, continues to perform its behind-the-scenes role.

Assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, Division Artillery, the 16-man meteorological data detachment compiles ballistic data which helps to improve the accuracy of every artillery round fired in the Division's area of operations.

The daily reports which METRO makes available to all artillery batteries often dictate the success of both infantry and artillery missions. Although many of the soldiers affected by the reports have no knowledge of them.

A hydrogen filled balloon, equipped with a transmitter, is sent skyward six times daily from the METRO station as the meteorological staff seeks to de-

termine wind speed directions, temperature, density and air pressure.

The findings are then compiled into reports. "We aren't weathermen. We strictly compile the data and try to be as accurate as possible," said Chief Warrant Officer Bernard H. Belvin of Lawton, Okla., officer in charge of the detachment.

The METRO soldiers, operating in a 50-mile radius from their station, work hand and hand with the artillery units from both the Fourth Division and I Field Forces.

Naturally, the METRO staff is satisfied when their efforts are noticed. Specialist 5 Bob Henrichson of Lincoln, Neb., relates a recent experience in which a captain, who had utilized artillery support several days earlier in maneuvering his infantry company against an enemy force, walked into the METRO station.

After identifying himself, the captain asked the weathergatherers if they had miscalculated when they aided the supporting artillery fire.

While the meteorological de-

tachment's members stared at each other in disbelief, the captain added: "The first round was three meters off target!"

Dummy!

CAMP RADCLIFF — Captain Angelo Severino, Bravo Company, 2nd Battalion, 8th Infantry, was fortunate that one Viet Cong (VC) had not received more training with US-made hand grenades.

The Bravo Company commander had been checking for signs of enemy activity along a dry stream bed when an enemy soldier popped out of a hole and tossed a grenade in his direction.

Captain Severino hit the ground and waited for the shattering blast; it never came. After several minutes, he slowly got to his feet and moved to check the dead VC; then the grenade.

Apparently in the excitement, the enemy soldier failed to pull the pin!





Carson Waterman

Armed Forces Day—1969

From Concord Bridge To War Zone D, The American Man-At-Arms Has Served His Country With Discipline, Skill And Devotion.

Thousands Of Young Men And Women Serve Their Nation Today In Uniform, Performing Countless Acts Of Kindness Where The Opportunity Affords Itself, Pursuing The Grim Work Of Battle Where Circumstances Compel It. Each Does Honor To Himself And To His Country.

I Invite Every American To Join With Me In Honoring Our Servicemen, Service Women And Their Families During ARMED FORCES WEEK This Year. Our Modest Efforts Can Never Do Credit To The Sacrifices They Have Made Or The Service They Have Rendered, But We Can, Each In Our Own Way, Express Our Appreciation Of Their Selfless And Flawless Service To The Nation.

RICHARD M. NIXON

Firefighters Perform Essential Functions

By SP4 John Rowe

OASIS — Danger was imminent as a tank, loaded with 90mm rounds, was ablaze on a hillside adjacent to Highway 19.

A disaster of major proportions was averted, however, through the quick and efficient actions of the Oasis fire department.

The firefighters and engineers of Delta Company, 4th Engineer Battalion, made a smooth working team. After the blaze was extinguished by the firemen, the engineers eliminated the possibility of the rounds exploding due to the heat and blew the 90mm rounds that had been stored in the tank.

Firefighting has become more than just a part-time job for the men of the 366th Aviation Support Detachment.

Attached to the Famous Fighting Fourth Division's 3rd Brigade at the Oasis, the 366th's 17-man fire department has battled several fires in the 3rd Brigade's area of operations since the beginning of the year.

The 366th, commanded by Major Donald H. Shahan, has become a versatile unit since moving to the Brigade three months ago from the 1st Brigade, then located at Dak To.

Firefighting, despite the time it has consumed in recent weeks, isn't the 366th's primary mission. The Aviation Support Detachment has the responsibility of monitoring the incoming and outgoing air traffic at the Oasis.

"Actually we are air traffic controllers first, and firemen second," said Specialist 5 Edward Barlow of Constance, Ky.

Specialist Barlow explained that the firefighters have been quite busy lately. The only two men assigned to the 366th for the sole purpose of firefighting are Specialists 4 Anthony Ciringione of Brooklyn, N.Y., and John P. Habersham of Valdosta, Ga.

But the other 15 men of the detachment are ready to go at a moment's notice.

The team's equipment includes a two and a half ton truck, equipped with a siren, and the capacity to hold 400 gallons of water. The firefighters

also have individual asbestos suits.

The firemen of the 366th have only one problem. Specialist Ciringione is completing his Vietnam tour within the next month, so the firefighters will be short a man.

SGT Beck Top Grad

CAMP ENARI — If the number one positions always belong to the most ambitious and capable competitors — then Staff Sergeant Michael F. Beck is number one.

In a graduation ceremony at the Ranger training school the 20-year-old Anchorage, Alaska, native was cited for the initiative he displayed during the two weeks of intensive training.

The Famous Fighting Fourth Division soldier represented the 3rd Brigade during the 110 classroom hours that qualified him as a Ranger team leader. Sergeant Beck earned an impressive 380 out of a possible 400 points in subjects that ranged from rappelling and artillery adjustment to military intelligence and map reading.

Sergeant Beck was also promoted from sergeant to staff sergeant.

"The commanding general feels that anyone who has exerted the effort it takes to be the honor graduate of this particular school deserves to be promoted," stated Captain Robert C. Levy of Westmont, N.J., the 4th Training Detachment commandant. "It is an extremely demanding two weeks. Many who start the course never finish, and those who do are among the best the Army has."



DISCUSSION AND GUIDANCE—Famous Fighting Fourth Division soldiers stationed at Fire-base Blackhawk receive spiritual guidance from Chaplain (CPT) Elvernice Davis. The Fourth's chaplains provide religious services and instruction for soldiers stationed in the Division's area of operation. (US Photo By SP4 John S. Ryan)

Three Enemy Killed

FAC Directs Successful Strike

By SGT Peter Call
HIGHLANDER HEIGHTS —

In two days of air action, forward Air Controllers (FAC) attached to the Fourth Infantry Division's 2nd Brigade directed air strikes against enemy fortifications west of Kontum City which resulted in secondary explosions, huts and bunkers destroyed, and netted three enemy kills.

During the first day, Major LeRoi H. Butler of Lansing, Mich., and Captain Thomas Landron of Puerto Rico took turns directing F100 Super-sabres to targets on a small hill reported by a platoon of mobile strike force soldiers operating with the 2nd Brigade near the location.

"Our people on the ground reported enemy movement on the hill," Captain Landron explained. "I let my fighters know the exact targets by firing a smoke rocket, they put their bombs right on top of them, and we confirmed seven huts and 15 heavy bunkers destroyed plus several secondary explosions which sent smoke 500 feet in the air."

Later, the body of a Communist soldier was found in one of the bunkers.

On the following day, Major Butler monitored a call from a helicopter that received ground

fire while extracting a Highlander Ranger team.

"The helicopter had just left the scene when I arrived," the Highlander FAC said, "and I saw about 10 individuals running into a bunker."

Weaving his twin engine spotter plane to avoid ground fire, the major marked the targets with smoke rockets for his fighters.

"The first jet put his bomb right in the door of that bunker," the Air Force Major added.

A mobile strike force found two enemy dead in shallow graves following the strikes.

Panthers Rip NVA, Retaliate For Attack

HIGHLANDER HEIGHTS — A quickly executed relief mission by elements of the 2nd Bat-

alion (Mechanized), 8th Infantry helped repel an enemy attack on a Famous Fighting Fourth Division mine-sweeping team near Polei Kleng.

PX Opens

(Continued From Page 1)
cated near the bulk sales section of the exchange.

Prior to the new store being built, the Camp Enari Exchange was the largest in sales of seven stores in the Qui Nhon area.

"With the increase in size, we hope to double our sales," Lieutenant Bullita said.

And if the opening day was any indication the store will do just that. Within minutes after the ribbon cutting ceremony, the store looked like a big downtown department store during the rush hours. Approximately \$5,000 worth of merchandise was sold during the first four hours of operation. The majority of the merchandise were cameras, watches and stereo equipment.

Exchange hours did not change. The hours of operation are: Monday, 9 to 4:45 and 6:30 to 8 p.m.; Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 9 to 4:45; Saturday 9 to 3 and Sunday from noon until 4:45.

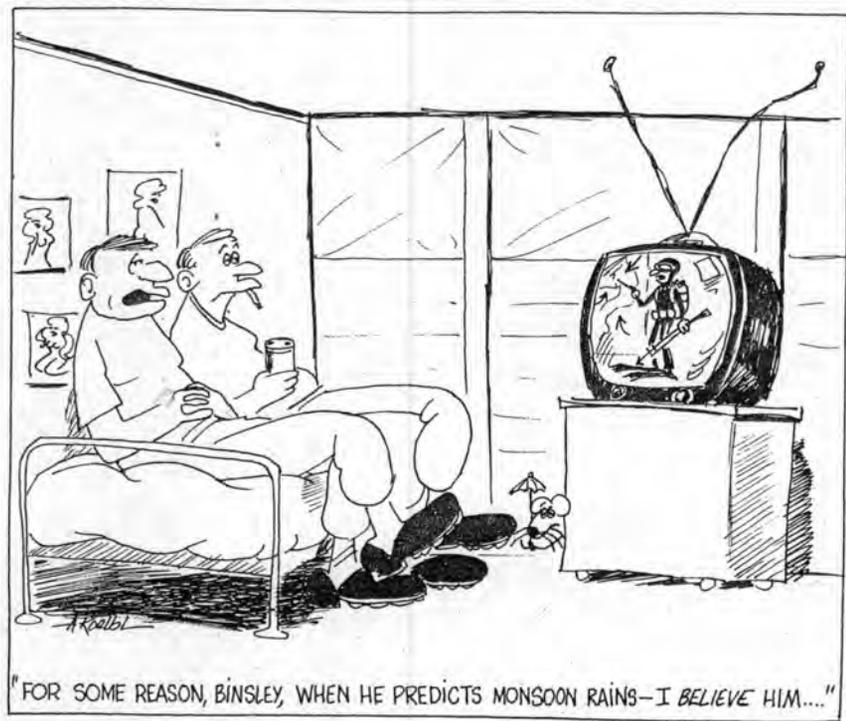
The enemy detained the mine clearing specialists by holding them under fire. Avoiding unnecessary risk and unable to break contact safely the pinned-down team called for aid.

Constantly ready and easily mobilized, the 2nd Platoon, Alpha Company, rolled into action and quickly reached the point of contact.

First Lieutenant Albert Mansky of Morristown, N.J., the platoon leader, deployed his Armored Personnel Carriers (APCs) into a position that enabled the Panthers to utilize their machinery in support of the friendly unit.

Specialist 5 Frank McDannel of Hanover, Pa., the 1st Squad leader, said his men passed through enemy fire before reaching the contact area.

Moments later, the APCs exploded with long bursts from their machine guns and automatic weapons which offensively raked the suspected enemy positions, killing four NVA, and silencing all other hostile fire.



"FOR SOME REASON, BINSLEY, WHEN HE PREDICTS MONSOON RAINS—I BELIEVE HIM...."

Allies Welcome Enemy Soldier



"At First I Thought He Was A Decoy For A Larger Element And That He Was Trying To Lure Us Into An Ambush."

By SP4 John Rowe

OASIS — Tired and thirsty, the North Vietnamese Army soldier clutched the Chieu Hoi leaflet in his hands as he sought to find an Allied unit.

Almost simultaneously, Bravo Company of the 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry was moving into a night location in an area 57 miles south of Pleiku.

As the Famous Fighting Fourth Division company was chopping down some trees to better fortify its position, the enemy soldier, clad in green fatigues and carrying an AK47 rifle and rucksack, approached Bravo Company's perimeter.

For Bravo Company commander 1st Lieutenant William Burdick of East Lyme, Conn., the situation was tense. He would have to decide whether the enemy soldier, now waving a branch, was sincere or not.

Lieutenant Burdick then took the precautionary measure of placing his men in firing positions.

"At first I thought he was a decoy for a larger element and that he was trying to lure us into an ambush."

However, Lieutenant Burdick's suspicions were relieved as the enemy soldier dropped his rifle and continued walking toward the position. The Cacti Blue commander then motioned for the NVA to continue inside the perimeter.

DISENCHANTED AND OPPRESSED by the war effort, the NVA soldier's face reflected the hardships of futile combat.

"I think he was just tired of the war and the fighting," said Staff Sergeant Ayala Eleizer of New Brunswick, N.J.

Once inside the perimeter, the NVA soldier was given a canteen of water and a cigarette by the 3rd Brigade unit.

His expression began to change as he sipped the water and reread the Chieu Hoi leaflet. His uneasiness wore off and he was confident that he had made the right decision.

After days of wandering through the rugged terrain of the Central Highlands, the NVA soldier had satisfied his desire to Chieu Hoi to the Government of South Vietnam.



His Expression Began To Change As He Sipped The Water And Reread The Chieu Hoi Leaflet.



The NVA Soldier's Face Reflected The Hardships Of Futile Combat.

**Photography By
SP4 John Ryan**

Service Club Marks End Of First Year

CAMP ENARI—More than 300 Fourth Division soldiers participated in the 1st Anniversary celebration of the Dragon Mountain Service Club last month. Guest speaker at the event was Brigadier General Albin F. Irzyk, assistant division commander.

Addressing the troops — a majority of them combat veterans — General Irzyk mentioned that the service club is a prime example of community spirit at Camp Enari.

"During my eight months with the Fourth Division I have seen the Dragon Mountain Service Club evolve as the mecca — the center, the home-away-from-home — for soldiers of the Division," said General Irzyk. "It affords a homey gathering place for the combat soldiers, a place where they can relax while in the rear area."

The general went on to attrib-

ute the success of the club's operations to the imagination and talents of the attractive Service Club girls, the troop response to their efforts, and the command support and interest in the varied activities of the club.

According to Jeannine Hebert, club director, the mission of the service club workers is to program entertainment on a daily basis which will appeal to all servicemen.

"In this way," explained Miss Hebert of Eugene, Ore., "we are able to project a warm and friendly atmosphere to the 2,200 men who visit monthly."

Program Director Sally Joergler of San Jose, Calif., is responsible for preparing the monthly entertainment schedules, which include billiard tournaments, birthday parties, special exhibits and USO shows.

"We spent a lot of time preparing this anniversary," said the pretty Miss Joergler, "and from the happy looks on the faces of the men, the celebration is a real success."

Following General Irzyk's remarks, the soldiers were treated to a buffet luncheon prepared by Miss Hebert and Miss Joergler. Chaplain (LTC) Vaughm Learning offered the benediction, and the Fourth Division Band, directed by CW2 Arthur V. Durham of San Antonio, Texas, provided musical interludes throughout the afternoon.

Help Given By Regulars

CAMP ENARI — As the people of Kon Morey Kotu slowly gathered around the jeep, Specialist 4 Walt Bendick of Pittsburgh, Pa., began to unpack his medical supplies.

Specialist 4 Bendick is a member of the 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry MEDCAP team. MEDCAP is a program through which the United States Army provides medical supplies to the people of Vietnam.

While Specialist Bendick and Private First Class Jim Mettler of Syracuse, N.Y. treated the townspeople, 1st Lieutenant Bill Blasingame of North Little Rock, Ark., explained that the most common ailments are jungle rot, local infectious sores, and stomach trouble.

The team carries enough supplies to provide immediate treatment for these and several of the less common ailments.

One small boy was found to have a 102 degree temperature but the mother refused to allow him to be taken to the hospital. Because local beliefs sometimes interfere with the effectiveness of their work, the team can often only provide antibiotics and suggest bed rest.

When all those that needed treatment had received it, the team distributed soap to the women of the village and candy to the children.



A Soviet-manufactured 1 1/2 ton truck was discovered by a Light Observation Helicopter (LOH) flying an Air Reconnaissance mission for the Famous Fighting Fourth Division's Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry, 25 miles northwest of Kontum City. The truck was taken back to the Division's 2nd Brigade Headquarters. (USA Photo By SGT Peter Call)

Soldiers Fight War Of Words

By SGT Peter Call
HIGHLANDER HEIGHTS —

The three soldiers who approached the surrounded enemy bunkers were ready to do some fast talking but, just in case it fell on deaf ears, they carried their M16s at the ready.

Staff Sergeant Darrell Rhodes, slipped the heavy battery and speakers off his back and joined it to an amplifier carried by Specialist 4 Martin Birek.

Lee Thai, the third member of the Bravo Company Psychological Operations (PSYOPS) Battalion team picked up the mike and spoke slowly in North Vietnamese. . . .

"You are surrounded and will surely be killed if you don't give up. We will treat you fairly and with honor if you surrender. If you are hurt, we will give you medical attention."

This message and others like

it are spoken over loudspeakers or dropped by plane in leaflet form every day by PSYOPS soldiers serving with the Famous Fighting Fourth Division's 2nd Brigade.

"We're after one thing," said Sergeant Rhodes, a native of Decatur, Ill., "and that's Chieu Hoi."

"We try to talk the enemy out of fighting with the hope that these former NVA can provide information that will save lives."

A recent example of this life-saving information occurred near Highway 14, a heavily traveled route between Kontum and Dak To.

"We had just dropped leaflets near the road asking the people to give us information concerning enemy mines," said Specialist Birek, a native of Pittsburgh.

"The next day, an armored personnel carrier leading a convoy was stopped by a young girl who said she saw a mine being planted."

"The driver dug up a large explosive charge that would have hit the lead track if it had gone another 200 feet."

The work of PSYOPS teams is sometimes varied while working the Highlands.

"We might travel with a line unit in an area where the enemy has taken heavy losses or been pounded with artillery and air strikes," said Sergeant Rhodes.

"Our chances for a Chieu Hoi are much better because the enemy morale is usually very low in these cases."

"We also might accompany a medical team into the remote villages and pass out leaflets and posters asking them to expose Viet Cong in the hamlet."

Sergeant Rhodes turned back to the bunkers and motioned Lee to stop talking.

The Highlanders moved down and discovered the bunkers empty, except for some still warm food which indicated recent use.

"Maybe the next bunker," the PSYOPS team leader said as he slipped the speaker on his pack.

"If we just get one that tells us something it's worth all the disappointments."

At Montagnard Village

CA Team Promotes Progress

By SP4 Dennis E. Pruitt
CAMP RADCLIFF — To 1st Lieutenant Bruce A. Grandlund and his 6th Battalion, 29th Artillery Civil Affairs team, a good working relationship with the people of South Vietnam is by far a more important aspect of the war than winning firefights and placing steel on the target.

Approximately seven months ago, after overcoming numerous obstacles, Lieutenant Grandlund and his team undertook the task

of consolidating four Montagnard villages in the Pleiku area.

Each hut was moved by truck over the rough Central Highlands terrain to the consolidation site. By the end of January, all of the villages had been reconstructed, a perimeter laid, bunkers built, and members of the villages were completing Self Defense training.

Because of the 6th Battalion, 29th Artillery Civil Affairs team, the villagers now live together

peacefully, raising their crops and guarding a common perimeter against Viet Cong (VC) and NVA threats.

"Our main purpose here," explained Sergeant Larry Cottey of Los Angeles, "is making the Montagnards believe in the South Vietnamese government. For their benefit, we want them to rely more on the government than they have previously."

Under the supervision of Lieutenant Grandlund and his team, a schoolhouse is being constructed. The South Vietnamese Government will provide the teacher and pay his salary. The government is also granting the village one million plasters (approximately 10,000 dollars) toward general improvement.

While the school is being built, classes are held inside a tent, with one of the villagers teaching. A lack of parental interest has caused an attendance problem, but team members agree that this problem is slowly, but surely, improving.

Besides the school project, the team has completed the construction of a hospital and provided a nurse. A water point has been built and a children's playground is partially completed.

The team has also introduced the Montagnards to a special kind of rice that, when harvested, will yield eight to ten times the amount of an ordinary harvest.

The work is far from complete at Plei Le Anh but the 6th Battalion, 29th Artillery team is undaunted.



A 4th Aviation chopper brings supplies to a platoon west of Pleiku. (USA Photo By SP5 Mike Cobb)