



# IVY LEAF

## FAMOUS FOURTH

VOL. I, No. 19

PLEIKU, VIETNAM

MARCH 17, 1967



### A CAREFUL WATCH

Waiting anxiously, two men from Company C, 2nd Battalion (Mechanized), 22nd Infantry, 4th Division, look across the river that separates Vietnam from Cambodia during a recent operation. (USA Photo by Sp4 Gary M. Silva)

FROM PREMIER KY

## Ivy Men Receive Vietnamese Awards

**Plei Djereng**— Twenty-five members of the 4th Infantry Division were decorated by Premier Nguyen Cao Ky of the Republic of Vietnam at the 2nd Brigade forward base camp last week.

Premier Ky, accompanied by his wife and other high ranking Vietnamese military leaders, was flown from II Corps headquarters in Pleiku to the 2nd Brigade area by helicopter. After the awards ceremony the premier, and party visited the fire support base of the 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry, and then returned to Pleiku.

Major General William R. Peers, 4th Division commander, received the National Order, 5th Class, Gallantry Cross with Palm and Lieutenant Colonel John C. Allyn, division G-5, was presented the Distinguished Service Cross, 1st Class (Civilian).

Also receiving Gallantry Crosses with Palm were Lieutenant Colonel Leonard A. Morley, Lieutenant Colonel James R. Lay, and Lieutenant Colonel Clyde O.

Clark, all of Headquarters Company.

Gallantry Crosses with Gold Stars were presented to Staff Sergeant Zoilo T. Domingo, Company C, 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry; Staff Sergeant Clifford G. Shaver, Company B, 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry; Sergeant First Class Robert F. Wright, Company A, 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry; and Staff Sergeant Tu'utau Fanene, Company B, 2nd Battalion, 8th Infantry.

Seventeen soldiers received Gallantry Crosses with Silver Star. They were First Sergeant Bruce A. Cable, Company A, 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry; Staff Sergeant Edward K. Apo, Company C, 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry; Specialist 5 Terry D. Suire, Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry; Staff Sergeant Edward S. Towe, and Sergeant Gerald W. Brown, both of Company C, 2nd Battalion, 8th Infantry; Lieutenant Arthur S. Remson, Battery A, 4th Battalion, 42nd Artillery; Colonel Ernest P. Braucher,

937th Engineer Group; Lieutenant Frank M. Applin, Headquarters Company, 4th Battalion, 42nd Artillery.

Also Warrant Officer Wayne D. Phinney, Lieutenant Duncan B. Dowling, Chief Warrant Officer Loye

(Cont'd Page 3, Col. 1)

### 16 YEARS LATER

## 1/22nd Sergeant Receives Another Enemy 'Greeting'

**Plei Djereng**— A close call with death was experienced on the night of February 14 by Sergeant Edmund L. Sheldon, weapons squad leader, and Private First Class Stephen A. DeVors, radio repairman, of Company C, 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry.

The close call occurred when an enemy mortar round landed five feet from their tent. The tent was destroyed but Sergeant Sheldon and PFC DeVors lived to tell their story because they had left their tent to answer a

## Ivy Units Hit By Heavy Enemy Mortar Attacks

(MACV)—Units of the 4th Infantry Division were heavily mortared and Ivy men were engaged in heavy contact with an enemy force this week in Operation Sam Houston.

The Ivy Division's 2nd Brigade command post, 39 kilometers west of Pleiku City, took more than 450 rounds of enemy 82mm mortar fire in three attacks Monday and Tuesday.

One 4th Division soldier was killed and 61 wounded in the attacks. The unit reported killing two enemy and capturing two weapons.

At 7 p.m. Monday the fire support base of the 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry, received 20 rounds of 82mm mortar fire 69 kilometers southwest of Kontum City. Enemy small arms fire began when the mortaring ceased.

Artillery and flareships supported the unit with unknown results.

Two U.S. personnel were wounded in the attack.

Company A, 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry, established heavy contact with an estimated reinforced enemy company at 10:35 a.m. Tuesday 68 kilometers southwest of Kontum City in Kontum Province.

The company was reinforced by another 2nd Brigade force at 1 p.m. and the reinforcements also established heavy contact. Artillery and tactical air supported the friendly force. The enemy broke contact at 7 p.m.

Interim reports on friendly casualties show nine killed, 30 wounded and seven missing in action. Enemy losses are unknown.

A 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry fire support base,

located 70 kilometers southwest of Kontum City in Kontum Province, received 60 rounds of enemy 82mm mortar fire the evening of March 9.

One U.S. soldier was wounded during the 10-minute attack.

Artillery fire was placed on the four enemy firing locations with unknown results.

Another 1/22nd unit came under enemy mortar fire March 12 and 13.

The unit's base, located approximately seven kilometers from the border west-northwest of Plei Djereng, received 52 rounds of 81 and 82mm mortar fire during three separate attacks March

(Cont'd Page 4, Col. 1)

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

## Watch Out For Little Green Men

**Dragon Mountain**— If you are in the vicinity of either the 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry, or 4th Replacement Detachment today, don't be alarmed if a pair of Irish leprechauns suddenly leap out of nowhere and shower you with shamrocks.....it's St. Patrick's Day and anything can happen.

The two leprechauns would probably be none other than the Ivy Division's two "Famous" Irishmen, Major Thomas J. Shaughnessy (Milwaukee), lauded by author John Steinbeck as the Famous Fourth's bald-headed, jovial, Irish Patrick O'Shaughnessy, and Captain Michael F. Merrick (Dublin, Ireland).

Captain Merrick, as the more Irish "native" of the two, spoke briefly on the significance of the observance of St. Patrick's Day.

"Nobody knows when St. Patrick was born," said the infantry captain, "but he died on March 17. His father was believed to have been a Roman centurion. Young Patrick attended a Catholic seminary and was later appointed by the Pope to 'journey to the north and convert the pagan Celts.'

"He landed in Ireland about 432 A.D. and began a crusade that led to his being canonized as St. Patrick.

"So you see, continued the

(Cont'd Page 3, Col. 1)

# 2/12th Begins Project To Improve Facilities At Dau Tieng School

By Lt. Larry Augsburg

**Dau Tieng**—Members of the 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry, 4th Division, are remodeling the Dau Tieng Secondary School and creating a more sanitary atmosphere for the students.

The building is five aligned rooms with chickenwire for windows and as many holes in the broken concrete floor as in the rusted and torn tin roof that covers the structure.

A dusty, litter-strewn yard is the playground and five strands of barbed wire separate the schoolyard from the alley and an open six-foot ditch which serves as part of the village sewer and garbage disposal system.

The battalion's civil affairs section, headed by Captain John Desormeau, battalion S-5, has begun an extensive project for improving the facilities.

The first step was the removal of a large sandbox tree—a toxic, thorny tree—that occupied part of the schoolyard and served no purpose except to house thousands of fierce red ants and a few dozen good-sized spiders.

After clearing out the schoolyard, members of the battalion will rip down the barbed wire and tear out the crumbling concrete pillars on which it is strung, and pave the yard with concrete and coat the alley next to it to keep down the dust.

The garbage in the ditch will be removed and after installation of a culvert it will be covered prior to the rains that will soon come, and for the first time it will

not wash disease-carrying litter right up to the front door.

The school building itself is due for a complete face-lifting. Concrete will level the holes in the floor and patch the dirty cracked walls.

The most important item, replacing the roof, will finish off the building itself.

An item of luxury will be added to the school. The original architect, for some reason, neglected to include latrine facilities. The 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry, will correct this omission with a small latrine similar to ones being installed in the village itself.

The number of students that attend the school varies according to the season. At the beginning of the term, approximately 300 tuition-paying children between the ages of 12 and 16 start.

As the school year continues, many are forced to withdraw because the family can no longer afford to send them. The children simply stop coming when this occurs.

Near the end of the term, the majority of the students are girls and younger boys, the rest are kept at home to help harvest the crops. Usual enrollment is then about 100 students.

After completing the secondary school at Dau Tieng, the student continues to the college level. Each year about 30 students are able to go to Saigon for this level of instruction.

Civil affairs workers have been soliciting various charitable and religious organizations hoping to obtain

donations of sorely needed equipment to improve the classroom and the quality of education the school can produce.

"Such items as textbooks, maps, blackboards, even pencils and paper are in short supply," Captain Desormeau said.

He is trying to get a school in the United States to sponsor the Dau Tieng counterpart and help gather the necessary supplies.

While the work goes on, the instruction competes for the attention of the students with a dozen soldiers from the battalion providing a circus of chopping, sawing, digging and carrying just outside the windows.



## COOL REFRESHMENT

Private First Class James Congroves (Denver), a member of Company B, 3rd Battalion, 8th Infantry, takes a pause from his platoon's grueling search for Charlie in the thick jungles of the Central Highlands near Plei Djereng. Part of the 4th Division's 1st Brigade, the battalion is participating in Operation Sam Houston. (USA Photo by Sp4 Rich Obermaier)

# Civilian Personnel Office Controls Employment Of Workers For Division

By PFC Norman Johnson

**Dragon Mountain**—Do you need a maid, some sandbags filled, a ditch dug, a mess hall built or some help with KP? Well, if you do, call the Civilian Personnel Office.

This almost sounds like an advertisement from an employment agency but is actually a service provided for the 4th Division by the Civilian Personnel Office, headed by Captain Nicholas M. Lagattuta (Buffalo), acting assistant adjutant general, and Warrant Officer Michael K. Markham (Pax, W. Va.).

The Civilian Personnel Office controls the employment of all civilian personnel for the 4th Division. The office also handles all the complaints concerning civilian personnel.

Any unit needing help in completing a project first submits a request to the CPO stating the type of work to be done, the type of workers needed to do the job, approximately how many personnel that will be needed to complete the job and how long it will take.

The CPO reviews the request and provides the personnel needed. The office has personnel available from interpreters and clerk typists down to common laborers.

At present, the 4th Division employs about 600 local

nationals. In the future, the total is expected to reach around 1,200. This figure does not include approximately 500 workers that are hired on a daily basis.

The permanent employees are paid on a scale set by the U.S. Army Vietnam and receive many of the benefits that civilian employees in the States receive.

The benefits include paid vacations, sick leave, maternity leave and medical attention for injuries received on

the job. The Federal Employee's Compensation Act also applies to them.

Before a person can be hired, he must first be processed through the Pleiku Area Civilian Personnel Office, a Vietnamese agency, and a favorable security check completed. All workers have to be at least 16 years old.

All civilian KP's receive a medical check every six months and are issued a food handlers certificate.

# Men Of 704th's Company B 'Adopt' Blonde Sweetheart

**Dau Tieng**—It's only logical to say that almost everyone in Vietnam has a "special girl" at home, but there's a certain 22-year-old Pittsburgh beauty who is the sweetheart of every man in a 3rd Brigade, 4th Division company.

Miss Judy Krayvo, a willowy, blue-eyed, blonde lass, read in a Pittsburgh newspaper the accounts of a mortar attack on the Dau Tieng base camp.

The article mentioned the fire fighting ability of Company B, 704th Maintenance Battalion—which was instrumental in suppressing a huge gasoline fire ignited by the blast. Miss Krayvo wrote the men a letter.

Lieutenant William C.

Schrefelbein, also a native of Pittsburgh, was nominated to write a return letter.

Not only has Miss Krayvo sent pictures of herself, but during Christmas she sent a large tree with all the trimmings and two smaller trees to the Ivy troopers.

Two large boxes of candy were also received by Company B. Cookies, letters, cards and anything the men request is immediately sent.

The men got together and decided that Miss Krayvo was something special and decided to "adopt" her as the sweetheart of the entire company. Special Order 007 was all that was needed. Miss Judy Krayvo now belongs to Company B—and what a sweetheart she is.



## IVY LEAF

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# I/8th Recondo Team 'Runs Into' VC Patrol

By Sp5 Conrad Clark

**Plei Djereng**—One often wonders what would happen if two patrols—one of U.S. infantrymen and the other of Viet Cong—should meet "head-on."

One example recently occurred when a patrol from an infantry battalion of the 1st Brigade "ran into" a VC patrol and an outpost guard.

One late afternoon a recondo team of the 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry, was dropped by helicopter into a suspected VC area.

The team, led by Staff Sergeant Billy J. Pritchett (Atlanta, Ga.), had walked about 200 meters from the drop zone when the Ivymen

heard voices. Walking cautiously toward the sound, Sergeant Pritchett and his team quietly sneaked through the heavy brush to have a "look-see."

The Recondos saw 20 VC sitting around a fire and eating. The VC were believed to be part of a perimeter security guard for a nearby camp.

The team leader conferred with Sergeant First Class Jack W. Givens (Paris, Ill.), his platoon sergeant who had gone along on the patrol, and they decided to make a "strategic" withdrawal since their mission was to observe the enemy, not engage them.

They Ivy team stayed in the area during the night and waited for the morning.

Early the next day the VC began to patrol, and two of them followed the tracks that the infantrymen had made the night before. For more than half an hour the enemy followed the tracks, but soon lost them in the bushes.

At one time the two VC were within 30 meters of the infantrymen who were hidden in the brush.

Later the Recondos called in gunships for an air strike.

Discussing the close call, Sergeant Givens said, "We all had a sleepless night and no one had any trouble staying awake."

Other "Bullets" in the patrol included Specialist 4 Donald Van Wey (Portland, Ore.), point man, Specialist 4 John Brinkley (Des Moines, Iowa), Specialist 4 Alvin Groves (Franklin, Ky.) and Private First Class Dennis Carney (Cleveland).

## 'Regulars' Of Company C Catch Enemy Unprepared

**Pleiku**—The motto of the 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry, 4th Infantry Division—"Our Business Is Fighting"—was recently put to the test.

Company A ran into an enemy battalion-size ambush in the Central Highlands west of Pleiku during Operation Sam Houston.

The "Regulars" of Company C were alerted and sent out to assist their sister company which was holding positions against continuous North Vietnamese attacks.

The enemy did not expect aid to arrive for the surrounded 4th Division



### CACHE OF CHARLIE'S ARMS

Soldiers of the 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry, take a close look at a display of weapons captured by their comrades in Company C. The large cache of explosives, weapons, and ammunition was found during Operation Sam Houston being conducted by the 4th Infantry Division. (USA Photo by PFC Mick Harsell)

## Company E 'Bridgineers' Perform Variety Of Tasks For Division

**Dragon Mountain**—Company E, 4th Engineer Battalion, 4th Division, has developed its own motto since arriving in Vietnam.

Its slogan "You Call, We Haul" is little known except to the members of the company.

This slogan surely sounds odd especially for an engineer company. However, Company E, a bridge company possessing 53 3/4-ton trucks and eight jeeps, is well equipped to help provide the needed transportation to supply the

units of the division with its many varied materials.

Since its arrival in Vietnam, the company has provided trucks for convoy duty to Qui Nhon and to the forward support area, as well as local hauls on almost a daily basis.

Although accurate records are not kept on the tonnage the "Bridgineers" have transported, reliable estimates indicate that since the first platoon arrived in July approximately 3500 tons of supplies have been hauled by the company.

Besides hauling these supplies and materials, the men of Company E have been carrying several hundred Montagnard laborers from their villages each morning to the Dragon Mountain base camp and returning them in late afternoon.

The unit is presently employing these laborers to fill an average of 10,000 sandbags a day which are being used throughout the base camp. The Montagnards are also supervised by Company E personnel in the building of sandbag revetments to protect the helicopters of the Ivy Division.

Of course the one task the "Bridgineers" enjoy the most is a bridging mission. To date the company has participated in seven different bridging operations.

On these operations the

company has constructed approximately 1000 feet of both fixed and floating bridge.

The unit also holds the distinction of being the first to ever support the 1st Cavalry Division in an amphibious operation. The company received a letter of commendation from the commanding general of the 1st Cavalry for its support.

Company E performs a variety of tasks thereby living up to the standards of the 4th Engineer Battalion motto—"Volens Et Potens," meaning "Willing and Able."

## 3rd Brigade Troops Receive 'Diddy Bags' From Philadelphians

**Dau Tieng**—The people of Philadelphia have shown the men of the 3rd Brigade, 4th Division, that they are thinking of them.

Their feelings were conveyed through small colorful denim bags.

The "diddy bags" were filled with an assortment of pens, writing pads, envelopes, playing cards, soap, talcum powder, combs, tissue paper, books and razor blades.

The items were donated by the people of Philadelphia to the Southeastern Philadelphia Red Cross Chapter which, in turn, sent them to Vietnam.

## Green Men

(Cont'd from P-1, Col. 5)

Ivy Irishman, "it is really a religious holiday celebrated on a national scale. All businesses are closed and the day is filled with sporting events, church socials and a general 'wearing of the Green.'"

What, you may ask, is the significance of the shamrock, and the "traditional green?" It seems that St. Patrick, in an attempt to explain the structure of the Divinity to the Celts, plucked a shamrock from the ground, and compared its three leaves to the three places in the trinity. Ireland is a very green country the year around and as a result green has become the traditional color.

As to leprechauns...well, Captain Merrick is planning to furnish beer for his replacement detachment and perhaps lead the new Ivymen in a few Irish chants.

So beware, for more than two green-clad elfish figures may shower you with shamrocks today.

## Awards

(Cont'd from P-1, Col. 3)

D. Brown, and Warrant Officer Stanley H. Graves, all of Troop D, 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry; Captain Charles D. Henderson, Captain Eugene Fontenot, Captain Noah E. Loy, and Lieutenant James A. Allen, all 2nd Brigade forward air controllers; and Specialist 4 Raymond L. Parker, 509th Engineer Company.

Specialist 4 Robert T. Streets, 33rd Scout Dog Platoon, was awarded the Gallantry Cross with Bronze Star.



### LOVING CARE

Specialist 5 Everett Johnson (Los Angeles) applies a little tender-loving care to a young Montagnard villager during a 4th Infantry Division, 2nd Brigade medical civic action program mission being held in the Central Highlands near Plei Djereng. (USA Photo by PFC Abraham J. Anderson)

## 1/69th Armor Evacuates Injured Boy To Hospital

Pleiku—Words could not describe the feelings of two Montagnard men that sought medical aid for a young boy when Captain Daniel W. Gaither Jr., 1st Battalion, 69th Armor surgeon, arrived at the scene.

Company B and the Headquarters of the 69th Armor were operating on Route 19 East as a route security force.

The battalion civil affairs officer was notified that there was an injured Montagnard boy about three miles east of the location. Sketchy information revealed that the boy had a serious fracture of his leg. This was the alert that

started the ball rolling.

Captain Carl Cleavenger, the S-5, immediately notified Major Lewis Sorley, acting battalion commander, of the situation. The decision was made to dispatch the doctor and an aid team to the location.

Upon arriving at the scene, Captain Gaither found the boy had a compound fracture of the left thigh. A sedative was applied and the surgeon splinted the leg so the boy could be evacuated.

Within two hours the boy was in the 18th Surgical Hospital in Pleiku receiving medical treatment. Not knowing the boy's name, the hospital admitted him under the auspices of "Number 1 Montagnard Boy, 1/69th Armor."

### Sam Houston

(Cont'd from p-1, Col. 5)

12 which resulted in 15 U.S. personnel wounded.

A total of 25 rounds were lobbed at the Ivy position March 13, resulting in three U.S. soldiers wounded.

Counter-mortar fire was employed with unknown results.

A platoon from the 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry, located five bunker complexes and a weapons cache during sweeps March 10 which centered 71 kilometers west-southwest of Kontum City.

The weapons cache contained 11 crew-served weapons including nine light French machine guns and one German 7.9 machine gun.

There were a total of 160 bunkers and 205 huts in the complexes which were destroyed.

## 'Sandbaggers' Of 4/42nd's Battery A Adopt Motto Of 'You Yell, We Shell'

By PFC Mick Harsell

Plei Djereng — "Battery A, 4th Battalion, 42nd Artillery Sandbaggers" begins the sign posted on tall poles above the 2nd Battalion, 8th Infantry's forward fire base. "You Yell, We Shell. Open 24 hours," says the large sign.

Two questions are brought to mind by the 4th Division unit's unique sign. Where did the unit get its motto and why do the artillerymen call themselves sandbaggers?

The first question was answered by Staff Sergeant William T. Rochal (Tacoma, Wash.), assistant chief of the firing battery, when he said, "We picked the motto after the night of November 12.

"That night we fired more than 1,500 rounds in support of the 2nd Brigade even though only two of our guns were in operation. The remaining guns and the fire direction center had been knocked out when a helicopter crashed into the area."

The "Sandbaggers" nickname is more recent. The battery felt it had earned the title after it finished building its present positions. The artillerymen filled almost 15,000 sandbags in less than three days.

With all that sandbag filling, the artillerymen have built some pretty comfortable bunkers. Each one has electric lights. They also built a mess hall where Staff Sergeant Shioichi L. Mukawa (Honolulu) prepares three hot meals for them each day.

As a further distinction,

Battery A is commanded by Captain Gunnar C. Carlson Jr. (Alexandria, Va.). The captain admits he does receive a little kidding about his appropriate first name.

The battery uses a variety of techniques and equipment to protect the fire base and support troops patrolling in the surrounding jungle.

The battery's guns are positioned so that each is covering a different segment of the perimeter and it takes just a minor adjustment to bring one of them on target.

During a recent practice session, the battery put a round into a simulated enemy mortar position 35 seconds after it received the coordinates. The unit's radar can also adjust outgoing fire thus

eliminating the need for a forward observer.

A powerful searchlight has recently been attached to the battery. The carbon-arc light has a range of 10,000 meters and the beam may be bounced from a low cloud cover giving the effect of a bright moonlight.

"If the fire base should be attacked by enemy troops, the guns are capable of direct fire," Captain Carlson said.

Patrols in the jungle know they have the support of the battery. Each night when a unit sets up its perimeter, it plans defensive concentrations. The "Sandbaggers" fire three rounds to verify the concentration. Then if necessary during the night, Battery A can give the members of the patrol all of the fire support they need.



## Father, Son Assigned To Bde Finance Office

Dau Tieng — The father is a sergeant first class. The son is a private first class. Both are in Vietnam with the 3rd Brigade, 4th Division.

Sergeant Martin K. Coon (Charlottesville, Va.) and PFC Martin Coon Jr., his 19-year-old son, are both working in the brigade's finance section. Sergeant Coon is the non-commissioned officer in charge and PFC Coon is a finance clerk.

Both of the Coons were in Frankfurt, Germany, last summer when the eventual get-together began to take shape.

PFC Coon enlisted in the

Army June 9 through a finance officer. Two months later Sergeant Coon reenlisted for three more years by the same officer.

Young Coon was sent to Ft. Benjamin Harrison, Ind., and arrived in Vietnam in December.

Sergeant Coon was sent to the Sharp Army Depot in Stockton, Calif., as a chief auditor and arrived in Vietnam last month. Both men now work in the same office.

When asked what the mother-wife thought about the situation, both men said she was happy that the two could be together.

SON AND FATHER—Private First Class Martin Coon Jr., and Sergeant First Class Martin K. Coon Sr., son and father, work in the 3rd Brigade, 4th Division's finance section at Dau Tieng. (USA Photo by Sp4 Gary M. Silva)

# 3/22nd 'Boondock Regulars' Seldom At Brigade Base Camp

By Sp4 George Swengros  
**Dau Tieng** — Sometimes locating the 4th Division's 3rd Battalion, 22nd Infantry, is a difficult task.

And if a person does chance to come across the "Boondock Regulars" he must have a prerequisite of knowing how to handle a loaded weapon, he must have on his person at least two canteens of water and not be afraid of rough jungle terrain.

The reason for this is simple—the battalion is seldom at the 3rd Brigade's base camp.

Last October 12 the majority of the battalion arrived in Vietnam at Vung Tau.

The battalion, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel John A. Bender, left the docks and convoyed its way to Camp Martin Cox, a base camp just south of Long Binh near Saigon.

The "Regulars" remained at Martin Cox only two short weeks before they began their first operation, code-named Bremerton, in the Rung Sat Special Zone.

The Rung Sat Special Zone

is a mass of swamps, rats, billions of chewing red ants and accommodates thousands of Viet Cong.

The 3rd Battalion, 22nd Infantry, was picked for the assignment and the Ivy troopers sunk into the Special Zone's mud on October 28.

Captain George G. Shoemaker, Company A commander, and his "Alpha Gators" were given credit for the first VC sampan sunk and the first VC kills.

The company also captured the first weapon, a Chinese 30 caliber machine gun, for the 3rd Brigade. The battalion didn't leave the swamps until November 28.

One day after the conclusion of Operation Bremerton, the "Regulars" moved to the tiny hamlet of Nha Be in Gia Dinh Province to set up a battalion-sized base camp.

Situated inside the Shell Oil Company compound just on the outskirts of Saigon, the 3rd Battalion, 22nd Infantry, launched numerous combat operations.

The missions varied from company-size eagle flights to squad-size ambush patrols. Much of the fighting was done at the darkest time of the night.

In addition to their combat operations the "Regulars" were involved in large pacifi-

cation programs conducted in the province to utilize both civic action and intelligence data.

Known as "Country Fairs," the battalion systematically rooted out the Viet Cong infra-structure in its area of operations.

Nine "Fairs" were conducted under the combined guidance of Captain Cecil E. Bray, the battalion's S-5, and Lieutenant Micheal Kaul, the S-2.

In addition to the numerous detainees from the "Fairs," the battalion also gained valuable intelligence to keep the elusive enemy on the defensive.

When the unit was given the word to pack up, the "Regulars" had killed 97 Viet Cong, had detained 13 and accumulated 13 weapons and 76 pounds of enemy documents.

On January 10, the "Regulars" moved to the brigade's new base camp at Dau Tieng in Binh Duong Province. Three days later the battalion was hunting Viet Cong again.

Working under the motto "Deeds Not Words," the 3rd Battalion, 22nd Infantry, has lived up to its praise of being the best. Its accomplishments speak for themselves.



**LOW BRIDGE**— Specialist 4 Paul J. McGowan (Chicago), an 81mm ammunition bearer in Company B, 3rd Battalion, 22nd Infantry, is forced to crawl during a recent operation because of the dense jungle.

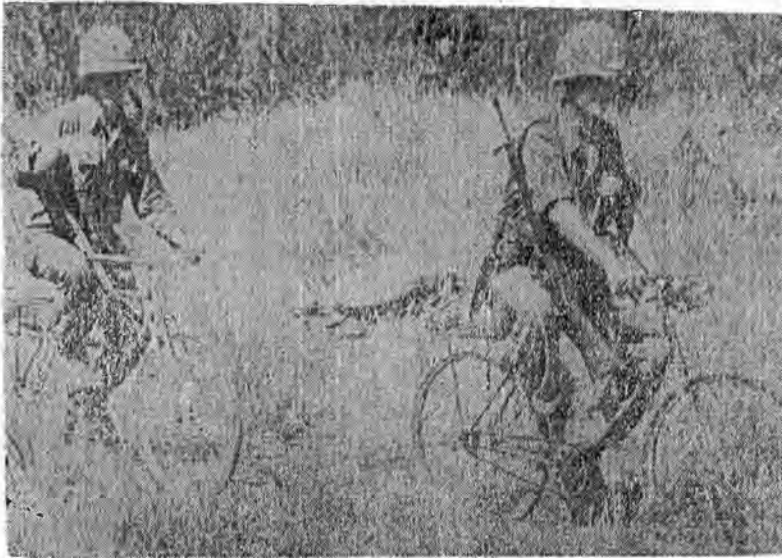
Photos  
 By  
 Sp4 Brad Bromley



**WHERE'S CHARLIE?** — The enemy isn't easy to find as men from the 3rd Battalion, 22nd Infantry, find cut as they search for Viet Cong through dense foliage.



**CHOW TIME** — A soldier from the 3rd Battalion, 22nd Infantry, takes a break for a meal of C-rations during a recent operation.



### IT'S FUN TO RIDE

Viet Cong, beware of the men of the Bike Patrol. The two happy bicyclists are members of the 2nd Battalion (Mechanized), 22nd Infantry, 4th Division. The men captured the two-wheeled transportation after a brief fire fight in War Zone C. (USA Photo by Sp4 Bradford Bromley)

## 1/8th 'Bullets' Help Construct School, Spillway For Villagers

By Capt. Ronald W. Penn

**Plei Mok Den** — From the bridges over the Rhine to the roads through the deep ravines of Korea, American units have traditionally bragged about their construction accomplishments.

Signs similar to, "You are crossing this river courtesy of the 520th Engineer Bat-

### Lt. Col. Nettles Assumes Command Of 6/29th Artillery

**Plei Djereng** — Lieutenant Colonel Elritt N. Nettles (Newport, Va.) assumed command of the 6th Battalion, 29th Artillery, at a recent ceremony.

He succeeds Lieutenant Colonel Lynwood B. Lennon (El Paso, Tex.) who commanded the artillerymen since last June and brought the battalion to Vietnam.

Colonel Lennon has been reassigned as the assistant fire support coordinator at 4th Division Artillery Headquarters.

At the ceremony, Colonel Nettles remarked, "What you men have done in support of the ground forces in Vietnam has made history, and we will continue to make history, because the motto of this battalion is 'Can Do.'"

Major William D. Johnson, battalion executive officer, was commander of troops. Representatives of all batteries participated.

tallon," were common.

The war in Vietnam has broken many precedents.

There are no English-language signs in Plei Mok Den, a small hamlet nestled in the forested highlands of Pleiku Province. There is no one in the village who could read them, if there were. But there is a monument to the construction skill and determination of the officers and men of the 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry, 4th Division.

Using cement supplied by the Government of Vietnam, the "Bullets," commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Harold H. Lee (Oahu, Hawaii), helped construct a water spillway to provide clean water and a hardstand on which the villagers can wash themselves and their clothes.

Next, the engineers, assisted by Sergeant Anh of the Duc Co Civilian Irregular Defense Group, helped lay the foundations of a new school for the children of Plei Mok Den and the surrounding hamlets.

With the villagers supplying the manpower, GVN donating the construction materials, and First Lieutenant Arthur H. Trujillo (Roswell, N.M.) acting as project officer, the new school building was constructed in just nine days.

Pleiku Province educational officials responded by shifting Sin Huet and Ksor Doc, who had been teaching in open-air classes at Duc Co, to the new school building at Plei Mok

Den.

The representative of the Joint U.S. Public Affairs Office in Pleiku offered new textbooks to enrich the curriculum of the new school.

To cap the series of projects, R'Com-Lom, the village chief, asked Staff Sergeant Charles L. McKee (Portland, Ore.), the 1/8th's S-5 operations sergeant, to get a GVN flag to be flown on the new flag pole in the village square.

In praise of the whirlwind effort of the "Bullets," Major General William R. Peers, 4th Division commander, termed the battalion's civic action program in Plei Mok Den "a civic action fast moving train," an excellent example of what can be done by enthusiastic people who are "sold" on helping others to help themselves.

## Quick Reaction By 1/22nd Company Averts Casualties

**Plei Djereng** — The quick action of a 4th Division company averted possible casualties in a recent heli-borne operation by the 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry, while participating in Operation Sam Houston.

On the afternoon preceding the battalion move, Company B moved into a landing zone and set up a perimeter to await the next morning's arrival of the battalion.

Daylight the next morning found Captain Richard O. Aton, company commander, sending squad-sized patrols

out from the LZ to counter any attack attempted by the enemy.

Fifteen minutes before the first helicopter was scheduled to touch down on the LZ, a North Vietnamese mortar crew started to lob 82mm mortar rounds into the area.

The first round hadn't hit the ground when Company B acted. A security squad, led by Sergeant Roy C. Teague, waiting for just such an incident, moved to return fire on the mortar crew.

At the same time, Platoon Sergeant Charles H. Reynolds, acting first sergeant, grabbed one of the company's 81mm mortars, pointed it in the direction of the enemy positions and started returning counter-mortar fire.

He was right on target. The enemy gun was silenced, and the enemy retreated after having fired only four rounds.

A sweep of the area turned up 27 enemy 82mm mortar rounds.

The action by Company B lasted only a few minutes and the battalion was able to land in the LZ with minimal delay.

The remainder of the supporting artillery battery and attachments were set up in the LZ in just a little more than three hours.

### Lt. Col. Nay Lo First Montagnard Province Chief

**Pleiku** — Lieutenant Colonel Nay Lo, the province chief of Pleiku Province, is the only Montagnard province chief in Vietnam.

In fact, he is reported to be the only Montagnard ever to reach such a high political position in Vietnam.

The Army of the Republic of Vietnam officer is multilingual and speaks French, English, Vietnamese and three Montagnard dialects.

Though biographical data on Colonel Nay Lo is limited, he is reported to have served in the French Army as a lieutenant. After the French withdrew from Vietnam he accepted a commission in the Vietnamese Army.

Colonel Nay Lo is enthusiastic about the Montagnard resettlement program in Pleiku Province and the 4th Division's "good neighbor policy" with the local village chiefs.

### Lt. Col. Kouchoukos Swaps Positions With New 704th Commander

**Dragon Mountain** — Lieutenant Colonel William R. Gilbanks (Colorado Springs, Colo.) assumed command of the 704th Maintenance Battalion from Lieutenant Colonel Paul C. Kouchoukos during ceremonies recently at Dragon Mountain.

Colonel Kouchoukos and Colonel Gilbanks are, literally, swapping jobs.

Colonel Gilbanks comes to the 4th Division from 1 Field Force Vietnam where he was director of maintenance. Colonel Kouchoukos will assume his job.

Major General William R. Peers, 4th Division commander, presented Colonel Kouchoukos with the Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster for his meritorious conduct in performances of duty as battalion commander.

Colonel Kouchoukos presented the battalion colors to Colonel Gilbanks to symbolize the change of command.

Colonel Gilbanks has served other overseas tours in Japan, Korea and Germany.

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