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TROPIC LIGHTNING NEWS

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Dragons Move On Quyet Thang

1ST BDE - A series of heliborne assaults and steady searching for possible enemy infiltration by the 25th Inf Div's 2nd Bn, 14th Inf, ended with 193 dead Communists, 2 detainees, and many captured enemy supplies during Operation Quyet Thang.

"We had been participating in Operation Yellowstone a couple of months before joining Quyet Thang," said Bn CO LTC Alfred M. Bracy of Petersburg, Va. "Our purpose in Operation Yellowstone involved cutting off enemy supply routes along the Cambodian border. Operation Quyet Thang provided new experiences for the men," he added.

Leaving the 1st Bde base camp at Tay Ninh aroused quite a bit of conversation from the men. "At first I didn't like the idea of leaving our area of operations at Tay Ninh, but I guess it turned out all right. With all the action the time has gone fast," remarked PFC Stephen L. Treacy of Whitesboro, N.Y.

The first phase of the "Golden Dragon's" involvement in Quyet Thang took place as the battalion airlifted into the Ho Bo Woods and conducted daily reconnaissance in force operations. The various companies found large weapon caches, but very little contact with the enemy.

Some of the men said finding the weapons caches was the most memorable action of the whole operation. "I'll never forget that day I found that first underground vault full of weapons and ammo," recalled PFC Larry R. Atchley of Atlanta, Ga.

The battalion rounded up enough weapons and ammunition to arm an enemy battalion. A total of 117 enemy rifles, including AK-50's, AK-47's, SKS Carbines, M-1 Carbines, Chinese Communist Carbines, and Browning automatic rifles were captured during a two week period.

The Dragons also uncovered five complete mortar tubes, base plates, tripod legs, sight assemblies, and 437 mortar rounds.

In addition the 1st Bde soldiers destroyed or evacuated a RPG-2 and 2 RPG-7 rocket launchers; 310 RPG-7 and RPG-2 rockets; 320 RPG boosters; 12 122mm rockets; 2 30-caliber machine guns; 1 Thompson submachine gun; 1 pistol; 522 hand grenades; 5,826 rounds of small arms ammunition; 76 Viet Cong protective masks; 2,126 pounds of rice and numerous enemy documents.

"The highlight of the operation was the two all night battles 54 Kms northwest of Saigon" remembered SP4 Gary L. Ford of Oakview, Calif. The Dragons defeated a battalion of mixed North Vietnamese regulars and Viet Cong guerrillas in two separate around the clock battles.

"Operation Quyet Thang has ended, but the men continue to talk about the busy operation," reported one company

commander, CPT Richard L. Endicott. "I'm sure they all agree about it being one of the most memorable of our recent activities," the Casper, Wyo., officer concluded.



KIT CARSON - A Hoi Chanh rallier serving as a scout with the 25th Inf Div's 2nd Bn, 14th Inf, helps feed a belt of ammunition into an M-60 machine gun during an Operation Quyet Thong battle. (Photo By SGT Marty Caldwell)

Wolfhounds Return After 59 Days Out

2ND BDE - "Wolfhounds" of the 25th Div's 2nd Bn, 27th Inf returned to Cu Chi for a five-day rest after killing 328 Viet Cong and North Vietnamese during 59 consecutive days in the field.

LTC Winfred G. Skelton Jr., Bn CO, said his unit had tallied "an impressive record" during the two months of hard fighting.

The battalion left the division base at Cu Chi early on January 31 to reinforce Tan Son Nhut Air Base after the Viet Cong launched their massive Tet offensive.

Since then, the Tropic Lightning soldiers have operated primarily in the Saigon-Gia Dinh-Hoc Mon area, including several days of street fighting as they pushed enemy troops from the capital early in February.

Skelton said he was "proud of the way the battalion acquitted itself. Every time the VC decided to come out and fight, we defeated him."

In addition to the 382 Viet Cong killed by ground fire, helicopter gunships supporting the 2nd Bn, 27th Inf, accounted for 86 more enemy dead.

Among the list of enemy supplies and equipment captured by the 2nd Bde soldiers are: 113 automatic weapons, 28 machine guns, 98 small arms, 65 RPG-model rocket launchers, six mortars, 42,777 rounds of small arms ammunition, 15 tons of rice and 2 1/2 tons of salt.

The Wolfhounds further destroyed 576 bunkers, tunnel complexes and other enemy installations and military structures during the period.

Skelton said the battalion would resume operations after several days of refresher training and rest at Cu Chi.

Regulars Fight Off Attack, 124 Viet Cong Killed

3RD BDE - The 3rd Bn, 22nd Inf, fought off a Viet Cong human wave attack 110 kms northwest of Saigon only hours after they had set up their night position.

The 3rd Bde, 25th Inf Div unit was taking part in the multi-division Operation Toan Thang when the attack occurred.

The Bn had been heli-lifted into their position and set up their night perimeter in a remote part of the jungle close to the

Saigon River. Very early in the morning, the camp came under heavy mortar attack. As the mortar fire increased, the VC hit the battalion perimeter with a massive human wave attack.

One sector of the perimeter received the brunt of the attack and was quickly reinforced by the reconnaissance unit. The Viet Cong began getting inside the perimeter but an all-out effort drove them back.

Air strikes and artillery pounded the VC and the attack began to weaken. As dawn broke, the enemy was driven back to the edge of the perimeter. The VC kept trying to press the attack as their mortar rounds were pounding the "Regulars" position.

By sunrise, the unit had successfully beaten off the attack and were joined by the 2nd Bn (Mech), 22nd Inf, who had worked their way through six kms of jungle to reinforce their sister battalion.

The two units gained complete control of the perimeter and received only sporadic fire throughout the morning.

The first sweep of the area that morning produced 124 VC bodies while later sweeps turned up 13 more to bring the total to 137 enemy killed. Also found were 5 AK-47 rifles, 13 machine guns, 7 RPG launchers and 2 chicom carbines.

The day was climaxed by the presentation of Silver Stars to six Regulars of the 3rd Bn, 22nd Inf. (See Picture Page 8)

This is the third engagement of this nature the battalion has been in. The first was the "Battle of Soui Tre," the largest single day battle of the war. Second, "The Battle of Soui Cut" where 380 VC were killed and now, this battle takes its place in the Battalion's history.

Each battle was fought under close combat conditions and each was a victory for the American forces.

'Bobcats' Blast VC In Battle

2ND BDE - A 25th Inf Div Mech company was credited with killing seven Viet Cong during a running battle along the Saigon River.

The recent action took place as Cos A and B of the 1st Bn (Mech), 5th Inf, swept through woods and rice paddies on an Operation Quyet Thang reconnaissance in force.

SGT Phillip Clark of West Roxbury, Mass., made the first contact while walking point for his platoon. The squad leader threw a hand grenade to his front, killing two enemy.

Almost immediately, sniper fire erupted from the dense undergrowth to Co A's front. Co B, on the left flank of the sweep, maneuvered towards her sister company and flushed 15 Viet Cong against the river.

PFC Guenter Klusmeier of Sheboygan, Wis., opened fire on two enemy he spotted trying to swim across the river. He killed both of them.

By this time, the company had lined the river banks, firing automatic weapons and grenades into the fleeing Viet Cong.

SP4s Danny Kight of Delta, Mo., and Paul Rossi of Denver, armed with grenade launchers, scored direct hits on two enemy soldiers.

"We completed our sweep, flanked to the left, and moved back to our base camp," said Kight. "It was just another day for us."

At the end of the operation, the battalion credited Co A with seven Viet Cong killed and one suspect detained.

Best Friends Found Holed Up

2ND BDE - Several weeks later and two Kms away, members of a 25th Inf Div rifle company recovered two rifles they had lost in separate battles during the Tet fighting.

CPT Robert Kesler, CO of Co A, 2nd Bn, 27th Inf, reported his company relocated the weapons in a spider hole near Hoc Mon, a suburb of Saigon.

Kesler, of Minneapolis, explained, "We lost the M-16s during two separate fights in the Saigon area during Tet. We were sick about losing them, although it was unavoidable."

Earlier this month, while sweeping an area south of Hoc Mon during Operation Quyet Thang, SP4 Robert Brown of Monroe, La., and Lynn M. Briglin of Oswego, N.Y., discovered the weapons in a spider hole along a canal bank.

A check of the serial numbers confirmed they were the company's lost weapons.

Decorated

SILVER STAR

CPT Joseph R. Maio, Co C, 2nd Bn, 14th Inf
 1LT David E. Jurcy, Co A, 2nd Bn, 27th Inf
 1LT Dean H. Guynes, A Trp, 3rd Sqdn, 4th Cav
 SFC Argil L. Kirk, Co A, 3rd Bn, 22nd Inf
 SSG Edward Brzezinski, Co D, 3rd Bn, 22nd Inf

DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

1LT Steven D. Sanford, Co B, 25th Avn Bn

BRONZE STAR (HEROISM)

CPT Jack E. Merle, Co A, 2nd Bn, 12th Inf
 1LT Phillip H. Jacobs, Co C, 2nd Bn, 14th Inf
 1LT Rolland Fletcher, A Btry, 6th Bn, 77th Arty
 1LT Donald C. Decasper, A Btry, 1st Bn, 8th Arty
 2LT Robert Hutchinson, Co A, 2nd Bn, 22nd Inf
 SFC Vicente T. DyDasco, Co C, 1st Bn, 27th Inf
 PSG Alfred H. Braswell, Co A, 2nd Bn, 22nd Inf
 PSG Leonard I. Evans Jr., Co A, 2nd Bn, 22nd Inf
 SSG Charles L. Preston, Co A, 2nd Bn, 22nd Inf
 SSG Glenn Raleigh, Co A, 2nd Bn, 34th Armor
 SSG Herbert De Leon, A Trp, 3rd Sqdn, 4th Cav
 SSG Robert L. Bryant, Co B, 4th Bn, 23rd Inf
 SSG Glenn T. Pike, B Trp, 3rd Sqdn, 4th Cav
 SSG James Coleman, Co A, 3rd Bn, 22nd Inf
 SSG Edward W. Johnson, A Trp, 3rd Sqdn, 4th Cav
 SSG Darell A. Ellis, Co A, 3rd Bn, 22nd Inf
 SSG Robert F. O'Dell, A Btry, 1st Bn, 8th Arty
 SGT James E. Pringle, Co B, 4th Bn, 23rd Inf
 SGT Wayne H. King, Co C, 2nd Bn, 22nd Inf
 SGT Floyd Jamerson, Co C, 2nd Bn, 22nd Inf
 CPL Merle D. Fish, A Btry, 1st Bn, 8th Arty
 CPL Michael P. Swim, HHD, 25th Avn Bn
 CPL Roger M. Ormsby, HHD, 25th Avn Bn
 CPL Adam A. Pakacki, Co A, 2nd Bn, 22nd Inf
 SP4 Nicholas Bufagna, Co B, 4th Bn, 23rd Inf
 SP4 Daniel Joudrey, Co B, 2nd Bn, 27th Inf
 SP4 James L. Chapman, Co A, 4th Bn, 23rd Inf

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL (HEROISM)

SFC Joe B. Rodriguez, C Btry, 2nd Bn, 77th Arty
 SP5 Leroy Horne, B Trp, 3rd Sqdn, 4th Cav
 SP5 William Van Kirk, B Trp, 3rd Sqdn, 4th Cav
 SP4 John W. Edwards, HHC, 3rd Bde
 SP4; Birnes L. Penix, Co D, 2nd Bn, 27th Inf
 SP4 Wendell H. Shepard, HHC, 3rd Bn, 22nd Inf
 SP4 Virgil L. Moxley, HHC, 3rd Bn, 22nd Inf
 SP4 Mikel D. Rhodes, A Trp, 3rd Sqdn, 4th Cav
 SP4 Garth R. Jacobson, HHC, 3rd Bn, 22nd Inf
 SP4 Ronald E. Karis, HHC, 3rd Bn, 22nd Inf
 SP4 Joseph R. Herera, HHC, 3rd Bn, 22nd Inf

SP4 Jerry S. Vandiver, Co A, 2nd Bn, 27th Inf
 SP4 Daniel Brownell, Co B, 3rd Bn, 22nd Inf
 SP4 Pagen E. Carlos, A Btry, 1st Bn, 8th Arty
 SP4 Robert 'Comstock, Co C, 1st Bn, 27th Inf
 PFC Robert M. Sosenko, A Trp, 3rd Sqdn, 4th Cav

WO1 Odie E. Gregg, Jr., Co A, 25th Avn Bn

SP4 Clyde V. Ely, Co A, 2nd Bn, 27th Inf
 SP4 Frank L. Albracht, Co B, 4th Bn, 23rd Inf
 SP4 Lynn M. Briglin, Co A, 2nd Bn, 27th Inf
 SP4 Donald R. Shearin, Co C, 2nd Bn, 22nd Inf
 SP4 Danny J. Herndon, Co A, 1st Bn, 27th Inf
 SP4 Norman T. Nishikubu, Co C, 2nd Bn, 22nd Inf
 SP4 Dennis M. Levesque, Co A, 4th Bn, 23rd Inf
 SP4 Albert B. Ridgeway, Co B, 4th Bn, 9th Inf
 SP4 John E. Walters, Co C, 2nd Bn, 22nd Inf
 SP4 Clarence T. Brown Jr., Co C, 1st Bn, 5th Inf
 SP4 John L. Loving, Co D, 2nd Bn, 27th Inf
 SP4 Dennis M. Borell, Co C, 1st Bn, 27th Inf
 SP4 Watson L. Underwood Jr., HHC 2nd Bn, 34th Armor
 SP4 Robert M. Sosenko, A Trp, 3rd Sqdn, 4th Cav
 SP4 Willie T. Tozar, Co A, 2nd Bn, 27th Inf
 SP4 Gualt A. Terry, A Btry, 1st Bn, 8th Arty
 SP4 Jerry S. Vandiver, Co A, 2nd Bn, 27th Inf
 SP4 William F. Dewaele, Co A, 2nd Bn, 27th Inf
 SP4 Darly L. Ferriera, Co A, 2nd Bn, 27th Inf
 SP4 Franklin D. Reiss, Co B, 4th Bn, 23rd Inf
 SP4 Ronald D. Grisby, Co B, 2nd Bn, 22nd Inf
 SP4 David B. Leverty, Co C, 3rd Bn, 22nd Inf
 SP4 James C. Woolridge, Co A, 2nd Bn, 27th Inf
 SP4 Charles Officer, Co B, 2nd Bn, 12th Inf
 SP4 Gerald M. Buatz, Co B, 4th Bn, 23rd Inf
 SP4 Ernest McIntyre, Co A, 2nd Bn, 27th Inf
 SP4 Michael S. Pikula, Co C, 2nd Bn, 14th Inf

SP4 William W. Gaddy, HHC, 3rd Bn, 22nd Inf
 SP4 William B. Wolvin, HHC, 3rd Bn, 22nd Inf
 SP4 James T. Archambault, HHC, 3rd Bn, 22nd Inf
 SP4 Reginal E. Tappan, HHC, 2nd Bn, 22nd Inf
 SP4 Ronald B. Plummer, Co A, 2nd Bn, 22nd Inf
 PFC Gaynard E. Wengler, HHC, 3rd Bn, 22nd Inf
 PFC Steven J. Svelmoe, C Btry, 2nd Bn, 77th Arty
 PFC David C. Junion, Co D, 2nd Bn, 27th Inf
 PFC Frank J. Piraino, Co C, 3rd Bn, 22nd Inf
 PFC Craig Wheeler, HHC, 2nd Bn, 22nd Inf
 PFC Marvin Kantola, HHC, 2nd Bn, 22nd Inf

Keep Those Letters Going, Informative and Interesting

You will find your duty in Vietnam different from anything you've ever encountered. Some of you are overseas for the first time. You will have many interesting things concerning the country, its physical characteristics, customs, and cultures to write, or to send via tape recordings, to the folks at home. More than likely you will also tell them about your job in Vietnam.

Until recently the word "Vietnam" was unknown in the average household in the U.S. Now the Vietnam crisis affects

practically every family in the U.S. since fathers, sons, brothers, and friends have "answered the call."

Your families and friends back home are interested in your well-being. Write them or send tapes as often as possible.

No postage is necessary and all letters are sent via air mail to the U.S. Granted, you might not receive incoming letters promptly; but at the present time the postal authorities are doing the best they can. Normal time for air mail to and from the United States is three to seven days. Exchange a letter for a letter!

When writing home, make your letters as interesting as possible; don't write about circumstances which affect the security of the nation or which you aren't fully qualified to talk about.

In many instances, for security reasons, you are only told those things which directly concern you. Take into consideration the feelings of the folks at home when you write. Remember that your family has problems which they don't write to you about because they feel you have your own problems. You should be considerate.

Maybe you have marched 10 or 15 miles in the jungle heat in full combat gear and you haven't slept for a day or so. After the march, you are hot, exhausted, soaked with perspiration, and hungry. Your squad leader gives you a break and you begin a letter to your parents.

At this particular time, you are in no mood, really, for letter writing because you can't understand why you had to march this far without any sleep, etc.

So you write Mom giving her the "particulars," griping about no sleep and no bath. If your wife or mother is like most, she knows little about the Army and especially about operations during combat. She becomes upset, tells the neighbors and probably even lets them read excerpts from the letter. Before you know it, the picture they see differs a great deal from the operation that you took part in last week and they are reading about now.

So, be careful when writing home because the situation changes very rapidly and you may already have forgotten how tired and hungry you were last week when you wrote that letter.

Reread those letters going home and ask yourself, "Is this really the truth? Am I being given a 'raw deal'? Am I being asked to do more than the rest of the men in my outfit?" You'll probably decide the answer to all these questions will be "No."

Remember, it is important to write and let the folks know you haven't forgotten them. But it is imperative that you write the true story, and that you try not to worry them by a letter you write. Your letters should be as informative and interesting - and as cheerful - as circumstances allow.

Vietnam Vets Get Preference For CS

Vietnam veterans seeking employment with the federal government in Civil Service grades 1 through 5 will receive preference over civilian applicants under an executive order signed recently by President Johnson.

The order eliminates the competitive examination for Vietnam veterans seeking federal jobs in these grades.

Veterans who have completed less than one year beyond high school, meet all the Civil Service requirements and have served on active duty in the armed forces on or after August 5, 1964, will be eligible to enter federal employment provided they agree to pursue a full time or part time educational program under the G.I. Bill.

The veteran's educational training should be related to the overall manpower requirements of Civil Service. It need not be related to the particular job for which he is being considered.

Because of personnel turnover, there are vacancies in a wide range of skills and grades. Many are in short supply.

The Department of Defense has been working with the Civil Service Commission, the Veterans Administration, the Justice Department and other federal agencies to insure the provisions set forth in the executive order can and will be applied.

Groups In U.S. Ask For Units To Adopt

Headquarters MACV receives many requests from various groups in the U.S. to "adopt" a military unit serving in Vietnam.

The patriotic groups may be an elementary school class, ladies club, Cub Scout Pack or college sorority. Many are small groups of teenagers, unmarried working girls and private citizens.

Frequently, an individual wants to assist a small unit of two or three men. A larger group may be seeking to assist a company of men.

Each group wants to show the servicemen that they are appreciated and supported. Their appreciation is demonstrated through letters, gift packages, newspaper subscriptions, pen-pal relationships and other acts of friendship.

If you would like your unit "adopted", encourage your commander to submit the following information to HQ, MACV, MACOI-C, APO 96222:

Complete mailing address of unit:

Number of men in unit:

Branch of service.

Only company size units and below should be submitted. Small units with ten men or less have the best chance for adoption.

Every effort will be made to insure units operating in the "boondocks" are adopted first. (MACV)

Food For Thought

"The test of a first rate intelligence is the ability to hold two opposed ideas in the mind at the same time and still retain the ability to function."

F. Scott Fitzgerald

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TROPIC LIGHTNING NEWS

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Sampan Leads To Tunnel Full Of VC Rifles

2ND BDE - A submerged sampan along a canal bank 10 kms south of Cu Chi led to the discovery of more than 30 new Viet Cong rifles during a 25th Inf Div reconnaissance in force.

SP4 John H. Felts of Bullhead City, Ariz., a member of the 2nd Bn, 27th Inf "Wolfhounds," located the weapons after he noticed a partially submerged sampan along a canal he was searching.

"I don't know what I expected to find," he said, "but something didn't look right. I didn't think the canal was very deep, but I darn near drowned."

On the other side, Felts discovered a tunnel containing one AK-47 and 33 new AK-50 assault rifles, 15 hand grenades, an RPG-2 rocket launcher with 10 rounds, 20 lbs of medical supplies, 40 lbs of explosives, numerous documents and a half ton of rice.

Army Food Taster There's An MOS

NATICK, MASS. (ANF) - You may not always believe it, but the food you eat in the mess hall was tasted and approved by your fellow soldiers even before the Army bought it.

At the U.S. Army laboratories, food experts and psychologists conduct a continuing program of testing the tastes to be

sure servicemen will like the food the Army serves.

Soldiers for food tests are picked at random by a computer to provide a cross section of the U.S. Armed Forces. A test may involve 30 to 40 servicemen, with each subject given from one to five samples of a food.

What the eater eats he rates: a graduated scale gives him the option from one (dislike extremely) to nine (like extremely). A computer takes a look at the results and gives an indication of how well a food will be accepted by the servicemen.



MAD HATTER - SP4 Danny L. Conway, 2nd Bn, 12th Inf, provides himself with double protection as the 3rd Bde, 25th Inf Div, force takes part in Operation Toan Thong northwest of Tay Ninh. (Photo By SP5 Robert Ault)

Manchus Slug It Out With Battalion

1ST BDE - An element of the 25th Inf Div made contact with a Viet Cong battalion-size force and drove them from their base camp after five hours of vicious fighting.

Co B, 4th Bn, 9th Inf "Manchus", was on a reconnaissance in force mission 24 kms east of Tay Ninh when the contact was made.

"We heli-lifted into the area and moved 400 meters into the woodline and then set up a perimeter," said SGT Robert Wofley of Modesto, Calif. "Our patrol had just moved out about 40 meters when Charlie opened up with automatic weapons from fortified bunkers," added Wofley.

The fighting was close and artillery and gunships couldn't be used effectively. "We stayed low, holding contact and slugged it out with them," said SP4 John Uzarski of Twinsburg, Ohio. The fighting lasted for five hours.

RAISE DUE JULY 1

WASHINGTON - The new pay rates expected to go into effect on July 1 will bring monthly raises to active duty men ranging from \$6.60 for a recruit to \$160.80 for a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The senior enlisted man in each service will get a \$58.20 raise to \$902.40 monthly basic pay. The recruit pay goes from \$95.70 to \$102.30 and the Chief of Staff from \$2332.20 to \$2493 per month.

The 6.9 percent raise in basic pay will affect the rates of pay for cadets in the academies, the payment of Dependency Indemnity Compensation to widows of active duty men, reenlistment bonuses, retired pay and other elements of compensation calculated on the amount of basic pay.

If this raise comes about as expected it will be the sixth hike in basic pay for military men in as many years. There was no basic pay increase between 1958 and 1963.

This year's pay hike is expected to cost the government \$951 million the first year.

These figures represent the 6.9 percent hike in basic pay which is slated for enactment July 1.

There is still a possibility that the hike may be a tenth of a percent different from that figure, but officials say they would bet 10-to-1 that the 6.9 percent raise will hold. There is also a chance that the effective date will be later than July 1, but that date, too, is the best bet.

The Defense Department has asked the Comptroller General to decide whether July 1 or a later date is proper under the pay act passed last year which would give military men a raise when civil servants get one.

July 1, 1968, Basic Pay Rates

COMMISSIONED OFFICERS

Pay grade	2 or less	Over 2	Over 3	Over 4	Over 6	Over 8	Over 10	Over 12	Over 14	Over 16	Over 18	Over 20	Over 22	Over 26
O-10											\$1,993.80	\$2,174.70	\$2,174.70	\$2,339.40
O-9											1,728.00	1,840.40	1,840.40	1,993.80
O-8											1,664.40	1,728.00	1,797.60	1,797.60
O-7									\$1,329.30	\$1,467.20	1,543.00	1,543.00	1,543.00	1,543.00
O-6							\$920.20	\$920.20	962.10	1,113.90	1,170.90	1,194.40	1,265.70	1,273.10
O-5	\$746.70	\$797.70	\$797.70	\$797.70	\$797.70	\$797.70	822.60	846.40	924.30	993.60	1,050.60	1,087.10	1,120.70	
O-4	536.10	632.20	696.20	696.20	708.60	740.40	790.80	835.20	873.30	911.40	926.90			
O-3	498.20	556.80	594.60	658.50	689.70	711.90	753.20	790.80	810.00					
O-2	309.30	474.30	549.70	548.60	600.90									
O-1	242.20	379.80	474.30											

COMMISSIONED OFFICERS WITH OVER 4 YEARS IN SERVICE

Pay grade	Over 4	Over 6	Over 8	Over 10	Over 12	Over 14
O-3	\$658.50	\$689.70	\$714.90	\$753.20	\$790.80	\$822.60
O-2	588.60	600.90	670.10	657.20	677.40	696.30
O-1	474.30	500.10	525.30	541.20	562.10	588.60

WARRANT OFFICERS

Pay grade	2 or less	Over 2	Over 3	Over 4	Over 6	Over 8	Over 10	Over 12	Over 14	Over 16	Over 18	Over 20	Over 22	Over 26
W-1	\$507.20	\$544.20	\$544.20	\$556.80	\$582.00	\$607.20	\$632.70	\$677.40	\$708.60	\$734.10	\$733.20	\$778.20	\$801.00	\$846.40
W-3	461.10	500.40	500.40	506.10	512.70	550.20	582.00	600.90	620.10	638.70	638.50	683.70	708.60	734.10
W-2	402.80	426.80	426.80	449.10	474.20	500.10	519.20	537.90	556.80	576.00	591.60	613.20	638.70	
W-1	286.10	286.10	417.90	424.80	435.70	474.20	474.20							

EXISTED

Pay grade	2 or less	Over 2	Over 3	Over 4	Over 6	Over 8	Over 10	Over 12	Over 14	Over 16	Over 18	Over 20	Over 22	Over 26
E-9							\$576.20	\$589.50	\$603.20	\$616.50	\$630.00	\$642.60	\$676.50	\$717.20
E-8						\$183.60	497.10	510.20	523.80	527.00	549.90	563.40	596.70	641.00
E-7					\$404.10	417.20	430.50	441.20	461.10	477.20	490.20	497.10	509.40	576.70
E-6	\$281.90	\$318.00	\$331.20	\$344.70	358.20	371.10	384.60	404.40	417.20	430.50	447.40			
E-5	226.70	278.70	291.90	294.80	224.80	338.10	351.20	364.20	371.10					
E-4	190.20	238.50	251.70	271.50	285.00									
E-3	137.70	192.00	205.50	218.70										
E-2	113.40	139.00												
E-1	109.50													
E-1 (4 Yrs)	107.20													

This Bull Not Exactly a Ferdinand

1ST BDE - An ambush by an unusual enemy taught a member of the 25th Inf Div a touchy lesson in bullfighting.

"As we were sweeping near Hoc Mon, a suburb of Saigon, I heard a noise off to my left flank," recalls SP4 Daniel J. Langley. "The last thing I remember happening was seeing that bull come charging out of the bushes," added Langley, of Pascagoula, Miss.

"Before I could get my machine gun off my shoulder and get out of the way, he had me airborne."

"The water buffalo struck Langley from the left side and threw him for a loop," remarked SP4 James H. Cook of Troutman, N.C. "After Langley hit the ground, the bull started to trample him."

During the ensuing seconds the members of Alpha Co, 2nd Bn, 14th Inf, operating under the 2nd Bde, watched as SSG James Westbrook, plt sergeant from Columbus, Ga., fired at the bull and drove it off.

"From now on we'll expect anything out of the enemy," added a shaken but unharmed Langley. "Even a VC water buffalo."

500,000th ROUND FIRED BY 1ST BN, 8TH ARTY



500,000th ROUND - At left, ADC BG William T. Gleason, third from right, inspects the painted 105mm howitzer shell used to commemorate the 500,000 round fired by the 25th Inf Div's 1st Bn, 8th Arty, in support of 2nd Bde forces during two years of combat. Right, Gleason pulls the lanyard and the round is on the way. The ceremony took place at a forward support base of the 2nd Bde near Hoc Mon, Gia Dinh Province, during Operation Toan Thong. The 1st Bn, 8th Arty, arrived in Vietnam in Jan 1966, and has provided direct fire support for the 2nd Bde ever since. Holding their ears at right are COL Gordon Summer Jr. (far right), division artillery CO, and LTC Alan M. R. Dean, 8th Arty Bn Commander. (Photos By SP5 Gary Johnson)

67 Years of Preserving Freedom

2ND BDE - The 27th Inf "Wolfhounds" of the 25th Inf Div, celebrated their 67th birthday on May 2, and except for the date and place, it was no different from many celebrations before it.

It was another birthday under fire, in combat in a foreign land.

Born in 1901, the 27th Inf Rgmt, now the 1st and 2nd Bns, 27th Inf., has served in five wars to save or restore the peace in the Pacific.

On May 2, 1902, the 27th Inf broke the back of the Moro Insurrection in the Philippines. For this reason, the opening day of the three-day Battle of Bayan has become the Organization Day for the unit.

In 1918 and 1919, the Wolfhounds marked the end of their second decade of service -in Siberia, where they became the first Americans to fight communism.

Nicknamed Wolfhounds by the stunned Bolshevik forces struggling to engulf Russia, the 27th Inf became a symbol of ferocious attack, tenacious pursuit and unflagging esprit.

Twenty-five years later, the Wolfhounds again were locked in battle, this time storming their way across the Pacific from Guadalcanal to Luzon.

Fighting in the cold, hard, bitter years of the Korean War, the Wolfhounds earned the reputation as the "finest fighting machine in the U.S. Army."

In 1966, the 27th Inf battalions landed in Vietnam and fought their way to Cu Chi. Dodging a constant barrage of sniper fire and mortars, the Wolfhounds established the huge base camp of the 25th Inf Div.

Their record of service is unsurpassed: the 27th Inf Rgmt holds three Distinguished Unit Citations, four foreign Presidential Unit Citations, a Valorous Unit Citation and 17 campaign streamers earned in battlefields throughout the Orient.

Among the men who served under its colors are GEN of the Army John J. Pershing and Omar Bradley, and MG Frank Baldwin, winner of two Medals of Honor.

But the Wolfhound story is not merely one of valor and sacrifice and success in the field; it is also a story of benevolence

in victory.

Wherever they have fought, the Wolfhounds have acted as individuals and as units to ensure the development of the people they have beaten.

Nowhere is this more evident than in the Holy Family Home in Osaka, Japan, where on Christmas 1949, the men of the 27th Inf found 140 Japanese war orphans huddled in three tarpaper shacks.

Each payday since then, Wolfhounds in time of war or of peace, have contributed to the orphanage. Helping them have been the men of the 1st Bn, 8th Arty, who fought with the 27th Inf during World War II, Korea, and again in Vietnam.

The orphanage, generally considered one of the finest in the Orient, has become the scene of a yearly pilgrimage.

From Mindanao in the Solomons, from Heartbreak Ridge to Cu Chi, the 27th Inf Rgmt has earned its motto: Nec Aspera Terrent - "No Fear on Earth."

Its highest tribute, however, comes from a grateful nation and a grateful state that has adopted it as its own. The tribute is best evidence by that state, which this year passed a resolution honoring the Wolfhounds for their years of service.

"Whereas the 27th Inf (The Wolfhounds) has distinguished itself not only in battles to preserve our freedom, but has distinguished itself not only in battles to preserve our freedom, but has become famous for its humanitarian effort . . . Be it resolved by the Senate of the Fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii . . . that it expresses its appreciation to the men of the 27th Inf (The Wolfhounds) on the 67th birthday of their organization for their many sacrifices to preserve the freedom of the Nation."

Troopers
of the
2nd Bn,
27th Inf,
leap from
a 25th Inf
Div
helicopter
as it
sweeps
into a
landing
zone
during
Operation
Kole
Kole.
(Photo By
SP4 Joe
Carey)





A 105mm howitzer of the 1st Bn, 8th Arty, fires in support of the Wolfhounds during Operation Kolo Kolo. (Photo By 1LT Bruce Burton)



Wolfhounds and a Vietnamese interpreter scramble to waiting helicopters during Operation Saratoga. (Photo By SGT Ross Roessler)



Like Pied Pipers, a pair of Wolfhounds march through Hoc Mon during Operation Quyet Thang, surrounded by children. (Photo By SGT Ross Roessler)



A trio of men from the 1st and 2nd Bns, 27th Inf, and the 1st Bn, 8th Arty, visit with children of the Holy Family Home in Osaka during a 1966 Christmas visit to Japan. (US Army Photo)

Respect The Rights Of Others - LAW DAY

There are men in today's Army who can remember when May Day - the first day of the fifth month - was celebrated as a festival honoring the arrival of full springtime. Flowers were the mark of May Day, then . . .

But that was back before World War I.

In the wake of that conflict came a new kind of May Day, spawned by the forces that made Soviet Communism. Instead of flowers and happy times, Red May Day featured weapons and threats directed toward the rest of the world which remained free. A clenched fist of lawless power replaced the open hand of friendship.

Ten years ago President Eisenhower, at the behest of the law-minded and law-abiding citizens of our country, established still a third kind of May Day.

It was - and is - Law Day, USA.

Law Day, this year, fell on Wednesday, 1 May 1968. Its theme, as announced by a Presidential Proclamation, is: "Only a

lawful society can build a better society."

Its purpose is to remind us of the debt we owe to the law under which we live: to our law, for it has been shaped and polished by the citizens of America, working through our openly elected representatives, chosen by us to make laws which govern us.

On Law Day each citizen should make a personal commitment to obey the law; to respect the rights of others; to aid law enforcements officers; and to uphold the judgments of the courts.

If there is one single thing that sets the Free World apart from the tyranny of Communism it is law in action. Under democracy, the people establish their own laws through their own representatives. They are able to change those laws as the need arises.

But under Communism it is the law which is the master of the citizen, and it is a harsh, cruel, and tyrannical thing with which to live.

No Help, No Hope

To understand how much our law means to you, try to imagine this situation.

You and your family are at home asleep. Suddenly there is a loud hammering on the door. It jars you awake, and frightens your wife and children. You look at the clock. It is 3:30 in the morning.

Still half asleep you go to the door and ask who is there.

"Police," comes back a voice. "Open up."

You unlatch the door. It is slammed back at you so hard you bounce against the wall. Before you recover your balance a burly cop grabs you by the hair and jerks you to the floor. Other cops are pouring in from the street. You start to get to your feet.

Another policeman kicks your legs out from under you. A third boots you, in the face as you lie there.

You obey when they tell you to remain quiet.

You lie there while you hear your wife screaming upstairs, and your kids shrieking in fright, and while you watch and hear the cops rip your home apart, searching for something they do not find.

You lie there and think. They are not nice thoughts.

You know, absolutely and without question, that you are not guilty of anything. And you also know that it will be up to you to prove it, because the law of your land presumes that you're guilty until you prove yourself otherwise.

You know you will not get a lawyer to represent you. You know you will be imprisoned until the authorities get around to your case. You know you will not have an open, public trial. You know you will have no chance to confront your accusers, nor to cross examine them.

You know you can be sentenced at the court's whim to anything up to life imprisonment, or even to death - and with no hope of appeal. You know that everything you own can be confiscated, and your wife and kids kicked out into the street, with nothing, to be common laborers if they're lucky, and to starve if they're not.

And you know that your case is not very unusual, because literally millions of your fellow citizens have received the same treatment.

That is the way it is for countless people who live under the savage legal codes of Communist or other dictator countries.

The Law Protects You

In reality you are one of the luckiest people on this earth: Lucky because you live under a law which is designed to protect the honest citizen, not only against wrongdoers, but even against his own government.

It has been said that the law is something like the air: it constantly surrounds us, and we are usually not conscious of it, yet without it we could not survive.

For our law protects and fosters individual freedom.

The truth of this is evident all around you.

Every church you see stands there as a monument to religious freedom - under the law. Each newspaper you read is a living expression of a free press - under the law.

The public libraries and schools that abound are symbols of the freedom to learn - under the law. The town meeting you attend is freedom of speech under the law. Every town courthouse is the home of equal justice for all - under the law.

There are very few nations left where this is true. And that is one reason why countries which adhere to these ideals, are collectively known as the "Free World."

The Development Of Our Law

Nobody gave us the law under which we live so freely. Our fore-fathers, and theirs before them, had to work for it.

Our law is a curious mixture of Old Roman, dating back before the time of Christ, with Anglo-Saxon customs developed in South Germany, added to Norman-French common law. These systems became blended in the England that began to arise from the Dark Ages of western civilization.

Out of them, after almost seven centuries of experience, came the laws of England. These laws, adopted and modified to American needs during our almost two hundred years of independence, have given us the jurisprudence we enjoy today.

In very simplified form, Roman Law gave us the concept of a codified legal system in which the laws were created by a legislative body specifically established for this purpose.

From the Anglo-Saxons we inherited the dim beginnings of the idea of judgment only by our peers. And the Norman-

French brought us the basics of the relationships between the governing and the governed.

When the Thirteen Colonies broke free from England, they took with them a heritage of law as a thing of the people.

Law, American Style

Our country's contribution to law was the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. This is the oldest existing legal system which, in writing, expresses the basic concepts of governmental legality and the relationship of the citizen to his government.

It is such a near-perfect creation that a majority of countries have tried to copy it for their own use. Where they have followed its spirit, those countries have provided better government for the majority of their people.

It is under the Constitution that we, as citizens, are guaranteed the concept that we are presumed to be innocent until we are proven guilty . . . and are entitled to legal counsel of our choice . . . and to speedy trial, conducted by an impartial and independent judiciary . . . before a jury composed of our peers . . . and with the assurance of an open, public trial . . . and the right to know, and cross-examine, those who accuse us . . . with full protection of our right to appeal . . . and with a guarantee against cruel and unusual punishments . . .

Probably four out of five people in this world would give anything to live under such protection. What we and the rest of the Free World have in our laws and our judicial systems is beyond price.

We are lucky. We have inherited a fair and just law. We should never forget this truth: Only a lawful society can build a better society.



**NO ONE
HOME - SP4
Arnold
Bergstrom, C
Co, 65th
Engs, works
with the 2nd
Bn, 12th Inf,
in checking
out an enemy
base camp the
3rd Bde, 25th
Inf Div, force
found
northwest of
Tay Ninh on
Operation
Toan Thong.
(Photo By SP5
Robert Ault)**

3rd Bde Mobility Proving Itself

3RD BDE - Mobility, the U.S. Army's number one asset in Vietnam. The 3rd Bde, 25th Inf Div has proven its mobility many times ever since the first of Dec, when the Bde Command Post and Hqs elements began touring War Zone C.

First it was to Soui Tre, the site of the Bde's battle with an NVA force last Mar. But, in Dec, the VC and NVA had abandoned the area. Two weeks of operations turned up only 4,500 hand grenades and a few booby traps.

Then, the Bde CP moved to Fire Support Base Burt, 12 kms from the Cambodian border. For the first few days it seemed as though the enemy was not there either. Then, on the night of New Years Day, elements of the 271 and 272 NVA Regiments attempted to overrun Burt. The New Year began with the Bde killing over 300 of the enemy that night and over 500 for the three weeks in the area. The Bde then returned to Dau Tieng.

Time in the base camp was short as the men were called for duty against the VC and NVA units north of Tan Son Nhut early in the Tet offensive. The task was to take the offensive away from the enemy and clear them out of the Tan Son Nhut area.

Commanded by COL Leonard R. Daems, the 3rd Bde units found and destroyed large numbers of the enemy, pushed them out of their strongholds and away from the populated areas. Dozens of 122mm rockets, mortar rounds and numerous

weapons were seized from the enemy. During these operations, the Command Post moved three more times.

Finally, after almost four months in the field, the 3rd Bde, 25th Inf Div CP has returned to base camp, still mobile, still ready to go after Charlie.

Close in Fighting Nets 18 For Hounds

2ND BDE - A company of the 25th Inf Div killed at least 18 members of an entrenched Viet Cong platoon it encountered at point blank range during an Operation Quyet Thang sweep near Saigon.

Co C, 2nd Bn, 27th Inf "Wolfhounds," operating under the 3rd Bde, engaged the enemy unit only 10 minutes after it landed in canal and rice paddy country near Hoc Mon, a suburb northwest of Saigon.

According to 1SG Henry C. Klaput of Marina, Calif., the action began when the company's point man, SP4 Larry Johnson of Prattville, Ala., spotted and shot a Viet Cong less than 10 meters to his front.

CPT Robert W. McClellan, Co CO from Summit, N.J., called for helicopter gunship support, then maneuvered his troops against what they soon discovered to be a series of enemy fortifications.

McClellan described the fighting as "pretty heavy," adding that many of his men were firing less than 20 feet from the enemy bunkers.

"We were so close we were throwing grenades underhanded," Klaput said.

After seven hours of fighting, McClellan pulled the company back to wait out the night. Sweeping through the area the next morning, they found 18 Viet Cong bodies and captured several weapons.

The company commander praised his first sergeant for doing "an outstanding job. He was throwing hand grenades and getting his men together despite heavy fire."

Klaput later said he thought the Viet Cong were at first trying to avoid a fight.

"I'm surprised they didn't open fire on us as we were landing. I really think they were hoping we would miss them in the bunkers, but when Johnson got too close, they had to fire," he said.

USAF FACS SET RECORD WITH 25TH

CU CHI - U.S. Air Force forward air controllers (FAC) flew a record number of hours last month in support of 2nd Bde, 25th Inf Div troops.

MAJ Douglas B. Brittain of Alexandria, La., said his team from the 19th Tactical Air Support Squadron at Bien Hoa flew 472 hours last month, compared to 440 hours during the heavy Tet fighting in February.

During the heaviest fighting of the month, the three day Battle of Trang Bang which began on March 24, the FAC's directed virtually round-the-clock air strikes in support of ground elements.

In the 162 air strikes directed by the 2nd Bde FAC's, jet fighter bombers dropped high explosives on enemy troop concentrations, fortifications and supply areas, Brittain said.

Additionally, bomb damage assessment includes 354 bunkers, 106 military structures and 355 meters of trenchline destroyed; 93 bunkers and 19 military structures damaged; 790 meters of trenchline, 65 spider holes, 12 tunnels and 21 fighting positions uncovered.

ARMY NG CPT DECIDES TO SERVE IN VN

CU CHI - A Connecticut Army National Guard captain who felt he could best serve his country on active duty is currently serving as the commanding officer of Co A, 65th Eng Bn, 25th Inf Div.

Prior to volunteering for duty in Vietnam, CPT Rene C. Provost of Danielson, Conn., was the commanding officer of the 250th Eng Co of the Connecticut Army National Guard.

"I felt that I had sufficient training, and that what our country was doing in Vietnam was right." said Provost. "I also felt that a man should serve his country in the best way he can."

As the commanding officer of Co A, Provost will be in charge of engineer teams which are directly supporting infantry units in the field.

According to Provost this direct support consists of providing mine clearing teams to keep the road open to truck convoys between Cu Chi and Trang Bang, 18 kms west of the division's base camp, destroying Viet Cong tunnels and bunkers as well as building bridges over streams that would otherwise be impassable.

Of his assignment to Co A, Provost says, "Being assigned to a line unit I get a truer picture of what we are doing over here."

34th Armor Powerful At Trang Bang

TAY NINH - The battle of Trang Bang, 54 kms northwest of Saigon, proved a classic example of Armor's ability to gain and maintain contact as a task force of the 2nd Bn, 34th Armor, fought a continuous battle of over 50 hours.

The task force consisted of Co C, 1st Bn (Mech), 5th Inf, and Co C of the 4th Bn (Mech), 23rd, with recon elements and tanks of the 34th Armor spearheading an offensive drive north of Trang Bang which killed 71 North Vietnamese soldiers.

The 25th Inf Div task force engaged elements of the 9th North Vietnamese Army (NVA) Div during the afternoon and did not break contact until two days later.

As the fighting raged on into the night the units were able to continue their devastating fire power and assault en masse with the aid of illumination from the tanks, air strikes, and gunship assaults.

The task force relentlessly routed the enemy from his concealed bunkers. Fighting day and night the units drove the enemy from his advantage point on a hill and continued to pursue him.

Since the completion of Operation Yellowstone, the 2nd Bn, 34th Armor, has successfully conducted offensive operations in the Tan Hoa area, Thai My, and Ho Bo Woods areas.

LTC John Tipton, commanding officer of the 2nd Bn, 34th Armor, attributes his units achievements to the ability, courage and tenacity of his men combined with Armor's inherent capacity to reach quickly with massive fire power.



HAPPY HOME - CPT John J. Theologos, left, and 1LT Stanley McKee, play with orphans at the Viet Hoa home in Saigon, while a trooper of the 25th Inf Div's 1st Bn (Mech), 5th Inf, carts off a bag of rice donated by the battalion. (Photo By SP4 Jake Southwick)

2nd Bde CPT and Chaplain Aid Orphanage With Money, Rice

2ND BDE - A 25th Inf Div CPT recently returned to the former home of his adopted Vietnamese daughter, bringing with him five tons of rice and a Catholic chaplain with a \$1,000 gift.

CPT John J. Theologos of New York, a former company commander with the 1st Bn (Mech), 5th Inf, and Chaplain (CPT) Robert Falabella of Washington, D.C., Bn chaplain, delivered the rice and money to the Viet Hoa Orphanage in Saigon.

For Theologos, it was a sentimental journey. Stationed near Saigon during his first tour in Vietnam in 1963-1964, the 2nd Bde officer experienced "one of those love at first sight affairs" during a visit to the orphanage.

Instead of taking an R & R leave that tour, Theologos spent a week in Saigon and adopted a 19-month old girl, who now lives with his family in New York.

When the Tropic Lightning battalion recently discovered a huge enemy base camp and rice cache in the Filhol Plantation during Operation Quyet Thang, Theologos suggested a part of the rice be donated to the orphanage.

LTC Thomas C. Lodge of Deland, Fla., agreed, and gave the captain full permission to organize a truck convoy to carry the food to the orphanage.

Falabella, meanwhile, had received \$850 from a Catholic church at Ft. Knox, Ky., and instructions "to donate the money to a worthy cause."

Remembering the orphanage and Theologos' adopted child, the priest asked to go along when the battalion donated the rice. Adding \$150 out of his own pocket, Falabella presented the \$1,000 gift to the grateful sisters and children of the orphanage.

Singapore Shots

SINGAPORE (AP) - The government has declared Singapore a cholera-infected area after a 66-year-old laborer was stricken with the disease. Inoculations are being checked on incoming personnel.



IN FINE SHAPE - Showgirl Jeanne Carroll, who really believes in sweaters, spends her time in Las Vegas, Nev., appearing in musical comedy spectacles.

Cathy's Tip Of The Week...

Carbon in the chamber of your M16 may cause it to malfunction. Use a rifle bore cleaner to remove the carbon and keep your weapon working properly. A weapon that doesn't work points to negligence by the user.



14 VC Killed By Roving 3/22

3RD BDE - Viet Cong who throw rocks don't last long against troops of the 3rd Bn, 22nd Inf, of the 3rd Bde, 25th Inf Div. What began as a night ambush patrol near the Saigon River for Charlie Co turned into a strange game of hide-and-seek for the "Regulars" company.

"We mortared our ambush site, a small island, just before moving into it in order to scare off any VC that might have been there," explained 1LT Charles J. Boyle, Co CO from Detroit, Mich.

"We must have scared them (the VC) off with our mortar fire," continued Boyle, "because they swam back out to the island and began to probe our position by throwing rocks into the area."

At this point Boyle called in for an artillery illumination round over his position. When the round burst into light, the VC froze in their tracks, and the Americans opened fire. The result was five enemy body count.

Nine VC

Even heavy camouflage didn't help a VC sampan escape night ambush by the Regulars.

Having set up along the bank of the Saigon River, Bravo Co's first Plt proceeded to intercept two communist sampans during the course of the night.

The first came downriver soon after dark, only to meet a hail of fire from the Plat's machineguns and small arms. Two VC bodies were recovered.

Undeceived by the camouflage, the Regulars cut loose on the floating "greenhouse" and scored seven more Viet Cong killed and another sampan put out of commission for good.

'Coach' Holbrook Calls Plays

1ST BDE - A 25th Inf Div master sergeant was calling signals just like a football game back home, except enemy bullets were cracking overhead and his only refuge was a haystack.

Co B of the 2nd Bn, 14th Inf, was preparing to assault the right flank of an enemy bunker line in a 2nd Bde battle 48 kms northwest of Saigon.

According to 1LT Michael S. Tooke of Lakeview, Ore., "Most of the company had moved up on line and down behind a large dike."

When the company airlifted into rice paddies near the enemy fortifications, a group of soldiers took cover to the rear of the main body of the company. MSG Samuel O. Holbrook, the company's top sergeant, dashed to the rear and took cover behind a haystack.

"A haystack was the only protection 'Top' could find, so that's where he went," recalled SP4 John A. Quatroke of Algonquin, Ill. "Bullets were going right through the hay, but at least he could kind of hide from the VC while he directed us."

From behind the haystack, blowing a whistle and shouting encouragement, Holbrook maneuvered the soldiers toward the main assault line.

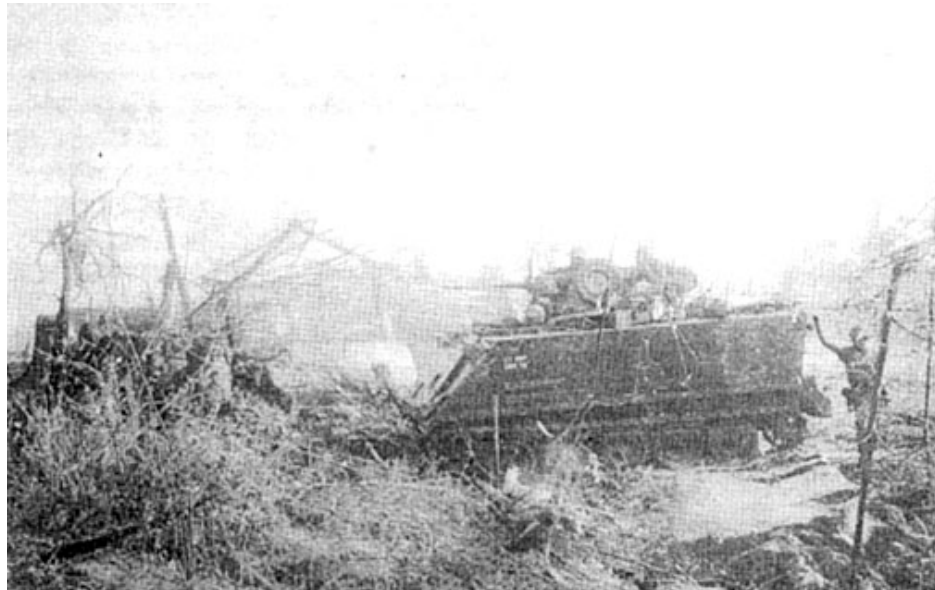
"We had just got off the choppers when we received fire from our front and we grabbed the first protection we could find," said SP4 Roy G. Tweed.

"Top came back for us and when he started blowing his whistle, we knew just what to do."

"He wanted us to get on line, and if it hadn't been for all the bullets flying over our heads, I would have thought I was back in my old high school days playing football," Tweed said.

The company later conducted a successful assault against the Viet Cong lines.

STANDING GUARD - An armored personnel carrier of the 2nd Bde, 25th Inf Div stops near the wreckage of a house as Operation Quyet Thong troops overrun an enemy-held village 50 kms northwest of Saigon. (Photo By SP5 Gary Johnson)



Camp Destroyed

2ND BDE - "Wolfhounds" of the 25th Inf Div destroyed a company-sized enemy base camp on an Operation Toan Thang reconnaissance in force near Cu Chi.

Members of Co A, 2nd Bn, 27th Inf, destroyed 22 bunkers, 13 spider holes and a 150 foot tunnel, reported CPT Robert Kesler, Co CO.

The Wolfhounds also found and destroyed 17 Chicom hand grenades, five anti-personnel mines, two anti-tank rocket launchers and eight butterfly bombs.



COL Leonard R. Daems, at left, the CO of the 3rd Bde, 25th Inf Div, congratulates men of the 3rd Bn, 22nd Inf, on their receiving the Silver Star for their part in a battle in which the unit killed 137 Viet Cong. The men are, from left, CPT Gerald J. White, commanding officer of Co D; 1LT Richard J. Prairie, commanding officer of Co B; SFC Robert E. Nelson, Co D; SGT Edward D. Crow, Co B; SP5 Carl L. Felgenhauer, attached to Co C; and not pictured, SP4 David Chedester, medic with the reconnaissance platoon. (Photo By SP4 Paul Payne)

Thanks to:
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