

# Maj. Gen. Peers Assumes Command Of Division



MAJ. GEN. COLLINS

**Dragon Mountain**—Major General William R. Peers, former special assistant to the Joint Chiefs of Staff for counterinsurgency, has assumed command of the 4th Infantry Division.

Major General Arthur S. Collins Jr., who has commanded the Ivy Division since July 1965, turned over the colors of command to his successor in a ceremony Tuesday afternoon at Dragon Mountain.

The former division commander, who has been nominated for promotion to lieu-

tenant general, has left Vietnam to take up a new post in the Pentagon.

General Peers, a native of Stuart, Iowa, returns to command the Famous Fourth after serving as its assistant division commander from September 1963 to July 1964 at Ft. Lewis, Wash.

Assembled troops from the Ivy Division's 2nd Brigade, division headquarters and support elements witnessed the colorful ceremony of the change of command on the Dragon Mountain airstrip.

General Collins, in his farewell address to the men of his division, congratulated them on the successes that they had enjoyed together since coming to Vietnam and admonished them to give the same loyalty and devotion to their new commander.

Sergeant Major Thomas J. Tobin, division sergeant major, then passed the division colors from General Collins to General Peers to symbolize the passing of command.



MAJ. GEN. PEERS



IVY LEAF

FAMOUS FOURTH

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FOR PARTICIPATION IN ATTLEBORO

## Six Soldiers From 2/22nd Awarded Vietnamese Medals

**Cu Chi** — Six members of the 2nd Battalion, 22nd Infantry, recently received Vietnamese medals for their participation in Operation Attleboro.

More than a hundred men from the 4th Infantry Division's 3rd Brigade, the 25th Infantry Division, the 196th Light Infantry Brigade and the 173rd Airborne Brigade were honored in the ceremony at the 25th Division Headquarters at Cu Chi.

Receiving the Cross of Gallantry with Gold Star was Lieutenant Colonel Richard W. Clark, commander of the 2/22nd.

The Cross of Gallantry with Bronze Star went to Staff Sergeant William Shephard, Sergeant Harold Hankins, Specialist 4 Thomas Gentry and Private First Class David Mathews.

The Cross of Gallantry with Bronze Star was also awarded to Specialist 4 Velen Garcia who is still in a hospital recovering from wounds received during Attleboro.

Vietnamese Lieutenant General Le Nguyen Khang and Major General Phan Trong Chinh presented the awards, Major General Fred C. Weyand, 25th Division commander, and Brigadier General George G. O'Connor, assistant commander of the

25th, witnessed the presentations.

In a brief speech after the medals were given out, General Khang told the men that the Vietnamese "recognize all your help and all your success" in Operation Attleboro, and thanked the men on behalf of the Vietnamese government and citizenry.

## Operation Revere V Begins In Pleiku, Kontum Provinces

(MACV) — Operation Paul Revere IV was terminated last Saturday night and Revere V was launched Sunday with no change in troops or area of operation.

Paul Revere IV, a multi-brigade operation which began October 18, included battalions from the 2nd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division; 2nd Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile); and 3rd Brigade Task Force, 25th Division.

The fighting took place in northwestern Pleiku Province and the southwestern portion of Kontum Province and accounted for 977 enemy dead, 90 prisoners captured, 331 suspects detained, and 280 individual and 28 crew-served

weapons seized.

Pilots flew 2,800 air sorties in support of the ground troops.

Cumulative friendly casualties were light during the operation.

No offensive action was initiated Sunday in Revere V because of the New Year truce period.

Operation Adams, which the 4th Division's 1st Brigade is waging in Phu Yen Province, continues with no major contact with the enemy reported last week.

The total enemy dead has climbed to 164. Ivy troops have captured 102 prisoners and detained 1,057 suspects.

Eighty-one individual and one crew-served weapons have been seized since the battalion-size operation started October 26. Aircraft have flown 139 sorties for the Ivymen.

Friendly casualties remain light.

A total of 111 incidents, 24 of them considered significant and reported to the press were logged during the New Year truce period from 7 a.m. December 31 to 7 a.m. January 2.

The 4th Division was not involved in any of the significant incidents.

## Artillerymen Believe In Old Saying

**Dragon Mountain** — According to the old adage, "It's better late than never."

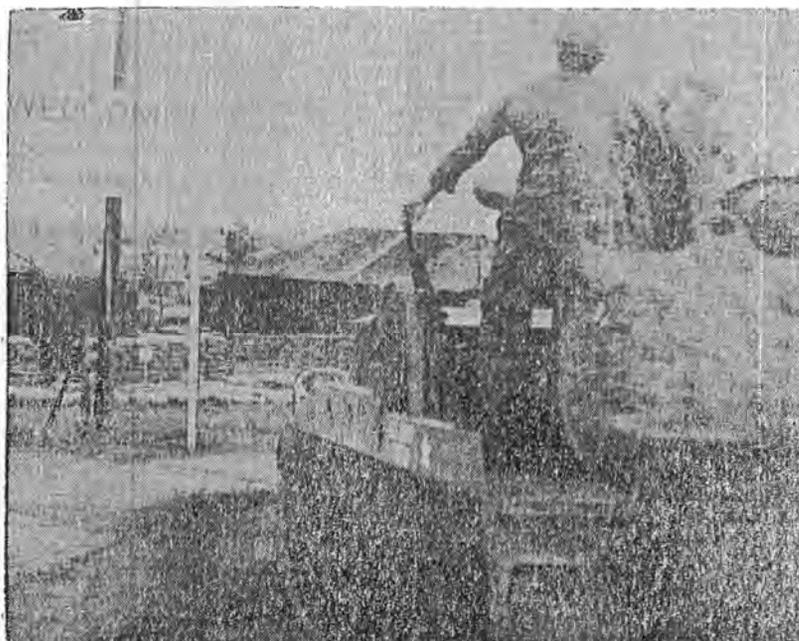
Members of Batteries B, C and D of the 5th Battalion, 16th Artillery, who arrived at the Ivy Division's Dragon Mountain base camp two days before Christmas, couldn't agree more.

As they drove their 10-ton self-propelled 155 millimeter and eight-inch self-propelled howitzers into the base camp, a sign was strategically located to greet them.

It read "Welcome to Dragon Mountain base camp from Fort Lewis via Paul Revere IV."

The "big boys" of the Ivy Division's artillery actually arrived in Vietnam October 6 at Qui Nhon. Once off the boat they began making the necessary preparations to get their equipment on the road. Their weapons had been combat readied at Ft. Lewis, Wash.

Two days after landing  
(Cont'd on p-8, Col. 3)



AT LONG LAST—Elements of the Ivy Division's "Big Punch," the 5th Battalion, 16th Artillery, arrive "home" for the first time since their arrival in Vietnam. The "Redlegs" have been deployed in support of Paul Revere IV since early October. (USA Photo)



EDITORIAL

## Combat Diplomats

There is a saying among some old-timers in the Armed Forces that "The service just isn't what it used to be."

Understandably so. The role of the military man has undergone many changes in the 191 years since the United States became a nation.

The primary mission of the military man is still to defend his nation "against all enemies, both foreign and domestic."

In this, the United States Armed Forces has no equal. The soldier, sailor, airman and Marine of today has repeatedly shown he is just as tough, courageous, well-trained and dedicated to the principles of freedom as the men of Valley Forge, Bull Run, Belleau Wood, Corregidor and Pork Chop Hill.

However, in today's fast-paced, tension-filled world, the military man must be more than simply a combat-ready guardian of freedom. He must also be a diplomat, teacher, humanitarian, scientist and public relations man in uniform.

In these capacities America's service personnel have proven their worth. Whether seeking marauding Viet Cong, giving medical care in a disaster-stricken village, teaching a class on democratic principles or sharing rations with a starving child, the military man of today serves the nation well.

Some of the old-timers are right, the service isn't what it used to be. It's a lot more. (AFNB)



## 'Real Character'

By Chaplain (Capt.) Walter K. Sauer

In looking about and getting to know the men who are in your unit, you will find some "real characters."

At first they may seem like quiet individuals. But as you get to know them better, they become friendlier and soon are considered the "life of the party."

Most of us in Vietnam are in a completely different society for the first time in our lives. We do not feel many of the social pressures now that we are away from home.

Because of this, do we still maintain the high standards of character that we have been taught and have lived by in our own country? Or do we feel released from these obligations while living in a

different land?

The farther away we get from the front lines of battle, the more relaxed we become. Is this true also of our moral standards?

Someone said, "The measure of a man's real character is that which he would do if he knew he would never be found out." The bible says, "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he" (Proverbs 23:7).

# Permanent Chapel Erected With Stateside Donations

By Sp5 Fred Karolski

**Dragon Mountain** — Through the efforts of Chaplain (Major) Bruce C. Hemple (Alameda, Calif.), Division Artillery chaplain, the 4th Infantry Division's base camp is witnessing the erection of its first permanent chapel.

The tale of the chaplain and the chapel begins in March 1966 when Chaplain Hemple, then attending the Army chaplain's career course at Ft. Hamilton, N.Y., learned of his impending

assignment to the 4th Infantry Division. When he arrived at Ft. Lewis, Wash., in July 1966 he learned his unit would be deployed overseas.

"Immediately I thought of construction of a chapel for the men of the division," said the chaplain. "From friends already serving in Vietnam, I learned of the difficulty of erecting a chapel early in a tour of duty since other projects are given priority. So, I pondered the problem, and an idea struck me—why not take a chapel with us?"

**52nd Aviation Bn Sponsors Le Loi Boy Scout Troop**

**Camp Holloway** — The end product of a civic action project of the 52nd Combat Aviation Battalion was witnessed recently as the Le Loi Boy Scout Troop journeyed to Camp Holloway to receive its official troop flag from Lieutenant Colonel Foy Rice of Norman, Okla., battalion commander.

Proud of the opportunity to sponsor such a troop, members of the 52nd Aviation Battalion voluntarily provided funds to outfit the boys with uniforms and equipment. The troop is now one of the best dressed and equipped scout units in the Central Highland region.

During the ceremony, the Le Loi Troop presented Colonel Rice with a scout pennant upon which was embroidered the likeness of Baden Powell, the father of the Boy Scout movement. The pennant was given as an expression of the troop's appreciation for the assistance rendered by the battalion.

Although there are many Boy Scouts in Vietnam, the Le Loi Troop is the only club consisting entirely of Montagnard boys.

**Major Ivy Serving 2nd Tour With 4th**

**Dragon Mountain** — What a way to get your name in the news!

The 4th Infantry Division is nicknamed the "Ivy" Division. Wouldn't you know it, there is a namesake in the Ivy Division's Support Command. His name — Major James Ivy.

As if that is not enough, Major Ivy is presently serving his second tour of duty with the 4th Division. His first was 1957-58 at Ft. Lewis, Wash.

lighting fixtures for the chapel," he concluded.

Though men of the Ivy Division utilized the partially completed chapel for Christmas services, dedication ceremonies are scheduled for late this month.

## Troops, Villagers Enjoy Bi-Lingual Entertainment

**Dragon Mountain** — The 4th Infantry Division's Civil Affairs Section recently ventured into the bi-lingual entertainment business.

The psychological operations department of the section brought a Vietnamese Culture Team from the 20th ARVN Psychological Battalion to American and Vietnamese soldiers in forward areas.

The team—equivalent to an American USO show—also performed in Montagnard villages near Plei Djereng.

A talented group of six women and 14 men played and sang numerous popular tunes in both Vietnamese and English. Favorites as "I Left My Heart in San Francisco" and "Love Potion Number Nine" highlighted the program.

A G-5 spokesman commented that, judging from audience reaction to the entertainers' performances, this phase of psychological operations seems to be very effective in bolstering morale of both villagers and soldiers alike.



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## 2/8th Troops Pause At 'Whistlestop'

Dragon Mountain — Ever hear of a whistlestop? That's what members of Captain David I. Sprout's Company A, 2nd Battalion, 8th Infantry, thought the Ivy Division base camp was.

The "Panther" company has been attached to the 1st Battalion, 69th Armor, providing security of the Meng Geng Pass area. The infantrymen had been on the mission since the early part of December.

Two days before Christmas they pulled into their Dragon Mountain base camp "home" just long enough to pick up or exchange personal gear (about long enough to whistle a short tune) and then the sergeants yelled, "OK, load 'em up."

It was then back to the area of operations on another mission with the Ivy Division in Paul Revere IV.



**OFF AGAIN** — Specialist 4 Kenneth A. Varney, machine gunner assigned to Company A, 2nd Battalion, 8th Infantry, prepares to board a truck which will take him and the rest of his company back to an area of operations after an hour pause in the Dragon Mountain base camp. (USA Photo by SFC Richard West)

## Division's Incoming Personnel Receive Five Days Of Training

Dragon Mountain — All incoming personnel of the 4th Division must go through a rigorous training and familiarization program at the Ivy Division's Replacement Center before joining a unit.

Located at the division base camp, the replacement detachment is presently "in-country" processing 50 to 60 men a day. Upon arrival these men are interviewed and assigned to a specific unit within the division.

Before going to their units, they are given a five-day block of instruction designed to familiarize them with up-to-

date tactics employed in Vietnam.

Courses range from familiarization with the M-16 rifle to a one day class on booby-trap devices being used by the Viet Cong. This instruction is given by soldiers who have had combat experience in Vietnam.

Since the majority of the replacements are infantrymen, the training is specifically geared toward their needs. The training program culminates with night patrols in which all trainees take part.

Commanded by Captain Michael F. Merrick (Worcester, Mass.), the replacement training program has been in effect since the beginning of November.

First Sergeant Richard H. Engel (Bainbridge, N.Y.) is responsible for the efficiency of the program.

"Each man," said Sergeant Engel, "should absorb as much of the instruction as he can because he will find all of it invaluable to him once he gets in the field."

## Medic, Barber, Sanitation Inspector

# Trio Of Jobs Keeps 1/22nd Soldier Busy

By PFC Robert Cox  
Plei Djereng — Specialist 5 Steve B. Seymour is indispensable to Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry, because he is the company medic, barber and sanitation inspector.

In his "official" position

## 2/12th Unveils First Totem Pole In Vietnam

Dau Tieng — The 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry has unveiled its 35-foot high totem pole in front of the battalion headquarters.

The totem pole, which the battalion claims is the only one in Vietnam, was originally erected at Ft. Lewis, Wash., in the late 1950s. It was going to be left behind when the move was made to the combat zone.

However, officers of the 4th Division general's staff ribbed the 2/12th about deserting the pole. The men of the battalion took this as "a challenge to the esprit of the unit," according to Colonel Marvin B. Fuller, former 2/12th commander and now deputy 3rd Brigade commander.

The totem pole "mysteriously" disappeared shortly before the 2/12th departed Ft. Lewis. Several months later it showed up in sections in Vietnam.

A fresh coat of paint was applied to the pole which has figures representing the 12th Infantry's participation in the Revolutionary, Civil, and Indian Wars, and World Wars I and II. Topping the pole is a replica of the Combat Infantryman Badge.

as senior aidman, Specialist Seymour has a full time job.

During the day he must screen injuries coming in from the field, administer any necessary first aid and get the injured to a hospital as soon as possible. He is always ready to perform an emergency operation in the field should it be necessary.

In his "spare time" he distributes malaria pills and supplies the men with foot powder.

Should you see Specialist Seymour spraying the area, however, it is not because he is getting ready for surgery. He has just become the sanitation inspector. This job includes inspecting food, purifying water and controlling insects.

With a spray gun in hand, Specialist Seymour says "There are bugs, bugs and more bugs out here" but admits that, for the time being, "We're winning that battle."

Twice weekly he puts down his scapel and sprayer to become the company barber and often clips a hundred heads in a day.

A school-trained barber and beauty salon operator before enlisting, Specialist Seymour is never at a loss for conversation. Being a medic he can ask "How are you feeling?" and really mean it.

In summing up his work, Specialist Seymour says, "There are a few complainers, but they, like the bugs, always come back."

## Postal Workers Process 95 Tons Of Holiday Mail

Dragon Mountain — Since Santa was unable to bring his reindeer to Vietnam because of a snow shortage, he had his helpers burn the midnight oil to get packages wrapped and mailed for all the good Ivy men of the 4th Division.

According to Sergeant First Class Ernest D. Sanders, noncommissioned officer-in-charge of the division postal section, "We have received 190,000 pounds of letters and packages since December 1.

In other words, Santa and his helpers have handled 95-tons of "Christmas Care" to Ivy men at the base camp and at the 2nd Brigade forward area.

This figure does not include mail sent to the 1st Brigade at Tuy Hoa or the 3rd Brigade at Dau Tieng.

## 1st Brigadier Receives Card From President

Tuy Hoa — Private First Class Francis M. DiPietro of Cambridge, Mass., has received a card thanking him for his "holiday remembrance" and offering "best wishes for happiness in the New Year" from President and Mrs. Johnson.

The card was in return for a Christmas card the 1st Brigade mechanic had sent to the President.

PFC DiPietro bought a Christmas card in Tuy Hoa and sent it to the President along with a personal note.



**SANTA'S HELPERS** — Receiving, sorting and distributing tons of Christmas mail for members of the 4th Infantry Division at the Dragon Mountain base camp are Private First Class Wallace Alves, Specialist 4 Thomas A. Romanik, Private First Class Robert Swann and Specialist 4 Steven Urcia. Santa's helpers are members of the division postal section. (USA Photo)

## WITH A CARBINE

## Ivyman Hits Target From 1,000 Feet In Air

By PFC Gary M. Silva

**Dau Tieng** — Can you imagine hitting a running target with just a carbine while flying at 40 knots, 1,000 feet in the air?

Impossible you ask? It can't be done you say? Ain't no way in the world it can be accomplished, you ponder? Well, it's true.

There's a Viet Cong either dead or nursing a mighty big wound out in the bush somewhere near the 4th Infantry Division's 3rd Bri-

## Men Honored For Actions In Attleboro

**Dau Tieng** — A recent ceremony at the 4th Infantry Division's 3rd Brigade base camp at Dau Tieng honored men of Battery C, 2nd Howitzer Battalion, 35th Artillery, for their participation in Operation Attleboro in November.

The battery, assigned to the 54th Artillery Group, is currently attached to the Ivy's 2nd Battalion, 77th Artillery.

The unit was attached to the 1st Infantry Division during Attleboro and the awards were made by Brigadier General James R. Hollingsworth, 1st Division deputy commander, and Colonel Lawrence Caruthers, 1st Division artillery commander.

Receiving the Bronze Star Medal for Valor were Sergeant Charles L. Campbell, Corporal Elias Bristol and Private First Class John H. Buckner. Also awarded the medal was Private First Class Marvin Goff, who is still recovering from wounds received in Attleboro.

Presented the Bronze Star Medal were First Lieutenant Leonard Hutchinson, Sergeant First Class Lowell Jones, Staff Sergeant Tommy M. McCleer, Staff Sergeant Boyd C. Spurlock, Staff Sergeant Bobby E. Williams, Sergeant Leo J. Baumgartner, Sergeant Loren G. Gyrion and Corporal Larry L. Tack.

Awarded the Army Commendation Medal were Corporal Horace Tolbert, Specialist 4 Donald E. Moore, Specialist 4 Eddie Walker, Private First Class Joseph S. Backs, Private First Class Truman D. Campbell, Private First Class Richard L. Drost, Private First Class Robert J. Larsen and Private First Class Rodney J. Reamer.

gade base camp at Dau Tieng.

The incident happened while the 2nd Battalion (Mechanized), 22nd Infantry, was on an operation five miles northeast of its Michelin Rubber Plantation base camp.

A 250-pound mine was set off prematurely in front of the lead armored personnel carrier by an over-anxious Viet Cong.

Colonel Marshall B. Garth, 3rd Brigade commander, instructed Warrant Officer Dale L. Johnson of Front Royal, Va., and Captain George C. White III of Towaco, N.J., to scurry into an OH-23 "Bubble" helicopter and search the area.

Approximately 10 minutes had passed when Captain White, battalion intelligence officer, spotted a man running down a dirt road near the detonated mine. It apparently was the same man — or one of his cohorts — that had set off the charge.

WO Johnson removed the chopper's only fire power, a carbine strapped behind the seats, and handed it to Captain White. The helicopter dropped to 1,000 feet and the ship's speed was cut down to 40 knots.

Captain White fired five rounds on automatic knocking the Viet Cong off the road into the bushes. A search by ground forces found no body but the men did come across blood.

"It was quite a shot," WO Johnson said later.

## 2/8th Patrol Captures Viet Cong Rice-Handler

**Plei Djereng** — A routine patrol for men of the Ivy Division's 1st Platoon, Company C, 2nd Battalion, 8th Infantry, turned out to be far from routine.

The patrol, led by First Lieutenant Sidney Godwyn, was probing the dense jungle five miles south of Plei Djereng when a suspicious-looking person was spotted.

The "Panther" troops quickly surrounded and captured the suspect without a shot being fired. The suspect was then questioned by members of a psychological war team accompanying the patrol.

A search of the area



**GUESS AGAIN** — Would you believe it is going to be a baroque castle? How about a Howard Johnson's? All right then, it is the future 4th Aviation Battalion Officers' Club at the Dragon Mountain base camp. (USA Photo)

## 'Better Late Than Never'

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

they moved out. They traveled 100 miles in 11 hours to reach their destination, an area 30 miles west of Pleiku.

There they paused for 76 days while they supported units of 4th Division and Republic of Vietnam Army troops, as well as the 3rd Brigade, 25th Division, taking part in Paul Revere IV in the Central Highlands.

Thanks to the Christmas truce, the Ivy men were finally

able to see what their "home" looked like. They remained in the base camp for two days to celebrate Christmas and then rumbled back to the jungle.

## Smiling Man Finally Admits He's A VC

**Dau Tieng** — A Viet Cong was captured recently by the 2nd Battalion (Mechanized), 22nd Infantry, 4th Infantry Division, without a shot being fired.

The men of Company A had moved their armored personnel carriers seven miles southeast of their Dau Tieng base camp and found a small village on the outskirts of a rubber plantation.

After they surrounded the hamlet the men of the 3rd Brigade entered the village on foot.

Sergeant Lowden F. Bucklew of Louisville directed his men of the 3rd Squad of the 1st Platoon towards the first house after Acting Sergeant Claude C. Fairman of East Point, Ga., reported that he saw a man inside the dwelling.

Quickly, Specialist 4 Billy L. Flynn of Lansing, Mich., and Private First Class Robin D. Strassburg of Pontiac, Mich., moved to the front door while Specialist 4 Charles E. Fletcher of Niles,

## Native-Type Building Houses Officers' Club

**Dragon Mountain** — If you walk past the Ivy Division's 4th Aviation Battalion area in the Dragon Mountain base camp you are likely to do a double take.

"What's that?" you might ask in disbelief.

You're looking at a you-name-it structure sprouting up among the Army tents. You have to see it to believe it. Then, after seeing it, you still find it hard to believe.

It seems the officers of the 4th Aviation Battalion wanted to have a different type of officers' club. "We wanted one with atmosphere," a major said with a twinkle in his eye. Another chopper chief chimed in, "Yeah, man, like we wanted to go native."

And that's exactly what they did. They went native.

The "owners" of the 4th Aviation Battalion Officers' Club hired a group of Montagnard "engineers" to construct an authentic native-type building. The loincloth clad workers took it from there.

Genuine Vietnam-grown bamboo was carted in for the foundation and framework. Elephant grass was cut and thatched onto the roof.

The only western materials used in the construction were a few nails to hold the floor securely to the foundation.

Mich., and Private Gary W. Parker of New Milford, Conn., covered the back. They all entered at once.

A man, a woman and two small children were in the dirty hut—the man, moving from the back door to the front, stopped and smiled as the Americans entered the house.

Private Parker led the man to one side while the remainder of the family was led outdoors. "He just kept smiling at me," Private Parker said.

The smiling man soon found himself face to face with an interpreter, and finally, after lengthy questioning, admitted he was a Viet Cong. He was the first captured by the company.

The remainder of the village was searched by the company. Medical supplies and clothing were uncovered from jugs buried in the ground.

One other suspect was detained, but later released.