

# BRIGADE GAINS THREE NEW COMPANIES

Over 300 new soldiers, three new rifle companies, have joined the 3rd Brigade this past week in an effort to add even more to the strength and striking force of the "Broncos."

Docking at Qui Nhon Monday, the new troops were flown directly to Duc Pho where they began a five day program of processing and training at the Brigade's NCO Academy and replacement school.

Each of the present battalions, the 1st and 2nd of the 35th and the 1st of the 14th, will be assigned one third of the new arrivals. They will be integrated into the existing companies of the battalions, and some, along with experienced veterans selected from the other three companies, will form a new D Company.

Division finance and personnel teams were on hand to process in the new "Bronco Brigaders," which was accomplished in a day and a half. Following that, the troops started a well-planned training program designed to familiarize them with the war in Vietnam.

Under the direction of Commandant, Captain Ronald G. Chrisman, and NCOIC Sergeant First Class Robert Gore, the program includes instruction in  
(continued on page 2)

## "Cacti" Rout VC From Spider Holes

The men of B Company, 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry were only 800 meters from their battalion fire base when the first of six concealed spider holes was discovered.

Located deep in a hedgerow, the entrance was well camouflaged by a dense bamboo thicket.

The 3rd platoon, after discovering the hiding place, began a search and clear of the spider hole, an operation that the infantrymen of the "Cacti Blue" have developed into an extremely successful art.

Slowly and meticulously probing the thicket with sticks and bayonets the hole's covering was located. The cover was a woven metal screen covered with rocks and loose dirt.

## Gen Westmoreland Visits 3rd Brigade

General William C. Westmoreland visited Montezuma Friday and received briefings from Colonel George E. Wear, Bde CO, and the 1/35th and the 2/35th on current operations. The General expressed his congratulations to the infantrymen on the magnificent job they are doing and encouraged them to press on against Communist aggression.

This past week in operations around Duc Pho the 3rd Bde killed 70 enemy and captured 27 weapons and 26 prisoners of war. The "Broncos" maintained search and destroy missions which through extensive "hole hunting"

# New Companies <sup>CONT</sup>

marksmanship, map reading, the principles of patrolling, defensive and offensive tactics, and anti-guerrilla warfare.

There are also blocs of instruction concerning artillery support, first aid, familiarization with revolutionary development and enemy weapons and tactics, and many other subjects of importance to soldiers arriving in Vietnam.

Following the training, the men will join their companies ready to go to battle against the Viet Cong guerrillas that the 3rd Brigade has been successfully fighting in the Duc Pho area.

## Villager Leads 1/35th To A Mine

Once again the 1st Battalion, 35th Infantry's pacification operations in southern Quang Ngai Province have paid off as a local villager voluntarily informed the Americans of a large mine planted along Highway #1 near the coastal village of Sa Huynh.

Relaying the message through a popular forces unit, the villager gave the location of the large mine which was then destroyed by B Company, 19th Engineers.

The 19th Engineers are operating near Sa Huynh on the final segment of Highway #1 that will connect Quang Ngai and Binh Dinh Provinces.

In the 3½ months that the 1st of the 35th has been operating south of the Brigade's Duc Pho command post, the enemy has met with constant defeat.

Most of the large forces have either been driven from the area or annihilated, with the "Cacti Green" turning to pacification projects. Through civil affairs and other assistance programs, the American infantrymen have slowly been winning over the people who are now beginning to realize that none of the promises that the Communists have made are going to be ful-

# SP/4 SAVES AT LEAST FIVE LIVES

Specialist Four Russell J. Dynas of the 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry, saved the lives of at least five members of his squad recently when he heroically picked up a hand grenade thrown into the midst of his squad and threw it back at the would-be ambusher.

Dynas was with his squad from C Company, moving through dense jungle in mountainous terrain, when he saw the grenade in flight, thrown by a concealed VC approximately 20 meters away. Without hesitation Dynas threw his M-16 rifle to the ground and picked up the grenade that had landed about five feet to his front. The southpaw rifleman then hurled the grenade in the direction from which it had been thrown. Seconds later the grenade exploded. He then picked up his rifle and saturated the area with small arms fire. The squad searched the area, finding the dead VC with additional grenades attached to his equipment.

The "Golden Dragon" soldier who was awarded the Purple Heart only a month ago for wounds received from enemy mortar fragments, modestly summed up his heroic feat by saying, "I had no choice. When I saw it (the grenade) coming I knew five or six of my buddies would be injured or killed. I had to do something. The only thing I could think about was my buddies and getting rid of it before it exploded."

First Lieutenant Edward F. Lesko, company executive officer, and platoon leader of Dynas and the "Trail Blaze" platoon before assuming his present duties, described Dynas as "the kind of guy that would just naturally do that kind of thing. He's really a team man."

The six-foot elephant grass and towering bamboo which surrounded Dynas and his squad could have been the cause of the VC kill. There was only one direction in which he could throw the grenade--the direction from which it came.

# ROUT VC

Flipping up the screen, the soldiers detected movement inside the hole. When their call to surrender brought no response the hideout was riddled with M-16 fire. Two enemy guerrillas were killed with grenades and assorted equipment captured.

The day was only beginning however, for B Company. Five more spider holes were discovered in a 100 meter square area.

Searching and clearing the holes, a practice that has been robbing "Charlie" of his most well-concealed daylight sanctuaries, netted two more enemy killed and another captured during the day.

The intensive use of spider holes and tunnels in the Duc Pho area has come about since the 3rd Brigade began defeating and breaking up larger enemy units.

## Eight, With One Shot

The 2nd platoon, led by First Lieutenant Gary Myers of C Company, 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry dug up eight Viet Cong from their under-ground hideouts. The pick and shovel exercise took place north of Duc Pho during operations conducted by the 3rd Brigade.

"The day started out as a routine search and destroy operation," recalled PFC Leland S. Edlen, point man for the 2nd platoon. He continued, "We were no more than 200 meters outside of our company CP when I spotted two VC on a trail. I was only able to get off one shot and they were gone."

Lt. Myers quickly organized his platoon and began a thorough search for the two. "We were able to pick up a blood trail and follow it to a hedgerow," commented Lt. Myers. While probing the area a small camouflaged cone-shaped lid was uncovered. A warning was given for anyone inside to come out. "With no response from the warning we threw in a hand grenade," said Lt. Myers, "and began to dig."

uncovered. Discovering the remarkable way of "Charlie's" camouflaging, the platoon divided into three man teams and began searching the hedgerows on hands and knees with bayonets. Two hours after the first hole was uncovered, a second and third were found. The third hole was actually discovered by a chicken which was scratching around an air hole.

An advanced notice was again given and the VC failed to (continued on page 4)

## "WHITE TEAM" CHOPPERS AID INFANTRYMEN

The newly formed "White Team" of the 3rd Brigade was given a mission recently to be the aerial blocking force for a ground operation. The "White Team" consists of two UH-23s, observation helicopters, each armed with two M-60 machine guns and gunners.

There were two companies of the 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry fighting north of Duc Pho while the "White Team" was picking off the enemy fleeing the fierce battle. Quickly the team had killed four of the enemy and pinned down four more in a trench. They called in a "shark" a gunship from the supporting 174th Aviation Company, which finished off the hiding enemy. The "White Team" needed someone to "police up" the web gear and weapons of the fallen VC so they directed the infantry to the area.

Help soon arrived as two "Hueys" combat-assaulted a squad from the reconnaissance platoon. The squad landed in a small clearing near a village where the "White Team" had not received any ground to air fire. But as the squad was unloading there was an automatic weapon that opened up from the village wounding the squad leader as he hit the ground and also hitting one of the choppers. The recon soldiers immediately ran for a trench which was on the other (continued on page 6)

# EIGHT, WITH ONE SHOT *Cont*

respond. Several hand grenades were dumped into each hole and once again the digging began.

When the back-breaking job was over there were eight VC killed, three weapons and an assortment of ammunitions and supplies. "It was a good day for the infantry," stated Lt. Myers, "considering we only fired one shot and killed eight!"

## "Death Valley" Now Means Death For VC

Ten miles north of Chu Lai, where Viet Cong snipers roam the hills, is "Death Valley," an area named by the men of the 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry who have been there many times.

Specialist Four George P. Klaus, a team leader with Company B of the "Golden Dragons" battalion, participated in a search and destroy mission in "Death Valley" recently, and came out on top in deadly games with two Viet Cong.

Klaus, 21, of Chicago, was working with a fire team which was set up as a blocking force, while the parent platoon swept the area near a village. "Two of us were alone, waiting for the platoon to drive something toward our direction," recalled Klaus, "when I spotted two VC coming from some burned-out hootches toward my position."

Klaus fired his M-16 killing one "Charlie," while the other managed to scurry to the protection of the jungle. "The VC was carrying an AK-47 with 120 rounds of ammunition, grenades, and a ration of rice," explained Klaus.

The day was far from over for the specialist. The team moved to an area where the VC were suspected to have a large force. It wasn't long before suspicions were confirmed.

"We were now on a hillside near a trail leading toward a

apparently the point man, came toward us. More appeared behind him.

"As soon as I opened up and shot the first Cong, the others behind him fired back. We had a short fire fight before they took off over the hill."

Moving up to check the body of the dead VC, the Americans discovered the M-14 with an automatic selector switch attached. The VC had been well-provided with six magazines of ammunition and hand grenades.

By reducing the strength of "Charlie's" snipers by two, Klaus did his part to lessen the enemy's stronghold in "Death Valley," a place which is slowly turning to mean, "Death for the VC."

## H-23 CAPTURES A VIET CONG

Round and round they flew, but were unable to land the little H-23 observation helicopter from the aviation section of the 3rd Brigade.

While on an aerial reconnaissance mission north of Duc Pho, CWO Brady Jones, flying an "Aloha Airlines" chopper, spotted a Vietnamese burying something in a hedgerow. As soon as the pilot saw the man he whipped the chopper around to pursue the suspect. Keeping him from escaping, the aircraft began flying circles around the man.

Pilot Jones had the man captured, but what to do with him was the problem. There was not enough room for him in the ship, they couldn't land without some security, and they didn't want to shoot him or let him go. Deciding the best thing to do was keep him corraled, Jones called for assistance from the command and control chopper of the 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry, but in the meantime they just kept circling.

Arriving quickly, the C & C ship swooped down and landed, capturing the man and some documents proving him a VC.

The 3rd Brigade has captured many Viet Cong in the Duc Pho area, but none had ever required as much aerial finesse as CWO Jones displayed that day.

## MAJOR LEAGUE BASE



### NATIONAL LEAGUE

	W	L	Pct.	GB
St. Louis	71	44	.617	---
Atlanta	61	51	.545	8½
Chicago	64	55	.538	9
Cincinnati	62	54	.534	9½
San Fran.	60	55	.522	11
Phil.	57	54	.514	12
Pittsburgh	54	60	.474	16½
Los Angeles	50	63	.442	20
New York	46	66	.411	23½
Houston	47	70	.402	25

### AMERICAN LEAGUE

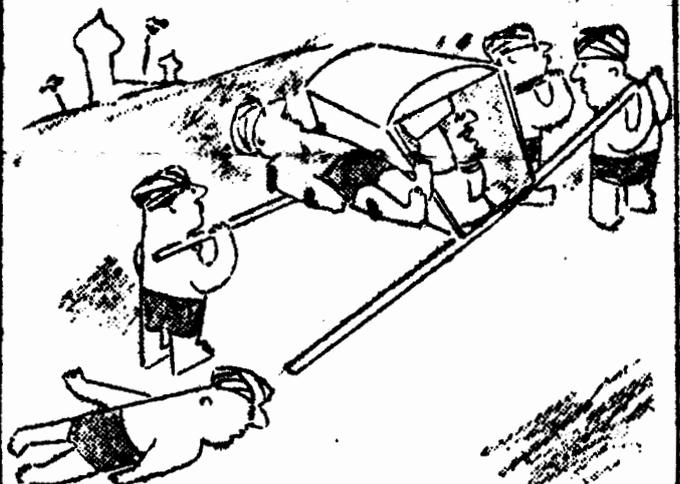
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Minnesota	62	50	.554	2
Chicago	61	50	.550	½
Detroit	62	52	.544	1
California	62	53	.539	1½
Boston	60	53	.531	2½
Washington	58	58	.500	6
Cleveland	54	62	.468	10
New York	50	62	.446	12
Baltimore	50	63	.442	12½
Kansas City	46	66	.431	14



"A V.C.!! With hair like that an' them sandals—man, don't ya know a hippy when ya' see one?"

## TEST YOUR FACTS

- Absolute zero in the Fahrenheit scale is?
  - 459.6 degrees.
  - 196.2 degrees.
  - 273.1 degrees.
- Which explorer discovered the South Pole?
  - Robert E. Perry.
  - Roald Amundsen.
  - Capt Robert Gray.
- Where was the first bicycle made?
  - Germany.
  - Scotland.
  - Italy.
- Santa Catalina Island is about 23 miles south of the harbor of which of these cities?
  - San Francisco.
  - Los Angeles.
  - San Diego.
- To what country do the Azores Islands belong?
  - France.
  - Netherlands.
  - Portugal.



"Thank Allah for a good spare....."

# Infantrymen Study VN Language

"Cavender's Commandos," the fighting men of C Company, 1st Battalion, 35th Infantry have returned to school! Captain John H. Cavender, the company's commander, has begun classes in Vietnamese language to help his charges continue their success in the Duc Pho District.

The instruction is handled by the battalion's interpreter and the classes are being held while C Company is taking its turn as the security element for the battalion fire base.

During the 3rd Brigade's first few months in the district C Company and the rest of the 1/35th were successful in driving out the main force enemy army, but now have the task ahead of them of searching out the hidden guerrilla troops that still terrorize the area south of Duc Pho.

Help of the local citizens is an important factor in this new stage of the war. MEDCAPS and other civic action projects have brought a good response from the people, but C Company will have an advantage over other Americans as they will be able to get closer to the villagers with their knowledge of common Vietnamese phrases.

## WHITE TEAM

side of the clearing from the enemy.

The fire from the bunker was so fierce that the men of the squad were not able to retrieve their fallen leader even though he was only three yards from the secure trench. At this point the pilot of one of the "bubbles," CWO2 John Meyers, radioed the squad that he would lay down a base of fire on the machine gun so that the men could drag their squad leader to safety. The chopper had to make two passes straight into the line of fire of the machine gun before the men were able to res-

The courageous pilot decided to call on the help of the gunships when he saw that the firing from the infantry and his ship did not seem to affect the dug-in enemy. When the "Sharks" arrived it was almost dark so the ship was not able to determine the positions of the friendly or enemy troops. The "bubble," though it had expended all its ammo, once again had to swoop down over the battlefield marking with smoke the bunker on the first run and the friendly element on the second.

Once the "Sharks" knew the position of the machine gun it was not long before they were smashing rockets into the bunker. At last killing the Communist that were responsible for the destruction of one "huey" and shooting two soldiers. The humble flyer when asked about the day's activity just said, "The infantry, gunships, and my door gunners certainly worked together as a team."



## TEST YOUR FACTS ANSWERS.

1. (a) -459.6 degrees.
2. (b) Roald Amundsen.
3. (b) Scotland.
4. (b) Los Angeles.
5. (c) Portugal.

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