

SYKES REGULARS

REPORTER



1ST Battalion ~~XXXX~~ 20th Infantry

Volume 2, No. 22

LZ LIZ, VIETNAM

11 June, 1970

RECON THINS OUT VC AFTER AMPHIBIOUS ASSAULT

A midnight jump into the South China Sea, 15 miles north of Duc Pho off the Gaza Strip, was merely the beginning of another prolific mission for the recon platoon. Once ashore, they began their operations that netted a cluster of VC, enemy equipment, weapons and ammunition.

It began with a moonlight cruise via Chinese junk from Quang Ngai Province after receiving reports of a VC build-up in the area. Action began almost immediately as the command post element, Robin Hood, moved into location. Its Kit Carson Scout, Nuyen Bong, overheard VC talking "shop" in one of the nearby bunkers in a small hamlet. Suddenly their plan of surrounding three bunkers was foiled by a routine artillery flare that allowed a guard to see them and sound an alert.

One VC ran out of a bunker and fired several rounds over the soldiers crouching only ten feet away. The platoon medic, SP4 Hershell Janes (Gillham, Ark.) was as accurate with an M16 as he is with a needle and returned pin-point fire, killing a fleeing VC. SSG Cruz Vesquiz and KCS Bong bolted into the village and nabbed two detainees. Platoon leader, LLT Warren T. Waterbury (Ashland, Ky.) said that several more escaped into the nearby jungle and it was difficult to pursue them.

HDT TIP GETS VC LEADER

Relying on information received from a VC casualty, an intelligence officer's celerity led to the elimination of a high ranking VC official and the detention of seven guerrillas in the Duc Pho area.

Cpt Donald Beavers (Van-Nys, Cal.), battalion 3-2 officer, received word that a VC official was scheduled to be at a small hamlet two miles northwest of LZ LIZ. Within minutes he was on his way to Duc Pho to garner assistance from the Pop- (VC LEADER continued page 3)

BRAVO CO DEALS

DEAD MAN'S HAND

IN VC POKER GAME

A Bravo fire team used a stacked deck and dealt out five aces of spades during a recent VC poker game five miles north of Duc Pho on the Gaza Strip.

A squad heard some chopping sounds coming from a mangrove swamp while on an afternoon patrol. "At first we thought it was just coming from bamboo trees knocking together in the wind," explained Sgt Barry Gray (Charlotte, NC). "but it kept up in a rhythmic manner so we investigated it."

They split into two five-man groups and advanced into the area. Instead of moving quickly, the men of alpha fire team chose to take a quiet route through a swamp so as not to be detected. It took them a half hour to move 300 meters. Their stealth enabled them to come within 35 meters of the enemy, according to Sgt Gray.

They saw four guerrillas playing what proved (BRAVO continued page 3)

Early that morning before dawn, eagle-eyed SSG Cruz Vesquiz (Cayey, Puerto Rico) sighted a VC wearing a white shirt roughly 800 meters away. A glance with the starlight scope revealed nine people and Robin Hood couldn't have moved any faster if he was pursuing the Sheriff of Nottingham.

Seven were merely local civilians, but two men ran, only to be cornered in minutes. Shots rang out and one of the VC was hit in the shoulder, hastening their decision to surrender. To the amazement of LLT Waterbury (RECON continued page 3)



ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS EASED FOR VETS AT UNIVERSITY OF DETROIT

Dramatically changed administrations procedures and policies, special counseling and individually designed skills programs for those who need them are some of the major features of "Project Veteran" announced by James V. McGlynn, S.J., University of Detroit's vice president for academic affairs.

"The benefits of this program are also being extended to those servicemen who are recuperating in veteran's and military hospitals. We will offer these men special counseling on which GED and USAFI programs will mesh into their curricula when they come to the University full time," explained Father McGlynn.

The University's School of Law has also joined in the spirit of Project Veteran by announcing that it will waive the L.S. A.T. (Law School Admissions Test) for servicemen who are stationed abroad and wish to enter the School of Law this coming August. Such an acceptance for servicemen stationed abroad can often lead to an earlier release from duty in order to begin school in the fall.

Father McGlynn stressed that Project Veteran "is more than just a warm invitation. The University is establishing a concrete program to serve these men. We believe that any returning veteran who really wants to get a college education should have a realistic chance to do so.

"Motivation is the magic variable in education. Even a student whose high school or previous college experience may have been undistinguished has earned a college opportunity because of the maturity gained from service to his country!"

To be accepted to the U. of D. program, a returning veteran will only have to show that he has successfully completed high school or its equivalent and has a strong desire to succeed. If the need is indicated, he will be given special skills courses during his first year in order to insure every opportunity for his success. All veterans will have access to a counseling service being established to serve veterans only.

A spokesman for Project Veteran added, "We know from our experience and national evidence, that in admitting so-called 'high risk' students, test scores and high school grades are not the only valid indicators of college success. In fact, students brought in under existing programs, who would not ordinarily have qualified, have already shown an attrition rate substantially lower than university and national college averages. With extra help at the outset and with the kind of intense motivation many of these students have, they actually have a better than average chance of succeeding.

"In addition, our experience with veterans returning from World War II and the Korean War was that they were very mature for their ages, highly motivated and a real credit to the university."

He said the university had received excellent help and encouragement in developing its program from the Veteran's Administration staff in Detroit.

Further information is available from the Admissions Office: Project Veteran, Admissions Office, University of Detroit, 4001 W. McNichols, Detroit, Mich. 48281.

RECON continued

one of the men resounded with, "I give up," in fluent English!

Later that day the squad-sized Little Al element recognized a VC sauntering into a village wearing a blue uniform. They cautiously moved in and detained three more guerrillas, after the villagers attempted to warn them. One VC ran, but his exit was halted by a 400 meter shot by SP4 Mike Kilian (Angles, Wash.). He was identified as a VC supply sergeant and was carrying a Chicom grenade on his pistol belt.

The second day started off with a bang----from KCS Bong's rifle during a habitual check of a day laager position. LLt Waterbury, concerned about the excess noise, asked Bong what he was shooting at. Bong calmly told him that he had just shot a VC. After pacing off 700 meters LLT and five other element members found a dead VC with a Chicom grenade.

That afternoon, near the hill known as Big Red, six VC were seen running into a hedgerow. The recon men fired several rounds into the thick brush and wounded four. They rounded-up one detainee, but were unable to find the others after following the blood trails.

In following days the Little John element collared five more detainees on patrol and one of the detainees had a wooden leg! "When I saw him limping from the vill I thought he was already hit," exclaimed SP4 Truman Hall (Bevinville, Ky.). Hall then fired a shot and hit the VC's bicept, forcing him to drop his weapon. The enemy soldier was found after a short search. Medic SP4 Marshall James made his second stop of the operation, this time using an M79 grenade launcher. Back in the village the men found six packs, ten uniforms, new AK 47 ammo and a plastic bag fashioned to be used as a gas mask.

The second to the last day of their operation yielded an exceptional amount of enemy booty. While moving into a night position, the Little John element received a volley of sniper fire from an AK 47. The squad assaulted three guerrillas, wounding two. During a search for the enemy soldiers they found 13 packs in a deserted French house. They uncovered three motorized 340 rockets, 17 uniforms, 15 Chicom blasting caps, ten grenades, 15 pounds of medical supplies and small arms ammo. They also discovered 80 pounds of explosives for booby traps.

BRAVO continued

ed to be a variation of poker and four more busily cutting wood. The surprised VC had little time to react. One of the players was killed instantly in a barrage of shooting. The next day a squad of Popular Forces found out that four more of the VC had died and one more was in critical condition.

Bravo fire team joined in the hunt for the wounded VC and found a booby trap that was guarding a trail leading into the area. They uncovered another booby trap while searching. The men also found a K54 pistol, medical supplies and food.

"Lady Luck" continued to show her affection for SP4 Earl Slack (Laverkin, Utah). The men were told to leave the area due to darkness and the danger of booby traps. On the way back Slack stepped directly on another booby trap, but it didn't detonate.

VC LEADER continued

ular and Regional Forces to help identify and give the exact location of a hole in the village of Tam Phong.

LLT Murray and two riflemen squads from Bravo company joined the operation along with the first and second platoons from Alpha company. Alpha served as a blocking force while the men from Bravo swept.

As maneuvers began a VC was shot in the leg while evading. Alpha company detained two more suspects from their position and Bravo got two more while sweeping. As they neared the village the men from the Popular Forces spotted the VC official running and killed him. He was a high ranking member of the VC infrastructure in the area. Later, three more detainees were found and turned over for questioning.

R&R INFORMATION ON AUSTRALIA

Sydney is the oldest and largest city in Australia. It is the hub of the South Pacific, capital of New South Wales and the birthplace of the Australian nation. Sydney is situated on the foreshores of one of the most magnificent harbors in the world. Its people are friendly and have an exuberance that expresses itself in sports, the arts, politics and overall congeniality. A dominating landmark is the harbor bridge, whose arch is some 440 feet above sea level. It is just under three miles long, and provides the main traffic link between the city and her northern suburbs.

LAWS AND CUSTOMS

While in Sydney you are the guest of the Government of Australia. As guests, you are subject to the laws and customs of Australia. All personnel must insure that their actions do not bring discredit to our nation or jeopardize Australian/American relations. Any misbehavior may cause the Australian Government to withdraw its invitation for servicemen to visit, preventing travel for many men and women scheduled for R&R. In the event that you find yourself in difficulties with the police, present your identification card and notify the U.S. R&R office as soon as possible.

Although the language spoken in Australia is basically identical, you will find many words are used differently. You will find that you will have to listen closely to people who are speaking to you, otherwise you may miss some of the conversation. Coats and ties are a must if you plan to visit any of the first class establishments. If you plan to visit any of the night clubs, you may be required during the course of the evening to be served food, so be prepared for it. Most of the night clubs require a cover charge. The price varies with the establishment. If you are in doubt, don't hesitate to ask. You will find that all Australians are very courteous and enjoy explaining things to us "Yanks".

TIPPING

In Sydney, and Australia generally, tipping is not regarded as obligatory. It is usual to tip food and wine waiters 10 to 15 per cent of the bill for good service and to tip baggage porters at hotels, shipping terminals and railways according to the number of luggage pieces. Tipping of porters at the airport is discouraged. Hairdressers, shop assistants and taxi-drivers do not expect to be tipped, although, most passengers tip the change to the nearest 10 cents of their taxi fare.

TAXIS

All taxis in Sydney are metered. They charge 20 cents per flagfall, 18 cents per mile regardless of the number of passengers. Radio taxi services charge 15 cents service fee for phone bookings. The only other subcharge for taxis will be a 10 cent fee for the toll on the Harbor Bridge.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Only emergency disbursing facilities are available. Emergency pay is limited to situations where the serviceman would be able to receive payment at his home unit.

MOTOR VEHICLES

Personnel on R&R are not allowed to drive any motor vehicle, including motor cycles and scooters regardless of the type of drivers license you possess.
(AUSTRALIA R&R continued next week)

Flag Day

On June 14, 1777 Congress authorized the flag of the United States, which we honor as the symbol of our unity, power, thought and purpose of a nation.



SSG Mike Seward is being honored by the Sykes' Regulars Reporter as it's NCO of the Week. He is currently the squad leader of the 3rd squad in the first platoon of Charlie company.

SSG Seward is married and a native of Winchester, Pennsylvania and a graduate of Handley High School.

He managed a hardware store in Winchester before entering the Army and plans on returning to the job at the end of his two years in the service.

He had his Basic Training at Ft. Bragg and his AIT at Ft. Dix. At NCO School in Ft. Benning Ga., he graduated as an E-6.

SYKES' REGULARS REPORTER

Battalion CO LTC Arthur Fischer
 Adjutant LLT James E. Hardy
 Correspondant SGT Chuck Merdzinsk

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"The duty roster will be finished in five minutes, Sarge."



CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Answers on Page 29

ACROSS

- 1-Pronoun
- 4-Go by water
- 8-Prohibit
- 11-Football lark
- 12-Small island
- 13-Fuss
- 14-Indefinite article
- 15-Still
- 17-Mischievous
- 19-Music: as written
- 21-Catch (colloq.)
- 23-Rodent
- 24-Former Russian ruler
- 26-Male sheep
- 28-Obtain
- 31-Soak
- 33-Recant
- 35-Fish eggs
- 36-Note of scale
- 38-Artist
- 41-Pronoun
- 42-Female sheep
- 44-Exist
- 45-Goddess of healing
- 47-Departed
- 49-Sea eagle
- 51-Harbor
- 54-Sesame
- 56-Weight of India
- 58-Insect
- 59-Zoo employe
- 62-Carpenter's tool
- 64-A state (abbr.)
- 65-Be mistaken
- 66-Close
- 68-Semi-precious stone
- 70-Affirmative
- 71-Covers
- 72-Cloth measure

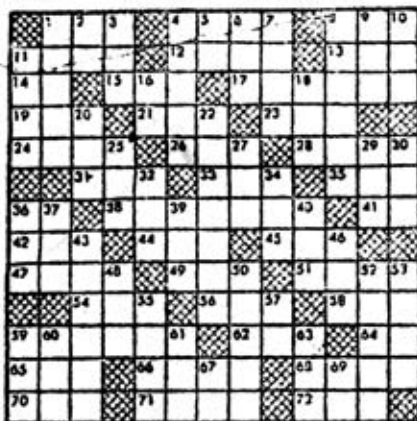
DOWN

- 1-Searches for
- 2-Preposition
- 3-Figure

- 4-Hindu guitar
- 5-Conjunction
- 6-Sick
- 7-Condescending look
- 8-Cake mix
- 9-Fruit drink
- 10-Conjunction
- 11-Time gone by
- 14-Printer's measure
- 18-Label
- 20-Swiss river
- 22-Flags
- 25-Corded cloth
- 27-Encountered
- 29-Haul
- 30-Bishopric
- 32-Chinese pagoda
- 34-Tiny
- 36-Condensed moisture
- 37-Be in debt



- 39-Anger
- 40-Tear
- 43-Goes in
- 45-Take unlawfully
- 48-Gratuity
- 50-Birds' homes
- 52-Royal
- 53-River duck
- 55-For fear that
- 57-Sun god
- 59-Lock opener
- 60-Before
- 61-Greek letter
- 63-Sorrow
- 67-Above
- 69-Place (abbr.)



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Q--My husband receives a VA pension, and has to have someone with him constantly. Can his pension be increased to pay for the assistance?

A--Veterans who receive pension, and become so in need of regular aid and attendance of another person, may be eligible for an additional allowance.

Q--What are the VA regulations for servicemen who want to take correspondence courses?

A--Currently, servicemen must have been on active duty for at least two years, with a period of at least 181 days continuous service. Also the correspondence course must be approved by the state approving agency and lead to an identified educational or professional objective.

Q--My father is a disabled veteran and is receiving compensation from the VA. Since I have lost contact with him will the VA give me his address?

A--No. All information in a veteran's records is confidential and can be released only on the written request of the veteran.

Q--I am a veteran. Can I receive a free medical examination from the VA if that is for a job?

A--No. The VA is not allowed to give the veteran an examination for anything except in connection with a VA benefit.

Q--Must a veteran occupy as a home the house he purchases with a GI loan?

A--Yes. The veteran applicant must certify that he intends to occupy the property as his home.



ALL-STAR ELECTION BALLOT

NOTE TO FANS!!!

American League

FIRST BASE

- Norm Cash
- Mike Epstein
- Tony Horton
- Boog Powell
- Rich Reese
- George Scott

SECOND BASE

- Mike Andrews
- Rod Carew
- Dick Green
- Tommy Harper
- Dave Johnson
- Dick McAuliffe

SHORTSTOP

- Luis Aparicio
- Mark Belanger
- Bert Campaneris
- Leo Cardenas
- Jim Fregosi
- Rico Petrocelli

THIRD BASE

- Sal Bando
- Harmon Killebrew
- Ken McMullen
- Bill Melton
- Brooks Robinson
- Leo Rodriguez

CATCHER

- Joe Azcue
- Bill Freehan
- Elrod Hendricks
- Duane Josephson
- George Mitterwald
- Duke Sims

OUTFIELD

- Paul Blair
- Ken Harrelson
- Willie Horton
- Frank Howard
- Reggie Jackson
- Carlos May
- Rick Monday
- Bobby Murcer
- Jim Northrup
- Tony Oliva
- Lou Piniella
- Frank Robinson
- Reggie Smith
- Mickey Stanley
- Cesar Tovar
- Ted Uhlaender
- Roy White
- Carl Yastrzemski

National League

FIRST BASE

- Richie Allen
- Ernie Banks
- Orlando Cepeda
- Lee May
- Willie McCovey
- Wes Parker

SECOND BASE

- Glen Beckert
- Tommy Helms
- Julian Javier
- Felix Millan
- Joe Morgan
- Ted Sizemore

SHORTSTOP

- Bud Harrelson
- Don Kessinger
- Hal Lanier
- Donis Menke
- Fred Patek
- Maury Wills

THIRD BASE

- Clete Boyer
- Richie Hebner
- Coco Laboy
- Tony Perez
- Ron Santo
- Mike Shannon

CATCHER

- Johnny Bench
- Jerry Grote
- Tom Haller
- Randy Hundley
- Tim McCarver
- Joe Torre

OUTFIELD

- Hank Aaron
- Tommy Agee
- Matty Alou
- Bobby Bonds
- Lou Brock
- Ollie Brown
- John Callison
- Roberto Clemente
- Willie Davis
- Larry Hise
- Cleon Jones
- Willie Mays
- Pete Rose
- Willie Stargell
- Rusty Staub
- Bob Tolan
- Billy Williams
- Jim Wynn

Pick ONE--Each League

Pick THREE--Each League

Between now and June 28, baseball fans will be voting for their favorite players in the National and American Leagues in the 1970 All-Star Election.

Balloting will be done by punching selections on a post card and mailing the card to the Commissioner of Baseball. Voters will select three outfielders and one player for each of the other positions in each league.

Write-in votes will also be accepted.

American Forces Post Service has permission to produce the ballots so you can choose your favorite players and later match your selections with the winners.

The ballot produced here may not be mailed to the commissioners office as an official ballot.

RE-UP BENEFITS

See SFC Patton about new pay increases including over 200 reenlistment options. You must qualify to be eligible.

Pick the job and the training of your choice! You can also pick your choice of duty station.

In addition to a bonus, you qualify for a 30-day reenlistment leave to be taken at your discretion providing that you have six months remaining on your foreign duty tour upon returning from Vietnam.

HAVE YOU CHECKED?

