

Sykes' Regulars



AWARDS AND INFANTRY INSIGNIA PRESENTED ON LIZ

COLUMBIA, S.C.--HONCHO TOWN

Saturday afternoon, five SYKES' REGULARS received awards in the Briefing Room on Liz, and two men were presented Detail Infantry Insignia.

Lieutenant Colonel Arthur F. Fischer, battalion commander, presented Army Commendation Medals with "V" devices to SFC Glenn Blackwell (Winston, Ore.), TOC operations sergeant, and to SP/4 Roy Peterson (Billings, Mont.), TOC duty NCO.

Captain Robert Drago (Tolone, Ill.), battalion communications officer, received a Bronze Star Medal for service, and LLT Richard Gibson (Independence, Mo), air operations officer, and SSG Francis Kelley (Seneca, Ill.), mess sergeant on Liz, were awarded Army Commendation Medals for Achievement.

Also during the ceremony, orders were read presenting Major George Koech (Aniston, Ala) battalion executive officer, and Captain Donald Beavers (Van Nuys, Calif.) intelligence officer, with Detail Infantry Insignia, the crossed-rifles of the infantry, to which they have been detailed.

SSG MOORE IS NCO OF THE WEEK

Staff Sergeant John G. Moore (Birmingham, Ala.), Charlie Co.'s Mortar Platoon Sergeant, is the SYKES' REGULARS' NCO of the Week for the week of Jan. 21-27.

He has been in the Army since 1954 and is married with two children--Ronald, nine years old, and Tina, twelve.

SSG Moore's last assignment was in Fulda, Germany, where he served with the 1st Battalion, 14th Armored Cavalry.

PAYDAY, JANUARY 30

Payday for this command, and all non-divisional units serviced by the AMERICAN DIVISION Finance Office, will be Friday, 30 January 1970.



According to intelligence reports, three of the top men of Echo Co. have infiltrated into the company from the hamlet of Columbia, S.C.

Captain Richard Holmes has conducted operations out of that ville for the past two years, and 1SG Robert Hudson's family has set up a permanent lager position there for 14 years.

Documents also reveal that LLT Thomas Blake, Recon's Platoon leader, began his military career there as the leader of a Coke-Kid band, selling soda and noodles to the Basic Trainees on bivouac out of Ft. Jackson.

NON-US CITIZENS SERVING IN VIETNAM

Most non-US citizens presently serving in Vietnam are now eligible for citizenship under the provisions of Public Law 90-633. MACV is considering sponsoring flights to Hawaii to enable eligible non-citizens to obtain naturalization.

Flights are tentatively scheduled for the week of 26 April-2 May 1970. Participants are limited to those persons who will use their R&R during that week. All non-US citizens interested in this opportunity to obtain naturalization are requested to immediately contact the office of the Staff Judge Advocate, Legal Assistance Section, in person or call--CHL 3855 for further information.

McKISSIC'S CORNER

You don't have to be in RVN very long to know that two of the choicest duty stations for the US soldier are located at Cam Ranh Bay and Qui Nhon.

And it's not difficult to get to these former resort areas.

A RE-UP will enable you to finish your regular 12-month tour at either place, and you'll be able to change your duty MOS to just about anything except the Infantry.

Some of the Bennies to take advantage of are beaches, movie theatres, swimming pools, both EM and NCO clubs, adequate PXs and civilian clothes during the off-duty hours.

If you have six months retainability in RVN, SSG Robert McKissic on Bronco will be glad to provide all the information concerning a re-assignment.

The SYKES' REGULARS continued to increase the pressure on enemy operations in the battalion's AO this week and reduced enemy strength by 20 personnel either killed, wounded, or detained. The battalion also detained 33 Vietnamese for interrogation, uncovered four tunnel complexes, and captured four enemy weapons.

JAN. 19

Delta Co. reported the first significant incident this week by uncovering an enemy tunnel complex six kilometers south of Liz. The company destroyed the complex, which had two 20-foot branches.

In two separate incidents, Bravo Co. and an element of PF soldiers detained seven Vietnamese civilians for interrogation. The PFs felt strongly that four of them were VC.

JAN. 20

Bravo Co. picked up five more civilian detainees, again in two separate incidents. Three of the detainees were picked up when they attempted to evade.

Delta Co. destroyed an old enemy mortar position in the same area where it found the tunnel complex. Besides the mortar position, the men destroyed two 3-man bunkers.

JAN. 21

Delta, in the same general area, uncovered a large, 3-day old enemy laager position containing a number of campfires.

Meanwhile, Bravo Co. had a busy day by the Red Ball and detained one VC, killed one VC, wounded five, found an enemy rice cache, and turned in 19 civilians for questioning. Most of the contact occurred between 0800-1100 hours in the morning as the company's platoon- and squad-size elements successfully engaged the enemy personnel in the general area of the Twin Villas.

JAN. 22

Bravo Co. again was involved in significant action when its 1st Platoon detained a 40-year-old VC, two kilometers east of FSB Blivet. He was carrying a red flag, which the PFs with the platoon identified as the banner of an NVA youth association. The PFs questioned the VC who led the men to a tunnel, some 200 meters to the southeast. Two VC were hiding inside, and despite the PFs' commands to come out, the pair refused to emerge. The platoon had to destroy the bunker, resulting in two KIAs. An enemy medical kit was also found in the tunnel.

Later, in the same general area, the company's 3rd Platoon found and destroyed a 750-pound bomb.

TO THE LIMIT OF OUR ABILITY

JAN. 23

Bravo Co. turned in one Vietnamese civilian for interrogation, and PF soldiers from the 169th Popular Forces Platoon extracted three Hoi Chanhs.

Delta's 3rd Platoon found and destroyed two enemy tunnels, five kilometers southeast of Liz.

Late in the evening, Charlie Co.'s 2nd Squad, 1st Platoon set up in an ambush location near the access road to Liz. The men engaged an armed VC who approached their position. The result was one enemy KIA, two carbines captured as well as two hand grenades and a full ammo clip for the rifles.

JAN. 24

Delta Co. was involved in two significant actions. The 2nd Platoon received AK47 sniper fire from an enemy position three kilometers southeast of Liz. The 3rd Platoon checked out the enemy position and the ensuing contact produced three VC KIA and four VC detained, three of whom were wounded.

Later, the 1st Platoon engaged four VC carrying packs and weapons. When the platoon opened up on the enemy, they dropped their packs and D-Ded. The packs contained clothing and .38 calibre ammo. Also, signs indicated that one of the VC had been wounded.

Near the Red Ball, Bravo's 3rd Platoon was moving to its ambush location when it received AK47 sniper fire from a tree line 200 meters away. The men engaged the enemy position and believed they wounded the sniper.

JAN. 25

Recon, operating just south of Liz by the railroad berm, engaged two uniformed VC with small arms fire. After the contact, the men found an ammo can with a hand grenade inside.

Delta's 1st Platoon confirmed one VC KIA and dusted off another wounded. Both were hit when the platoon sprung its ambush the previous night. The men also picked up an AK47 and magazine, a carbine and three magazines, three hand grenades, a 1st Aid pack, and an NVA pistol belt.

Alpha Co.'s 1st Platoon also dusted off a VC who was wounded while the element was enroute to its ambush site.

SYKES' REGULARS REPORTER

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Battalion Commander | LTC Arthur Fischer |
| REPORTER OIC | CPT Edward Mullen |
| REPORTER NCOIC | SSG Tom Ebert |
| Illustrator | SP/4 Darryl Garrett |
| Correspondent | SP/4 Toby Progers |

The REPORTER is published weekly under the supervision of the Administrative Section, HHC, 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry, 11th Infantry Brigade, APO 96217 as an authorized publication. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of the Department of the Army.
