



SYKES REGULARS

1ST BATTALION 20TH INF



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LZ LIZ, VIETNAM

NO credits

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HAND-to-HAND INSIDE VC TUNNEL

GAZA STRIP---Recon's Kit Carson Scout, Huynh Bong, crawled into a tunnel in the Gaza Strip one day this week to check for possible enemy equipment or weapons. Once inside, he was grabbed by a hefty, six-foot VC who pulled a hand grenade and blew it inside the hole.

Bong emerged, though, with a slight case of shock and a lot of mud on his face.

Recon had been patrolling the southern end of the Gaza Strip near the mouth of the Song Tra Cau when Bong spotted the entrance to the tunnel, well concealed in the brush. He blew the cover with a claymore to clear it of possible booby traps. Then he borrowed a .45 calibre pistol from 1LT Warren Waterbury (Ashland, Ky.) and entered the hole.

"As soon as he went in, the VC grabbed him hard by the arm. The next thing we heard was an explosion, and I thought for sure Bong was dead. Then he popped out of the hole. He hadn't taken any frag, but

LIEUTENANT NEARLY DROPS HIS DRAP

was in shock and covered with mud and grime. He'd apparently been able to get behind something when the VC pulled the frag," Waterbury explained.

The men then caved in the tunnel with a claymore and hand grenades and proceeded to dig out the debris. They found two VC who had been killed in the action, hand grenades, two bags full of uniforms, and a fully chromed AK47.

"The one VC was enormous. He was at least six-feet tall and had a big build. He was the biggest Vietnamese I've ever seen," said Waterbury.

Papers in his possession indicated that he was an enemy propagandist.

TO THE

LIMIT OF

OUR ABILITY

A couple hours after Bong's heroics inside the VC tunnel, Recon was relaxing on the beach, enjoying the sun and surf with the men of A Troop, 1/1 Cav, who had been working in the Strip.

Suddenly, SP4 Hershell Janes (Gillham, Ark.) and SP4 Dennis Ellis (Trout Lake, Mich.) heard cries for help 200 meters out in the ocean.

1LT Robert K. Jobe, a track officer, had been floating on his air mattress when a seam burst. Janes and Ellis swam out to him, found him unconscious, and pulled him back to shore where he was completely revived by mouth to mouth resuscitation.

Later that afternoon, a chopper flew in to take 1LT Jobe back to Chu Lai. But the chopper wasn't taking him back for hospitalization. It seems he had just gotten a 27-day drop that he knew nothing about while he was out drowning in the South China Sea.

GETS CIGARETTES BACK, BUT A LITTLE FUNKY

Last week, SP4 James Peterson (Bloomington, Minn.) was C/Ad to the base of the mountains south of Liz. His element, Alpha's 1st Platoon, was reacting to help an 11th Brigade LRRP team that had just been engaged by a force of NVA. The platoon was following the enemy's trail into the mountains when Peterson lost his cigarette case (PETERSON continued page two)

VC SENTRY LETS HIS GUARD DOWN

A VC chose a bad time to get slack on guard duty this week, a kilometer east of the access road to Liz. He was peacefully resting in a ditch behind a hedgerow, his AK47 propped on the bank, as he idly passed the time of day with his comrades.

Meanwhile, a squadron of APCs from A Troop, 1/1Cav, was bearing down on his position from the east, and a combined platoon of PFs and Americans was sweeping in from the west.

Bravo Co.'s SGT Melvin B. Welch (McMinnville, Ore.) was walking point for the infantry sweep with one of the PFs, when he overheard the VC soldiers conversing among themselves. The men maneuvered on the enemy position, and the PFs tossed a frag over the hedgerow. Then they opened up and blasted the serenity of the VC's morning.

PETERSON cont.
and cigarettes somewhere in the thick vegetation.
A week later, the platoon was patrolling a kilometer to the east by a small river near OD Lake. The men spotted two armed VC and in the contact that followed, one of the enemy was killed and the other dusted off for wounds.

The platoon confiscated an automatic rifle and a carbine, and Peterson got his cigarettes back. He found his case and got back the same cigarettes he had lost, less a couple the VC had helped himself to.

"They were funky," remarked Peterson.

RE UP CORNER

Reenlistment options available for qualified enlisted personnel with over six years service:

1. Present duty assignment.
2. CONUS station or area (Grade E-1 to E-8)
3. Overseas area (E-5 and below)
4. DI (Grades E-4 to E-7).

RE UP NCO SFC Patton

CHARLIE CO. GETS NVA CAPTAIN

Enroute to its ambush site in the 515 Valley west of Liz, Charlie Co.'s 3rd Platoon busted up a five-man NVA recon team which was on its way to make a reconnaissance of Liz.

The 3rd Platoon had just moved off from the 1st Platoon's position when the men heard movement 200 meters to the northeast. After they engaged the area with small arms fire, they moved in to check it out and found the body of an NVA Captain who was leading the enemy patrol.

He was fully uniformed with pack, helmet, and pistol. The platoon also picked up a flashlight, loose AK47 rounds, and various items of personal gear.

PREMIUMS TO DROP ON TWO CLASSES OF GI INSURANCE

WASHINGTON (AFPS)----Insurance rates for two classes of GI National Service Life Insurance policies have been reduced up to an average of 35 per cent, Veterans Administration Director Donald E. Johnson announced.

About 420,000 veterans holding policies bearing prefixes V, RS, and W, which carry the "optional" rider

The guard ran off, leaving his weapon behind. The Allies followed the enemy trail to a bunker where two of the VC turned themselves in, and a third was found killed in the action.

will see their premiums reduced an average of 35 per cent. Policies bearing the prefix J, not to include JR or JS, will be reduced an average of 18 per cent.

The VA director said the reductions result from increased interest earnings and fewer claims against the disability income rider.

About 10 per cent of VA's policy holders will be affected by the reductions, saving them about \$10 million yearly in premium payments.

Veterans benefiting from the reductions will be notified by the VA.

BATTALION SUMMARY

APRIL 6

Alpha Co.'s 1st Platoon killed one evading VC and wounded another near OD Lake. The men confiscated a carbine, an automatic rifle, two frags, a flashlight, and an ammo pouch. Later, the company turned in a suspect for interrogation.

Bravo and Charlie companies each turned in a suspect, and Recon, working in the Strip, destroyed some enemy sleeping positions and found a hammock, ammo boxes, an NVA uniform, and a bush hat.

Bravo's 3rd Squad, 3rd Platoon received a Hoi Chanh near Buddha on the Red Ball. The former VC then led the squad to a hedgerow five kilometers to the east where the men found his AK47.

APRIL 7

Nine suspects were turned in by Bravo and Charlie companies.

APRIL 8

Charlie Co. turned in three suspects for interrogation, and killed an NVA Captain in the 515 Valley who was leading a five-man team on a recon mission of Liz.

APRIL 9

Tracks of A Troop, working with Recon in the Strip, destroyed four enemy bunkers, four blasting caps, and found two .30 calibre ammo boxes containing medical booklets.

APRIL 10

Alpha Co. turned in four suspects for questioning and Bravo turned in one.

A Troop's tracks destroyed two 3-foot by 2-foot punji pits in the Strip, and destroyed six bunkers. One of the bunkers contained material for making triggers for booby traps.

Charlie Co. killed a VC who evaded from a hooch where a VC meeting had just taken place.

APRIL 11

Recon blew a tunnel in the Strip resulting in two VC killed, and an AK47 confiscated.

Bravo Co.'s 3rd Platoon had just moved out from the South Bridge on an early morning patrol and was approaching its objective point east of the Red Ball. The men spotted a VC who emerged from a woodline and was squatting over a paddie dike. The VC saw them as they maneuvered around him and fled back into the woodline. He was killed by small arms fire, and the men confiscated the grenades and radio he was carrying.

APRIL 12

Bravo Co.'s 2nd Platoon, working with an element of PF soldiers, killed one VC, detained

two others, and confiscated an AK47 a kilometer east of the access road to Liz. An hour later, the tracks from A Troop that were sweeping toward the platoon's position, uncovered several mortar charges, fuzes, and igniters. The tracks also detained two suspects for interrogation.



This is the Sykes' Regulars Reporter's first attempt at cheesecake. Her name is Karen Jensen and the flick is courtesy of Universal Pics.

SGT MUCKER IS NCO OF THE WEEK

Recon is fielding this week's NCO of the Week. He's SGT William B. Mucker of Detroit and has been with the platoon for four months and currently serves as the assistant squad leader of the Little John element.

He has two and a half years to his credit at Wayne State University in Detroit, and upon completion of his active service, he intends to return to finish work toward a degree in Finance.

He then plans to further his education and work for a Masters in business education. He's experienced in the field of business having worked as an accountant for the Abnerwolf Corp. in Detroit.

His military career consists of Basic at Ft. Knox, AIT at Ft. Lewis, NCO School at Benning, and OJT at McClellan.

HAILS & FAREWELLS

Departures:

- HHC
- SP4 Charles Hammil--E. Fultonham, Oh.
- SP4 Bobby Lindsey--E. Gadsden, Ala.
- SP4 Michael McCoy--Mutay, Ky.
- SP4 Stephan Miles--Baltimore Co., B
- SGT Starky McKee--Newark, Ohio
- SGT Charles Thompson--Montgomery, WVa
- Co. C
- SGT Wayne Beauchamp--Hardwood, Mich.

Replacements:

- HHC
- SP4 Bruce Kimball--Middlebury, Vt.
- SP4 Edward Williams--Westland, Mich
- PFC Steven Utterback--Ottumwa, Ia.
- PFC Stephan Jones--Rossville, Ga.
- Co. A
- SFC Robert A. Mattos--Augsburg, Ger.
- Co. B
- PFC Augustine Perez--Pearsall, Tex.

Battalion Commander LTC Arthur Fischer
 Adjutant CPT Boyd Harris
 Correspondent SP4 Toby Producers
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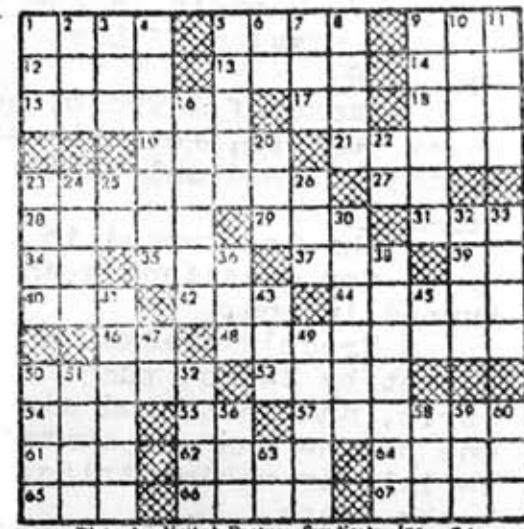
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Answers on Page _____

- ACROSS**
- 1-At a distance
 - 5-Marries
 - 9-Bishopric
 - 12-Fashion
 - 13-Leave out
 - 14-Sea eagle
 - 15-Dealer
 - 17-Compass point
 - 18-Temporary bed
 - 19-Actual being
 - 21-Pronoun
 - 23-Sugar-coats
 - 27-Printer's measure
 - 28-Subject of discourse
 - 29-Obstruct
 - 31-Bespatter
 - 36-Diphthong
 - 35-Stitch
 - 37-Equality
 - 39-Sun god
 - 40-Grain
 - 42-Small rug
 - 44-Put off
 - 46-Chinese mile
 - 48-Unwarranted
 - 50-Paper measure (pl.)
 - 53-Toward shelter
 - 54-Unit of Siamese currency
 - 55-Symbol for tantalum
 - 57-Eurozo compartment
 - 61-Suffix like
 - 62-Eye cloudy
 - 64-Hindu woman's garment
 - 65-Parent (colloq.)
 - 66-Fruit
 - 67-Girl's name
- DOWN**
- 1-Danish land division
 - 2-Preposition
 - 3-Girl's name
 - 4-Buys back



- 5-Less good
- 6-Printer's measure
- 7-Noise
- 8-Cook slowly
- 9-Following first
- 10-God of love
- 11-Heraldry: grafted
- 16-Regard
- 20-Goal
- 22-Pronoun
- 23-Heavenly body
- 24-Watery part of milk
- 25-College degree (abbr.)
- 26-Weaken
- 30-More insane
- 32-War god
- 33-Prohibits
- 36-Pale
- 38-Let go
- 41-Puffed up
- 43-Afternoon party
- 45-Symbol for iron
- 47-Prefix: not
- 49-Church official
- 50-Foray
- 51-Sicilian volcano
- 52-Cease
- 56-Mature
- 58-Small lump
- 59-Sea eagle
- 60-Inlet
- 63-A state (abbr.)



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The Mariner 2 spacecraft sent data from the planet Venus across 36 million miles of space using only three watts of power--about the amount used for the ordinary GI flashlight.

