

Volume 2. No.

LZ LIZ, VIETNAM

29 November, 1970

SOLDIERS IN RVN MAY BE GRANTED XMAS LEAVE

The U.S. Military Assistance Command Vietnam (MACV) has announced a new leave policy which will allow eligible servicemen to travel to the continental States for Christmas.

Effective now, soldiers serving in RVII may be granted up to 14 days of leave in the U.S. according to the announcement.

Servicemen mesting eligibility standards will be flown the 1st Bn., 20th Inf. recentfree on military transportation or charter airplanes by killed 17 and detained 51 on a "space available basis". To qualify, you must have VC in Quang Ngai Frovince. served at least four months in RVM, but not more than eight. Tou must already have bought -- at your own expense ter the 24th Corp issued a -- a return trip ticket before beginning your leave. You Hirective to crack an enemy must also receive the approval of war unit commander.

Holiday leave granted servicemen under the new policy ed in the eastern Mo Duc Diswill be counted as normal leave. Those interested must trict. The Battalion Comcontact their Company Commander or First Sergeant. 

STAY BEHIND AMEUSH

CONNECTS FOR CO C

515 Valley.

section of the valley, the Cm-because it sustained the momentum of the operation. pany Commander, CPT James J. ement departed to LZ LIZ, his

COMBINED SWEET OF ERATION

CRACKS VC INFRASTRUCTURE

Using a fast-action technique, a sweeping operation conducted by South Vietnamese units and U.S. ground and intelligence personnel from

The technique blossomedafstronghold supposedly locatmander, LTC Gordon P. Lynch, visor, Maj. Albert Witt, coordinated a tactical plan with No Duc's District Chief, CPT Cu', devised to obtain enemy information quickly once the operation began.

U.S. and South Vietnamese intelligence teams were A stay-behind day ambush deployed into the enemy area along with the combined incomposed of ten men from the fantry units. Their mission was to eliminate previousthird platoon of Charlie Com- Ly experienced delays in relaying enemy information to pany and three interpreters (working units. LTCLynch felt that a faster interrogakilled a VC guerrilla in the tion system would result in highly fruitful operations. On it's first launch, his new procedure enabled the al-After the company swept a lied force to engage the enemy before they could evade

Alpha Company initiated the action by killing four Donovan (South Orange, N.J.) members of a VC patrol the night before the operation decided to leave a squad in began. At dawn, Bravo Company and Recon reached their the area to intercept enemy designated locations to seal the area. Mo Duc Commandoes, soldiers who he suspected of Phoung Hoang intelligence personnel and the 103rd Rehaving remained hidden. Only gional Forces (RF) Flatoon joined Alpha Company and

In the first two hours, 35 detaineds were thoroughsurprise tactic (CONT. Pg ( ) ly scremed by the combined intel--- (CONT. Pg 7)

three hours after the main el | split into three sweeping elements.

# CHARLIE COMPANY

BATTALION WELCOMES NEW EXECUTIVE OFFICER, MAJ. BANKS

"Sykes" Regulars" wish to extend a warm welcome to the battalion's new Executive Officer, Major Larry C. Banks, who recently assumed the position after the de-

parture of Major William T. Honjiyo.

wife Mary Inn and their two children Christopher and matics and received his Army commission through the Reserve Officers Training Corp (ROTC) upon graduation. He later went on to graduate from the Field Artillery Officers Advence Course at Ft. Sill, Oklahoma.

This is Major Banks' second tour in Vietnam. ing his first tour, he was a Battery Commander in the 8th

"This is my first assignment with an infantry unit! Major Banks said. "I feel it will be very good for my career. I am excited about it and looking foreward to

kers, N.Y.) won second place honors by compiling 459 points. He barely edged SGT Ray

Major Banks is a native of Brunswick, Georgia. His Stephanie, aged eight and four respectively, currently reside in Atlanta. He graduated from North Georgia College in June of 1961 with a bachelor's degree in mathe-

Target Acquisition Battalion, 25th Artillery & Binh Hoa.

of 23 men. The men applied themselves in various courses emphasizing techniques in map reading, Vietnamese relations, artillery adjustment, leadership and Ranger techniques. which included repelling from a 60-foot tower. The men agreed that the instructions on artillery adjustment were the most interesting and that repelling off the tower

Cort (Westchester, N.Y.) who took third place with 458 points. Not far behind was Sign

was the most thrilling aspect of the course. Brigadier General Theodore Mataxis, the current Asst. Americal Division Command er in charge of maneuvers and former "Sykes' Regulars" Platoon Leader in WW II, had an extra wide grin as he greeted LTC Gordon P. Lynch at the graduation ceremony. It was the first time in the history of the course that the top three graduates came from

the same battalion. For their efforts, Roberts, Cipriano and Gort each received the Army Gommanda-

tion Medal for meritorious Achiev-f ment. In addition, they also receive a three-day pass to China Beach in Da Nang.

"Sykes' Regulars" REPORTER wishes to extend it's sincere congradulations to these four men for bestowing the honors upon the battallion. 

TEST NEW REPELLENT

The Army is developing an insect repellent that will not washoff the first time soldiers work up asweat.

Unlike the present repellent, the new type could give protection for. days.



"Hey, Sarge! Guess what I flushed cut of that wave!"

FOUR 1/20 MEN

GET TOP HONORS

AT RECON SCHOOL

Three New Yorkers and a Kentuckian from "Sykes' Regulars" Recon Platoon recently made an ecellent showing for our battalion at the two week Reconnaissance School in Chu Lai by capturing the first, second, third and sixthe positions on graduation day.

Competition for first place was extremely high, but PFC Richard Roberts (Elmira, N. Y) managed to stay at the head of the class by scoring 464 points out of a possible 500,

SGT Rocco Cipriano (Yon-

Richard Combs (Louisville, Ky.) who netted the sixth place slot in the class composed

#### ALPHA COM ANY'S THIRD PLATOON

#### STOPS VC PATROL ON GAZA STRIP

A VC patrol recently lost five members on the Gaza Strip 12 miles north of Duc Tho when they picked an excellent Night Defensive Position (NJF) that was already

occupied by Alrha Company's third platoon.

After dusk, the U.S. soldiers selected an NIP on a large mound 60 meters from the Bouth China Sea which was covered with trees and brush. The elevated position not only provided good concealment, but also allowed surveilance of the extensive beach area. The men were waiting for goard to begin when PFC Mike Carretti (Gary, Ind.) spotted a 12-man patrol walking along the shoreline. He alerted PFC Milton "Short Round" Coston who immediately informed his comrades about the approach.

"They were about 400 meters away when we started watching them," said SP4 Ron Schrader (Stevens Point, Wis.). "There were flareships and helicopters patroling the beach and everytime they shot illumination or passed by, the patrol would squat

down like they were hiding."

"Somebody said that they could be a friendly unit so we couldn't take the chance and shost," said PFC Jim Crawford (Port Gibson, N.Y.). "Then, they stopped about 150 meters from our position and three men started walking toward the mound as if they were going to check it out. Undoubtedly they wanted to use it for an NOP because it is a good spot."

One of the soldiers walked to within 20 meters of the position where PFC Ron Lunnell (St. Joseph, Mich.), PFC Frank Schurich (Lafayette, N.J.) and PFC Crawford were waiting. They commenced fire and killed the insurgent when they scotted the AK 47

rifle he was carrying,

The other members of the third platoon began firing at the main element of the VC patrol, but the initial fire directed at the pointman near the mound gave them time to seek over behind a small knoll. After prepring the enemy's location with small arms fire, the U.S. soldiers split into two elements to assault the hill. One squad took a direct route using an on-line formation while the others maneuvered to the right. When the men began their advance, the VC guerrillas attempted to escape along the beach.

The men pursued the enemy soldiers and followed signs which revealed that some of the VC were wounded. "We followed the trail for about 500 meters until it led to the shore," said Bunnell. "We assumed that they dragged two bodies into the water"

to hide them."

The men continued the search and detained a VC 50 meters from the location where the drag marks entered the water. The insurgent had attempted to partially bury him-

self in the sand, but was easily detected by the entire platoon.

Moving 300 meters further, Bunnell and Schurich spotted an old sampan on the beach roughly 100 meters from the water. "When we were 20 meters away," explained Bunnell, "I saw a backpack next to the boat." "I guessed that it was booby-trapped so we stayed clear of it. We each circled around one side of the sampan and it was then that I spotted a VC in a hole next to the pack. He popped up and tried to get a granade out of the pack. I fired a few quick shots and dropped back."

The men fired several rounds at the hole to prevent the insurgent from using the grenade. During the barrage, one round hit and killed the guerrilla. Inside the hole the men found an AK 47 and several Chicom grenades in the pack. "I can't figure out why he didn't use the rifle," Bunnell said. "It was sure lucky for me that

he didn't! It must have been defective."

The plateon returned to the location of the original contact and found 30 Chicom grenades and other equipment inside the packs discarded by the VC when they fled.

The next time the third platoon finds an ideal NIP, they may not get four enemy KIA's, but it's certain that they'll keep an extra eye open to secure it from another VC patrol that might have ideas of sharing it with them.

# I/20 ADDS COMPANY "Q" TO ROSTER AND REVIVES ARMY TRADITION

"Sykes' Regulars" Commanding Officer, LTC Gordon 7. Lynch recently revived a century-old Army tradition by designating a special security detachment as "Q" Company. The men of "Q" Company have been securing defense equipment on Hill 103, better known as "Get-Over Hill".

In a brief ceremony the 11th Brigade Commander, Col. John L. Insani presented an unofficial guidon to "Q" Company Commander 1LT Feter Zierden (Chicago, Ill.). The guidon consists of white crossed infantry rifles, white battalion numerals and a white letter "Q" on a field of blue. Col. Insani congradulated themen for their 'fine work!"

LTC Lynch gave a brief historical background of "Q" Company. He explained that in the early 1800's men who were temporarily unfit for regular duty were utilized for special assignments such a guarding posts while their comrades went on maneuvers. They eventually were called "Q" Company.

"You won't find "Q" Company in any official Army records, but you will find accounts of it in the history books, "LTC Lynch said. "No one knows," he added, "why or how

the letter "Q" was chosen."

LTC Lynch reminded the men of their important mission of surveying the area near the Song Ve River. "We have to be hurting the enemy," he affirmed. "The very fact that the enemy probed the perimeter at least twice indicates that he is being hurt."

The men from "Q" Company represent every company in the battalion. 1LT Zierden asked them to think of an appropriate mottom for the company before the designation ceremony began. IFC Hal Bookman (Syracuse, N.Y.) come up with one, "If you step in our wire, you'll step in our fire." <del>राजनसम्बद्धाः स्थानसम्बद्धाः स्थानसम्बद्धाः स्थानसम्बद्धाः स्थानसम्बद्धाः स्थानसम्बद्धाः स्थानसम्बद्धाः स्थानस</del>

# PRESIDENT SIGNS NEW VETS LEGISLATION;

# GI LOAN BENEFITS EXTENDED INDEPINITELY

A major piece of legislation disigned to assist milions of veterans to buy homes of their own has been signed into law by President Nixon. One provision wipes out an ending date for GI loan benefits for all veterans who served after Jan. 51, 1955, Benefits have been extended indefinitely to 8.9 million Korean and WW II servicemen.

Another provision offers a veteran a program to buy a mobile home. \$10,000 will be livened for a mobile home and up to \$17,500 if he buys a lot to place it on.

A third authorizes VA to make direct loans in any part of the country to disabled

veterans who are entitled to specially constructed housing.

The new program eliminates a VA funding of .5 per cent on guaranteed and direct home loans to veterans who servel after 1955. It authorizes VA to guarantee loans to refinance existing mortgage loans or other liens on homes owned and occupied by veterans, and allows borrowers to pay lenders any required discounts. The guarantee may be for 60 per cent of the loan, or \$12,500, whichever is less,

VA is also authorized to guarantee 60 per cent, or up to \$12,500 of loans for veterans to purchase family units in condominium projects insured by the Federal Housing

It also eliminates January 31, 1975 as the terminal date for VA's direct loan program. 

### "DID YOU KNOW THAT ?"

Big volcanic eruptions may affect the weather. When Tonboro erupted in the East Indies in 1816, so much dust and ash were thrown into the atmosphere that is shaded out the sunshine producing "the year without a summer,"



#### NEW 'MO DERN' APMY ISSUES

## 1/20 THE LATEST FASHIONS

Now that Indian summer has ended with asplash, the men of "Sykes' Regulars" turn their attention to the latest fall fashions.

One of the most popular items this season is the monsoon sweater, also known in some supply rooms as the jungle sleeping garment. This durable, heavy duty pull over may be worn indoors or out. Available colors, in order of popularity, are: deep OD, OD and faded OD. Sizes range from too small to too big.

Another item in the well-dressed infantryman's wardrobe this autumn is rain pant. Referred to in the current issue of Gentleman's Quarterly as "Farmer Brown's", rain pants are an overall type garment designed to protect the legs and
torso from showers. Two over-the-shoulder suspenders, with adjustable straps, insure individual fit. Another unusual feature is adhesive
anke straps that enable the wearer to avoid trinping over his own two feet. "Farmer Browns"
come in a variety of colors including battle ship grey, Duc Fhor green and 515 brown.

Rain jackets compliment the Farmer Browns by enabling the wearer to don a stylish, matching set. The water-resistent rain jacket omes with permanently attached hood that keeps raindrops from falling on one's head. The light-weight jacket is not lined. Therefore, it may be worn even on sunny, crisp afternoons. The most popular colors are Blueleg green, Redleg brown and

immersion foot grey.

Infantrymen in the foreward fighting areas of Saigon, Can Ranh Bay and Da Nang will have an expertunity to see these fashions modeled by a touring USO show. Other interested parties are urged to contact their nearest Supply Sergeant or refer to the Botany 500 and Brooks Brothers ads in the current Esquire Magazine.

#### SYKES! REGULARS REFORTER

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Battalion Commander Adjutant Correspondent

LTC Gordon P. Lynch 1LT Jerry L. Brown SGT Chuck Merdzinski CHARLIE CO HABS

VC LEADER, NURSE

ON SWEET IN 515

Squads from the first plateen of Charlie Company combined their efforts in the 515 Valley and nabbed an assistant VC Village Chief and a VC nurse.

The men were conducting a search and clear operation a mile east of LZ Liz at the time. The first and third squad were deployed as a blocking force while the second squad navigated through a small area containing several hanlets. As they began walking on a flooded path that paralleled a stream, a woman made made a strange whistling noise.

Sensing that the whistle was a warning for enemy soldiers, \$74 Carl McChafferty (Los Angeles, Cal.) and FFC Ken Kaufold (St. Louis; Mo.) detained the woman after a brief chase in the direction of a hemlet. When the squad advanced for a careful investigation, SGT Josse Crank (Charleston, W. Va.) glanced to his left and spotted a man fleeing the area 50 meters away.

"He ran into a floodedrice paddy to hide, but we knew where he was and surrounded the area," said Crank. "He was submerged in the rice paddy and wouldn't surrender when I told him to come out."

"I fire a few shots near him to try and change his mind, but he still wouldn't budge," continued Crank.

Crank and FFC James Barefoot (Miami, Fla.) started to enter the rice paddy, but changed their mind because the insurgent seemed to be carrying a grenade. The plateon's Kit Carson Scout, Hi', was called to the location and pursuaded the guerrilla to surrender.

He revealed that he was an essistant VC Village Chief and that the woman was a VC nurse.

The second squad found several items of equipment in the TCF spak.

Floodwater resulting from the recent monsoon downpour was instrumental in causing an encounter between two local soldiers and a cobra that was forced to the high

ground of LZ Bronco to seek a temporary home.

The day after the five-day rain, SP4 Lane Brown (Lovell, Wy) and PFC Jesus Rivera (Pontiac, Mich.) had delivered a load of weapons for repair at the 723rd Maintenance Battalion and were returning by jeep along the east side of the firebase, which was surrounded by water. They were casually speaking Spanish when they spotted a large serpent on the shoulder of the road near Sykes' Regulars' rifle zeroing range.

"It looked like a greyish-black rod or stick in the road at first," said Brown. "When we were about 50 feet away, it moved so we knew it was a snake. Rivera swerved the jeep and ran it over with both left wheels. Then, we stopped the jeep ten me-

ters away to see if we got it."

"When we looked back," continued Brown, "we found out it was a cobra because he raised up about a foot and a half and expanded his head." "Then, the cobra snapped his body in our direction simulating an attack. I toyed with the idea of killing it so we could show everybody, but he crawled back into the thick knee-high grass before we could get a long club. We carefully walked over to see where he went, but the grass made it impossible to see him. Anyway, I think that his back was broken by the jeep and he probably won't live, I hope!"

Brown said that the cobra was roughly six feet long and about six inches in girth. Cobras are relitively rare in this area. In fact, seeing a cobra anywhere is unusual because they instinctively avoid detection when a human is near. Other vipers are more sluggish in nature and more likely to be seen. The most renowned member of the cobra family is the king cobra found in India. These large serpents have been known

to exceed 18 feet in length.

As interesting as a cobra's biography may be, lets hope we never get to know one as well as Brown and Rivera did.

CHAMLIE CO STAY BEHIND AMBUSH continued.....

was instrumental in adding another enemy KIA to the battalion's record log.

The U.S. soldiers included in the operation were: SGT Syd Lincoln (Little Falls; Hinn.), SP4 Robert Brown (Imperial Beach, Cal.), SP4 Tom Crum (Brea, Cal.), PFC Luke Fullenkamp (St. Joseph, Ohio), SP4 Armondo Medina (Crosbyton, Tex.), PFC Ken Smith (Danby, Pa.), PFC Steve Burris (Higin, Ill.), PFC Harold "Moose" Watts (Hadison, Ten.), PFC Chris Walker and PFC Ellis Kelly, both from Nashville, Tennessee.

The men concealed themselves on both sides of a trail that led into a village. They waited for three hours with negative results and decided to try another location. Is they moved eastward, two of the interpreters recognized three VC guerrillas who were dashing across an open area. During the pursuit, two of the insurgents ascaped into the brush, but one was cornered in a deep trench blanketed with extremely thick overgrowth.

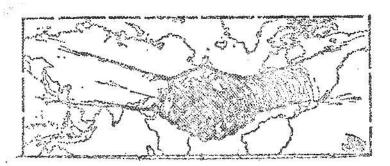
Some of the men positioned themselves at one end and attempted to pursuade the guerrilla to surrender. SP4 Brown found a small opening in the middle of the trench

and waited to intercept the enemy soldier if he attempted to escape.

"I saw the others yelling at one end and figured the VC might surrender," said Brown. "I saw a smell opening in the brush covering the trench and went over to wait. I thought that there might have been more VC inside the trench besides the one we saw run in. "Before long, I saw a VC coming my way and waited til he was right below me. He didn't know I was there and was surprised when I told him to helt. He just kept on going so I had to shoot,"

The dead guerrilla was carrying a Chicom grenade. After a search of the area, the men found two VC rucksacks that had been dropped by the two insurgents who es-

caped. They contained two panchoes, food, equipment and supplies.



Alpha Company is credited with nine enemy KIA's followed by Bravo Company with five. Regional Forces soldiers killed one W7 while Shark gunships eliminated two. Four #47 rifles, one automatic rifle, an H l carbine, a.38 caliber pistol and over 30 Chicom grenades are included among the items secured during the operation.

"The operation broke up the VC infrastructure in the Duc Luong village area," said CPT Charles Garefino, the Battalion Intelligence

Charles Garefino, the Battalian Intelligence Officer. "It was one of the finest operations that I have ever soen."

"This operation stands as a hallmark not only for Vietnamese-U.S. cooperation, but also of notable professionalism and enthusiasm never seen before in No Duc, "said LTC Lynch. "Results, while gratifying, indicate a further common endeavor that will free No Duc from the grip of Communist terrorism."

BIG DITCH NEAR HILL 103

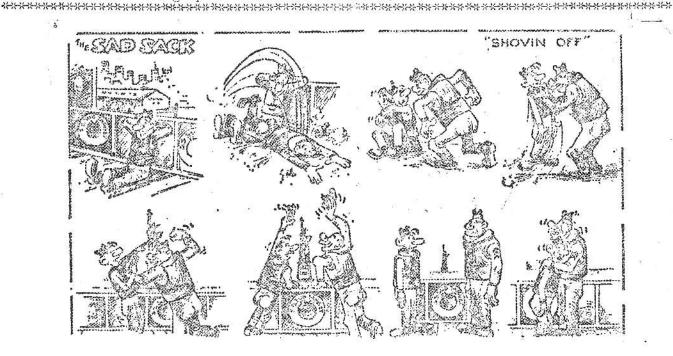
#### HAS INTERESTING HISTORY

If you get assigned to "Q" Go., or if your pilot flies over Hill 103, you'll notice it right away. You just can't miss anything that big.

Encircling three quarters of the hilltop is a fentastically large dich. It measures approximately 20 featacross and 15 feat deep. It's origins are as mysterious as those of Stone-hadge.

Some say the French dug the ditch as a defensive position when they occupied the hill. The French were later overrun, these same sources say. Others claim the (RVMs lost 100 men when the enemy took the hill, accordto a amateur historians, and that they dug the ditch.

A third school of thought mainteins that the ditch is actually the unfinished foundation of a base costs that a rich Vistnamese planned thild many years ago.



# CHAPLAIN'S CORNER"

#### BY CHAPLAIN MEELE D. BROWN

General Dwight D. Eisenho. -- Was convinced that free government was based upon the

It is recorded that Ike prayed on the night of the invasion of Sicily. He knew that the outcome was out of his hands.

Millions of television and radio listeners set upright in Jenuary 1953, when Tresident Risenhower inaugurated his first term of office by leading the nation in prayer.

"Give us," he prayed, " the power to discern clearly right and wrong and allow our words and actions to be governed thereby and by the laws of the land. Especially we pray that our concern shall be for all the people regardless of station, race or calling. May conceration be permitted and be the mutual aim.....so that all may work for the good of our beloved country an! the glory. Men."

The saw the battle of faith as one against materialism and the self-centeredness of human nature. If one is not confident and Spirit-filled in his approach, he will never

carry the day for God. "No pessimist ever won a bettile," he said.

The existance of a merciful God who forgives those who come to him humbly; the reality of the truth recorded by John, "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believeth in him should not verish, but have everlasting life."

General Risenhower's answer on matters of faith and belief went something like this:
"It takes no brains to be an atheist. Any stupid person can deny the existence of a supernatural power because man's physical senses cannot detect it. But there cannot be ignored the influence of conscious, the respect we feel for moral law, the mystery of first life on what once must have been a melten mass, or the marvelous order in which the universe moves abut us on this earth. All these evidence the handiwork of a beneficent Deity. For my part, that Deity is the God of the Bible and of Christ, His Son,"

There it is! Are we open minded enough to follow the example of faith?

\* NOTE: If you want more Christmas cards, there are still some available on a first come basis, See Chaplain Brown or your 15gt.

# THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY

-- To love someone is to bid him to live!

-- Dare to be happy, don't be afraid; this

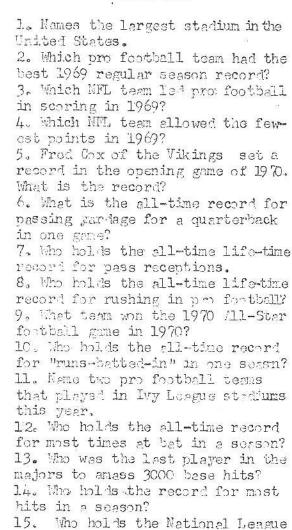
is the day that the Lord made.

--When you're real lonely, peanut butter sticks to the roof of your mouth, (Charlie Brown)

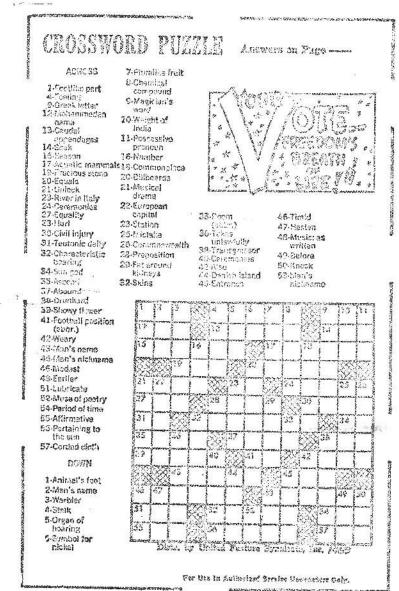
--It is no small thing to believe.

-8.





record for pinch hits in a season? \*\*\*<del>\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*</del>



#### "AN SWEES"

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1. The Rose Bowl, Fasadena, 6, 554 yds.-M. VanBrocklin California; 101,385 seating 7. Ray Berry with 631 capacity. 2. The Oakland Raiders with a 12-1-1 record. 3. The Minnesota Vikings scored 379 points, an average of 27 points per game. 4. The Minnesota Vikings again, allowed only 133 pts. average i to less than 10 per game. 5. It was the 20th consecu-lis Browns, 257 hits, 1920.

go al.

8. Jim Brown with 12,312 yds, in 9 seasons. 9. The Kansas City Chiefs 10. Hack Wilson, Cubs with 190 RBI's in 1930. ll, Philadolphia Eagles and the Boston Patriots. 12. Matty Alou, 698 in 1969 13. Willie Mays 14. George Sisler, St. Loutive game he kicked a field 15. Vic Davalillo, Card-

inals, with 23 pinch hits