

2/22nd Commander Personally Helps Capture Three VC

Dau Tieng — Lieutenant Colonel Richard W. Clark, commander of the 2nd Battalion (Mechanized), 22nd Infantry, is a rather small man who smokes cigars, speaks in a moderate voice and has recently gotten into the personal habit of bagging Viet Cong.

The habit started when the Ivy Division battalion was on its first operation of the new year near its

rubber plantation base camp at Dau Tieng.

Colonel Clark was riding in his G-23 command and control ship when he spotted two VC lurking in the area. Under his radio direction, the men of Company B killed one of the enemy soldiers but the other VC slipped through the ground search.

The 44-year-old commander requested the chopper's pilot to land the craft and the officer then moved to the spot where he saw the enemy soldiers moving and found the second VC hiding in a camouflaged position. The enemy was captured along with a large cache of rice.

Approximately two hours later with Company C in the lead, Colonel Clark spotted two more VC from his helicopter. He directed the chase by air and then decided to land once again.

With his M-16 rifle in hand, he moved to an approximate position he had seen one VC dive into and flushed him out. The 3rd Platoon of Company C found the other man nearby.

In all, the battalion killed one VC, captured three more and rounded up several documents, one carbine, one hand grenade, and 20,000 pounds of rice, 8,000 of which was polished.

1st Brigade Gives Its Final Salute To Maj. Gen. Collins

Tuy Hoa — "It has been my privilege and pleasure to command you," Major General Arthur S. Collins Jr., former commander of the 4th Division, told the 1st Brigade during a farewell parade.

The review, which included units representing the line battalions and support troops of the brigade, was the brigade's final salute to General Collins, who has taken up a new position in the Pentagon.

The general, in the ceremony, praised the men of his command, saying they were the best soldiers he had ever seen.

General Collins said, "This was evident during your training period at Ft. Lewis, Wash., and has been borne out on the Vietnam battlefield."

G-5 Section Assists Minh Kuy Hospital

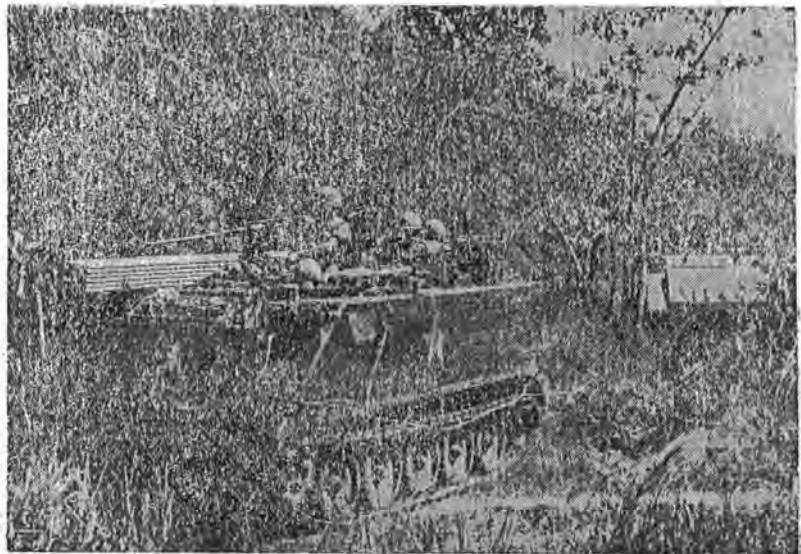
Kontum — The mission of civil affairs covers a broad spectrum of actions. Some are routine, some are bizarre.

A recent mission involved bringing supplies to the Minh Kuy Hospital in Kontum which has been working to improve the health and win the confidence of Montagnard people.

The hospital, operated by Dr. Patricia Smith of Seattle, had exhausted its stock of several critical items and appealed to the 4th Infantry Division for items to satisfy its immediate needs.

The project was turned over to the G-5 office which responded by sending 200 pounds of badly needed medical supplies.

Keep driving for safety—it pays. Forethought is the mark of the careful man. A little common sense can save a big expense.



MOVING ALONG

Members of the 2nd Battalion (Mechanized), 22nd Infantry, move their armored personnel carriers cautiously through dense foliage in search of the elusive enemy. (USA Photo)

Viet Cong Make Costly Mistake By Trying To Ambush Troop C

By Sp4 Gary M. Silva

Dau Tieng — A small force of hard core Viet Cong made a fatal mistake against an equally tough unit of the 3rd Brigade.

The VC tried to ambush the men of Troop C, 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry. Their error cost them three dead and two wounded and captured.

Troop C, commanded by Captain Kenneth Gregory of Plymouth, Mich., was on a

routine road clearing operation about a mile from the brigade's base camp early one evening.

An armored cavalry assault vehicle suddenly received small arms and automatic weapons fire. An anti-tank rocket barely missed the vehicle and tore into a rubber tree.

Immediately Staff Sergeant James C. Braddon of Columbus, Ga., and Private First Class Perry B. Gill of Sacramento, Calif., his driver, returned the fire with a .50 caliber machine gun and a M-14 rifle.

Specialist 5 John L. Everett of Knoxville, Tenn., a gunner, moved up in his M-48 Patton tank and fired 11 canister rounds directly into the enemy positions. He killed two and wounded two more.

An armored personnel carrier, commanded by Sergeant Gary G. Guthrie of Boones Mill, Va., followed the tank into the fight. A hidden VC rose from a roadside ditch and began pumping semi-automatic fire into the side of the track.

Unable to tilt his .50 caliber or M-60 machine gun at such a close angle, Sergeant Guthrie lobbed a grenade over the side, knocking the VC out of action. Another wounded VC staggered from the woods and surrendered, but he later died.

The brief clash, the troop's first taste of action since its October arrival in Vietnam, netted one Chinese anti-tank weapon with three rocket

loads, two automatic weapons, two semi-automatic rifles, and numerous grenades and documents.

1st Brigaders Attend Program At Orphanage

Tuy Hoa — Approximately 250 U.S. military personnel and Vietnamese civilians attended a Chuong Vaghe Noel Program at the Lac Thien Orphanage in Tuy Hoa.

Students attending the orphanage presented the program in the school auditorium which was decorated for the occasion with colored streamers and bunting.

The festivities started with a flag-raising ceremony, followed by songs, dances, and skits performed by the elementary grade pupils.

A four-piece combo from the Dang Duc Tuan Catholic High School in Tuy Hoa provided the musical accompaniment.

At the end of the entertainment, Sister Therese-Antoine, director of the orphanage which is sponsored by the 4th Division's 1st Brigade, presented certificates to students who had excelled academically during the school year.

Chaplain (Captain) Thomas J. Tolentino (Bronx, N.Y.) and Chaplain (Captain) James J. L. Johnson (Marlin, Tex.) were among members of the brigade present.

The school has an enrollment of 700 elementary students and 150 high school girls.



T-I-M-B-E-R

Before bedding down for the night, members of an engineer squad from Company C, 2nd Battalion, 8th Infantry, clear fields of fire during recent action in the Central Highlands. (USA Photo)