

2/8th Troops Kill 119 NVA

Colonel Garth Passes Command Of 3rd Bde To Colonel Buell

Dau Tieng — The man responsible for gathering almost 3,000 draftees together at Ft. Lewis, Wash., training them as a fighting unit and bringing them to Vietnam where they fought in six major operations has left the 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division.

Colonel Marshall B. Garth turned command of the 3rd Brigade over to Colonel Kenneth E. Buell in a ceremony yesterday morning at the brigade's Dau Tieng base camp.

Colonel Garth has been reassigned to the Office of the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the Pentagon after commanding the Ivymen for the past 16 months.

The departing commander was presented the first award of the Oak Leaf Cluster for the Legion of Merit during the ceremony.

"You men are the smartest and the most capable men that I have had the privilege to serve with in 26 years of service," Colonel Garth told the brigade in his farewell speech. "You are the greatest soldiers our Army has ever produced."

"If I did what I feel like doing," the colonel said in an aggressive voice, "I would dig my heels in and they would have to drag me away."

Colonel Garth, taking numerous risks right along with his men, supplied the needed punch to defeat the 272nd Main Force Viet Cong Regiment when the enemy unit decided to attack a brigade artillery support base while the Ivymen were on Operation Junction City.

He was awarded the Silver Star for his actions when he personally directed reinforcements to the stricken unit. It was a bitter defeat for the VC, resulting in 631 enemy dead.

Commissioned a second lieutenant in July 1942, Colonel Garth served with the 104th Infantry Division in positions from platoon leader to battalion command-

er at the age of 25.

Having fought in World War II and Korea, the 47-year-old colonel has been

awarded two Silver Stars, the Bronze Star with Three Oak Leaf Clusters, the Legion of Merit and the Purple Heart.



ROW, ROW, ROW YOUR BOAT

Riflemen from Company A, 3rd Battalion, 22nd Infantry of the 3rd Brigade, 4th Division watch for enemy activity while riding on Army engineer assault boat down the tricky and treacherous Saigon River. Continuous boat patrols began on the second day of Operation Manhattan to prevent Viet Cong sampans from moving supplies to areas south of Dau Tieng. (USA Photo by MSgt. Don Perkins)

TASK FORCE OREGON

Naval Gunfire Kills 61 Enemy

Saigon — Units of the 3rd Brigade, 25th Division continue to participate in the Army's Task Force Oregon which is under the operational control of the III Marine Amphibious Force.

A naval gunfire observer attached to the 3rd Brigade called in fire on an enemy position on the beach five kilometers north of Duc Pho last Thursday at 8:30 a.m.

Sixty-one enemy were killed, 91 structures, 12 bunkers and 300 feet of trenchline destroyed and four large secondary explosions were triggered.

A 3rd Brigade company last Friday at 1:46 p.m. made contact with an unknown-size enemy force 34 kilometers south-southeast of Quang Ngai City. Armed helicopters

and air strikes supported the infantrymen.

Eleven enemy were killed. There were no friendly casualties reported.

At 4 p.m. that day an

artillery battery of the 3rd Brigade fired on an estimated 100 enemy in the open 19 kilometers west of Quang Ngai City. Fifteen enemy were killed.

Ivy Association Membership Drive Set

Dragon Mountain — A membership drive for the National 4th (Ivy) Division Association starts Wednesday.

The association, which maintains the prestige of the 4th Division both nationally and locally, is open to any person who is serving or has served with any unit attached or assigned to the Ivy Division.

Active chapters of the association have been establish-

ed in several large metropolitan areas in the United States.

Annual dues are \$4. The national chapter receives \$3 and the balance is retained by the division chapter which sets aside 50 cents for the company of each member who signs up. Unit commanders may draw from their company fund once a quarter for projects.

The national chapter uses

Saigon — The enemy death toll has climbed to 119 in Monday's day-long battle between elements of the 4th Division's 2nd Brigade and a North Vietnamese battalion.

One U.S. infantryman was killed and one wounded in the clash which occurred in Operation Francis Marion. The kill ratio in favor of friendly forces was one of the biggest of the war.

The enemy force, believed

to be part of the NVA 95B Regiment, was entrenched in bunkers and caves in heavily wooded terrain 35 kilometers southwest of Pleiku City.

A reinforced company from the 2nd Battalion (Mechanized) 8th Infantry first encountered the enemy at 8:50 a.m.

Tanks firing cannister rounds with individual pellets as big as marbles accounted for a high number of enemy dead in the first hour of the clash.

As the tempo of contact increased during the day, Army armed helicopters and artillery and 33 Air Force strikes supported the friendly force.

The enemy broke contact at 3:45 p.m. Contact was regained at 4 p.m. and varied from heavy to sporadic until 7 p.m.

The Ivy's 1st Brigade, also participating in Francis Marion, has started operating in areas of Darlac Province for the first time.

Company A of the 3rd Battalion, 8th Infantry task force took five rounds of enemy 60mm mortar fire while in the new area last Saturday. Five infantrymen were wounded.

The 1:04 a.m. attack occurred 43 kilometers north-northeast of Ban Me Thuot.

The same company later found an enemy base camp in the same area. The complex included 180 to 200 one-man foxholes, six kitchens, one dining area and two classrooms. The Ivymen also picked up various types and amounts of ammunition.

its portion of the dues for projects and a quarterly publication which is sent to each member.

The national association is presently planning to build a memorial on Utah Beach in France to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the 4th Division's landing in World War II.

Membership application forms will be available from unit commanders.

FOR 3RD BRIGADE INFANTRYMEN

2/77th Provides Close Fire Support

By Sp4 Dave Hamson

Dau Tieng — Staggering firepower from 18 105mm howitzers, the ability to go where the infantry goes, and dogged determination to fight when the guns are threatened characterize the 2nd Battalion, 77th Artillery of the "Famous

Fourth's" 3rd Brigade.

The "Redleg" unit arrived in Vietnam October 12 after a 19-day cruise across the Pacific on the USNS General Nelson M. Walker.

No time was wasted in getting the artillerymen to Camp Martin Cox at Bear

Cat, Long Binh Province, where they linked up with the advance party led by Lieutenant Colonel Walter R. Rehm, battalion commander.

Two short weeks later, the battalion was in the field supporting the troops of the 3rd Brigade on Operation

Bremerton in the Rung Sat Special Zone about 20 miles southeast of Saigon.

The mud and marsh of the area posed new problems for artillery that could not have been duplicated in the training exercises the battalion

had held at Ft. Lewis, Wash. Many of the lessons learned in Bremerton would be put to good use in the operations that followed.

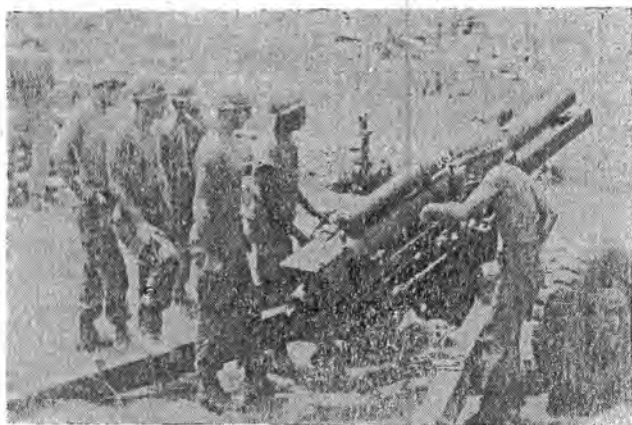
The battalion was split shortly after Thanksgiving when two batteries convoyed with the brigade to Dau Tieng where the new brigade base camp was set up amid the sprawling Michelin Rubber Plantation. The third battery rejoined the battalion after completing pacification operations in the Nhon Trac District.

Out of the Dau Tieng base camp, the 2nd Battalion, 77th Artillery has moved with the brigade on several operations, including Attleboro, Cedar Falls, Gadsden, and Junction City. On each occasion the battalion went with the brigade and gave close fire support where it was needed.

In addition to its combat role, the 2nd Battalion, 77th Artillery has been active in civic action projects in the village of Dau Tieng. A nursery was recently opened for the children of Popular Forces troops who defend the village.



AIRBORNE — Mobility by air is the key to the 2nd Battalion, 77th Artillery's ability to go where the infantry is fighting. (USA Photo by Lt. Ralph F. Campbell)



LOOK OUT, CHARLIE—One of the 18 howitzers in the 2nd Battalion, 77th Artillery sends its 105mm calling card to the Viet Cong. (USA Photo by Sp5 George Swengros)



PROTECTION—The men of Battery D, 71st Artillery run crew drills while attached to the 2nd Battalion, 77th Artillery at Prek Klok. The big quad-fifty caliber machine guns provide protection for the battalion's big guns. (USA Photo by Sp5 George Swengros)



BATTLEFIELD—The howitzers of the 2nd Battalion, 77th Artillery continue to pound the enemy during the Battle of Suoi Tre while a dustoff waits for an injured man. (USA Photo by Sp4 Brad Bromley)