

The Viet Nam Triple Deuce, Inc.

An Association of 2 Bn. (Mech)

22nd Infantry Regiment

Viet Nam Veterans



Together Then.....Together Again!.....

Thanks for Being There...&...Welcome Home



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website www.vietnamtripledeuce.org for current contact information.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well we've gotten this far into this danged pandemic and election year without going completely crazy so here is another Vietnam Triple Deuce newsletter. Dave and Dan and Vera have done some wonderful jobs over the years keeping us informed and entertained every quarter year or so, and they deserve our heartfelt thanks at every chance we have to do so.

I hope you have been in better spirits than I have with the start and controls put on pro football this year. I have always been a fan of this great sport, but cannot bring myself to enjoy it this year as a veteran because of their allowing the kneeling and other protests at the games. Looking back at all the fines the commissioner of football put on others in the past, I cannot see how he is right to allow these insults to every one of us who have served to happen. I understand the need to fix certain things in this country, but there are better ways than this.

I lost several things in my mental make up in Vietnam. Some of them needed to be gone. And one of them was prejudice towards black and Hispanic men. We all bleed red, as we vets all know. The Brotherhood we are a part of has no place for any of the crap we see in the nightly news, and never will have. I look forward to the Dallas reunion to see all of you again, and hear from you on this subject. That reminds me to point out that you can get yourself signed up any time between now and then, so get at it...

Dick Nash, A Co. & HHC, 69

EDITOR'S COMMENTS



This newsletter is a week or two late, which is all my fault. I've been busy, but as we learned to say in the Army, "No excuse, sir." I just moved from Albuquerque to Oklahoma City, a complex and stressful endeavor. My wife and I are from Oklahoma originally, and decided it was time to go home. We are still getting settled in, but we are glad to be here. We have a bigger, nicer house, and it has a three-car garage, which was the most important thing to me.

In the process of packing and unpacking, I finally found some old photos I had lost years ago, including the one above. It was taken in Dau Tieng in April 1969, and the name on the track behind me is "My Special Angel." Does anyone remember which platoon/squad that track belonged to?

I hope everyone is staying safe. I'm thinking that after all the unidentified shots we were given before we went to Nam, along with exposure to CS, Agent Orange, mama-san sandwiches, and those nasty malaria pills, we might be immune to COVID-19. I hope so.

David Allin, A Co. & HHC, 69-70

REUNION UPDATE

The Reunion is rescheduled for **May 20-23, 2021**, in Dallas. We are using the same venue and will schedule the same activities.

The Embassy Suite Dallas Park Central and Executive Car Services [Tour busses] have agreed to honor the quotes provide to us for the 2020 Reunion.

Scheduled events: for 2021 Reunion:

Tour of Waco, Tour of F-35 Production Line,
Tour of AT&T Cowboy Stadium, Tour of JFK
Museum, Golf Tournament, Hemingway
Turkey
Friday Buffet, Saturday Banquet, Sunday
Memorial Service
Hospitality Room

Members who registered for the Reunion should contact **Martin Oelklaus** concerning applying funds to the 2021 Reunion or requesting refund. Email: moelklaus@aol.com [If no email, call 816-805-0845]

1. If you have registered for the 2020 Reunion and are planning on attending the 2021 Reunion, you can have the payment you made applied to the 2021 Reunion.
2. Request a refund. *Note membership dues cannot be refunded.*

The Embassy Suites Dallas Park Center will cancel reservations made directly with the Hotel. However, if you made your reservations thru 3rd party channels to

make sure they cancel directly thru those channels. [AAA, Expedia, etc.].

You will be able to contact the Embassy Suites to make your reservation after June 30, 2020. This information will be posted to the 22nd Infantry Regiment Society web site: 22ndinfantry.org, and in the next newsletter.

Reunion registrations forms are included with this newsletter and available on our web site.

If you have any questions, contact **Skip Fahel** at: egf15@aol.com.

NIM PAVERS



The new cut-off date for 22nd Infantry Regiment Paver submission to National Infantry Museum is now 9/15/2021. It was 9/15/20

Our 22nd Infantry Regiment Society paver dedication ceremony will now be in

conjunction with NIM Veterans Day Celebration in 2021. I will attend for sure and all are invited to be a part. Hopefully CSM Fortenberry will still be Infantry School CSM unless he becomes CSM of the US Army by then.



Use our specialized 22nd Infantry Regiment Paver Form (INCLUDED IN OUR NEWSLETTERS) that proves \$50 discount to normal ordering process cost. Our pavers are being placed in section 22A along the famed Heritage Walkway leading up to parade field and Walk of Honor where our monument and Regiment Legacy Tree are located. THANKS TO ALL FOR MAKING THIS A REALITY

LON OAKLEY, A Co. 1969

ARE YOUR MILITARY RECORDS CORRECT?

During discussions regarding the correction of records for those who were in the respective units that were awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for Soui Tre, another point was raised. **Michael Belis, C, 1/22, 1970-71, Webmaster & Historian, 1/22**, mentioned that other unit awards were presented to the various Regimental Units and that those who served in these units are entitled to have their records reflect that they are entitled to share in the award(s). Michael made a listing of these awards and the dates to which they apply. Please look through the list to see if you were a member of the unit(s) during the dates that the award(s) cover. If so, then you should request that your Military Records be corrected.

If you find that you were in one of the units during the time an award was presented, then you should go to the 22nd Infantry Regiment website, www.22ndinfantry.org, where Pete Gaworecki has listed the awards and corresponding orders. Make a copy of these orders, attach a copy of your DD 214, which should show that you were a member of the unit during the time in question, and submit the request on the DD 149, Application of Correction of Military Records, also available on the website. The address for mailing the DD 149 with your supporting documents is listed on the DD 149.

If you need help with this, Michael Belis can be contacted at webmaster@1-22infantry.org.

2nd Battalion 22nd Infantry – 4th Division

- 1) PUC (presidential Unit Citation)
March 21 1967
- 2) RVN Gallantry Cross w/palm
October 1966 – August 1, 1967
- 3) RVN Civil Actions Honor Medal
First Class
October 1, 1966 – August 1,
1967

2nd Battalion, 22nd Infantry – 25th Division

- 1) RVN Gallantry Cross w/palm
August 1, 1967 – September 30,
1970
- 2) RVN Civil Actions Honor Medal
First Class
August 1, 1967—September 30,
1970

(Editor's note) I only included the dates for Triple Deuce. If you need the dates for 1st or 3rd Battalions, they should be on the 22nd Infantry website. For what it is worth, Joe Esser and I were among those who represented Triple Deuce when the PUC was presented to the battalion on June 12, 1969. At the time we were in the rear area at Dau Tieng recovering from wounds, and were flown down to Cu Chi for the awards ceremony.

Dave Allin

APPEAL

We need more stuff for the newsletter. Please send in any stories or articles that are appropriate. Don't worry if they aren't polished—I'll edit and massage them to make them entertaining. Send them to dnjallin@gmail.com. Thanks

NASH'S NITWITS (PLUS ONE) COLLAGE



These photos were requested and collected by Lon Oakley, who masterfully assembled them into a collage. These are some of the men who served in Dick Nash's platoon back in 1969, plus one person who was in a different part of the battalion but has worked closely with us. See if you can identify them. (Hint, I'm the handsome one).

DAVID ALLIN, A Co./HHC 1969-70

TIMELINE, April 1969 – December 1969

While I was in Nam I wrote home very two or three days, and my Mom saved all those letters for me. Recently I put them in chronological order and transcribed them for my daughter. From those letters I extracted the following events that might be of interest to others in the organization. Entries followed by (?) are guesses due to lack of specifics in the letter. Some of the activities and events are my understanding of what was told to me by others, and may be erroneous.

6 APR 69 – PFC Allin arrives at Cu Chi, is assigned to Co. A, 2nd Bn (M) 22nd Inf., APO SF 96268, but first must attend in-country training

16 APR 69 – PFC Allin joins 4th Squad, 3rd Platoon, Alpha Company at their patrol base. Company commander is CPT David L. Crocker, Platoon Leader is 1LT Richard Nash, Platoon Sergeant is SFC Wade, “The Rock,” and Squad Leader is SGT Lon Oakley, “Oakie”. Other members of the platoon include Dan “Doc” Michalec, RTO Joe Esser, driver Al Bridge, Larry Gallagher, Jim Walker, Chuck Blair, Roberto Chacon, Dave Nielsen, Ken “Lumpy” Schulte, Roy “Pappy” Claxton, Dennis “Tex” Holt, and Lenny (last name forgotten).

19 APR 69 – Alpha Company and a company of ARVNs capture four VC steers; 3rd platoon tracks transport steers back to ARVN base camp. Tracks stink worse than usual.

20 APR 69 – Alpha Company moves into FSB Wood (II?)

23 APR 69 – While 3rd Platoon is outposting, the Bn CO, LTC Cline, lands his LOH to chew out LT Nash for allowing kids near the tracks (to play baseball).

27 APR 69 – Alpha Company ambushed by NVA squad. 2nd Platoon’s lieutenant hit in hand, no other casualties. Body count: 1, plus one Chieu Hoi.

2 May 69 – LTC Cline lands LOH and gives three Bravo Company soldiers Article 15s for buying Cokes from kids. Then he lands and reprimands Alpha Company guys for rigging up sun shades with ponchos.

3 (?) May 69 – Al Bridge drops water trailer hitch on his foot. Unnamed member of 2nd squad gets drunk and falls off track, nearly breaking his ribs.

7 May 69 – An Alpha Company track (HQ Plt?) hits a mine near the Ben Cui and is totally destroyed. The two men on board escape with minor injuries.

9 May 69 – Charlie Company runs into NVA base camp. Alpha Company goes to help, but contact is broken before they arrive. That night NVA camp is hit with arty and air strike, but nothing except empty bunkers is found the next morning.

11 May 69 – Large attack on 1st Div base camp and on Dau Tieng. Charlie Company has contact in the Trapezoid at an NVA bunker complex.

12 May 69 – NVA set up large ambush on edge of Ben Cui. Charlie Company, while sweeping road, discovers ambush and

engages. Bravo and Alpha come to help. There is a large firefight in the Ben Cui. The platoon sergeant for 2nd (?) platoon, A Co., is wounded, as is Dave Nielsen. The NVA withdraw into the Crescent. That night there is a brief ground attack on the Alpha Company night laager.

13 May 69 – 2/22 sweeps the Crescent, comes under intense sniper fire. SFC Wade (The Rock) is wounded by his own M-79 grenade. Battalion pulls back to allow air strikes and arty. That night a major B-52 strike hits the area.

14 May 69 – AP reporters join 2/22 in sweep of area hit by B-52s. Empty bunkers are found in the morning, but no contact until after 1600 hours, when battalion runs into a very large ambush. After intense firefight, battalion pulls back and clears area for medevac choppers. Two killed, and over 30 wounded, including Dick Nash, Joe Esser, Dave Allin, and Tex Holt. Approximately 10 APCs put out of action.

16 May 69 – SGT Oakley goes home on emergency leave

17 May 69 – CPT Crocker and his RTO, SP4 Phil McLeod, are killed by a booby trap. Total casualty figures for 2/22 for 12-14 May listed as 6 KIA, 70 WIA. NVA body count for 14 May is reported to be 34 (but who counted them?)

23 May 69 – Rocket attack on Dau Tieng. Joe Esser and Dave Allin pull out stitches, and Al Bridge's cast is ruined.

27 May 69 – Dau Tieng is mortared, and one round hits the ammo dump, which goes up like a 4th-of-July fireworks display.

6 Jun 69 – Bravo Company night laager receives ground attack. Dau Tieng receives 40 rockets and mortar rounds, along with some gun fire.

12 June 69 – Dau Tieng receives rocket attack at 0600. Rear area members of 2/22 are flown to Cu Chi for awards ceremony where 2/22 is presented the Presidential Unit Citation.

19 (?) Jun 69 – 2/22 HQ moves from Dau Tieng to Tay Ninh. Alpha Company has new CO, CPT Lightfoot

1 Jul 69 – Alpha Company moves south to an area about 6 miles southwest of Cu Chi. Patrol base is established with a company of Wolfhounds.

13(?) Jul 69 – SGT Oakley returns

16(?) Jul 69 – SGT Oakley goes on emergency leave again. Dave Nielsen becomes squad leader

18 Jul 69 – Alpha Company moves to new laager site east of Cu Chi.

21 Jul 69 – During a big search for 15 VC by A Co. 2/22 and several aircraft, two helicopters collide. The two-man crew of a Cobra are killed, and two men aboard the Huey slick are seriously injured.

28 Jul 69 – Alpha Company moves to FSB Wood III. Bravo (?) Company discovers a huge cache of ammo.

1 Aug 69 – Dave Allin becomes platoon RTO for platoon leader LT Earnie Gutierrez.

2(?) Aug 69 – Bn CO LTC Cline relieved of command by Bde for "not reacting fast

enough" to directives. He is replaced by LTC Williams

4 Aug 69 – Alpha Company night laager with ARVNs in the Boi Loi woods is hit by AK-47 fire and an RPG. The RPG hits a track, injuring two GIs, one ARVN, and one Chieu Hoi. Alpha has new CO, CPT Zonne.

6 Aug 69 – Alpha Company finds tunnel complex and 2nd Platoon recovers 4 RPG's with launchers, 10 AK-47's, a 60mm mortar, medical supplies, two American M-79 grenade launchers with ammo, documents, diaries, and personal belongings. Alpha is relieved by Bravo Company in the Boi Lois and goes to FSB Hunter.

8 Aug 69 – Alpha sweeps the Boi Lois, finds an RPG, 3 helmets, and an ammo can of rock salt, along with four graves.

13 Aug 69 – During sweep in Boi Lois, 1st Plt, Alpha Co., finds a bunker complex with weapons and ammo, spots a VC leaving the area. 3rd Plt heads to cut him off, but has to stop while an air strike is called in. While the platoon waits in a clearing, a VC comes up behind them, but is spotted by John Rice while the gook tries to unjam his AK. Rice shoots the gook, who runs off, followed by the platoon. Further shots bring him down.

16 Aug 69 – Dave Allin is volunteered to be Intelligence Liaison to the South Vietnamese District Intelligence and Operations Command Center (DIOCC). He is transferred to HHC.

19 Aug 69 – 1st Plt, Alpha Company, is ambushed crossing a stream in the Boi Loi. Five men are KIA.

27 Aug 69 – Alpha Company CO, CPT Zonne, relieved of command by Bde CO because one of his sergeants was caught drinking beer on duty.

30 Aug 69 – The forward observer for Charlie Company mistakenly calls in arty on our own troops, killing 2 GI's and one ARVN, and wounding 18. The Bde CO then relieves the Charlie Company CO of command for refusing to advance against the enemy.

31 Aug 69 – 2/22 Bn Sergeant Major is replaced due to health reasons.

4 Sep 69 – Alpha Company makes contact in the Boi Loi Woods; 2 KIA, 3 WIA.

6(?) Sep 69 – Alpha Co. night laager hit on all sides, 4 casualties

20 Oct 69 – Alpha Co. relocates to Cu Chi area again.

23 Oct 69 – Alpha 34 hits a mine and flips. The driver, Kenneth "Pine" Heath, is killed, and Chuck Blair is seriously injured.

5(?) Nov 69 – A lone APC from Alpha Co. is ambushed, one KIA, one WIA

15(?) Nov 69 – Vietnamese interpreters for the CRIP platoon accuse Captain Black, 2/22 S-5, his assistant, SGT Barefoot, and Lt. Casey, the CRIP platoon leader, of medical malpractice (on MEDCAPS), mistreating civilians, and raping the women. A trial is held and they are later exonerated.

15 (?) Nov 69 - 2/22 Bn CO LTC Williams gets compassionate reassignment to the States, and is replaced by LTC Parker.

18 Nov 69 – S-2 CPT Helm in Cu Chi for ulcers, and 1LT Boles is acting S-2. Sgt Day, the assistant S-2, transfers to Division G-3.

25 Nov 69 – Charlie Company is ambushed. 2 MIA, 19 WIA. Body count: 4 NVA.

25 Nov 69 – A large force of VC invade the village of Truong Mit, resulting in all night battle with Regional Forces soldiers and many casualties.

1(?) Dec 69 – Alpha Company sees a large NVA force and calls in artillery and mortars. No US casualties, 19 NVA body count.

2(?) Dec 69 – Bravo Company laager hit by enemy company, 1 KIA, 3 WIA. No body count.

22 Dec 69 – 2/22 moves to Cu Chi area. CRIP is OpConned to ¾ Cav

DAVID ALLIN, A Co. & HHC, 69-70

HELLOS & COMMENTS

Gary W. Oliver

garyoliver@twl.com

C Co. 25th ID, Aug 67 to Aug 68

Gary would like to locate JJ Connors, Bob Miseutch, Robert Orlicki. (Gary's handwriting is poor at best. He apologized and said he had the shakes and only one good eye. I've included this because the names of the men he is looking for may be misspelled.)

Rudy R. Roben

rudeman5967@gmail.com

HHC, 25th ID, July 69 to July 70.

Rudy lost all of his Vietnam photos and memorabilia in a flood. He would like to contact SSGT **Mike Smith** from the "Flame" Track, "Hot & Bothered." Rudy was the TC of "Canned Heat." Rudy would like to be contacted by email. rudeman5967@gmail.com. He would like any photos so that he can share them with his family.

Wyndham D. Jones

772-812-1283

C Co. 25th ID, 68-69

Harry A. Cracraft, JR

hacjr4thid@aol.com

A Co. & 4th ID, 66-67

GUEST BOOK HITS

None

NEW FINDS

None

TAPS

Dave Mathew

A Co. 4th & 25th ID 65-67

Died 8-3-2020

Don Diserens

Died 8-26-2020

A Co. 25th ID, 68-69