



The MCB Eleven

STINGER

Vol. V No. 16

Dong Ha, Vietnam

August 13, 1967

STAT 1109 THE FARANGS

PURPLE HEARTS AWARDED TO 3

Three men from Alpha Company were awarded Purple Hearts Thursday for wounds received July 26 when their truck struck a mine on Highway 1.

The men--E0H2 John W. Ludlum, SN Steve R. Dobson and CA Thomas L. Emmons--were part of a road crew patching and sealing the highway between here and Gio Linh.

At about 9 a.m. the rear wheels of the cargo truck struck a mine. The blast threw the Seabees and their Marine security element completely out of the truck.

Ludlum was the most seriously injured with a wrenched knee. He was standing alongside the truck when the blast occurred. Besides the three Seabees, four Marines were also injured.

An hour later another truck from Alpha company struck a mine in the vicinity of the first accident. No one was injured.

STAT Part II

A 13-man Navy team is helping the government of Thailand develop some of its more remote border areas. The men of Seabee TEAM 1109 are assigned to Chiang Kham in northern Thailand, near the borders of Burma and Laos.

Seabee TEAM 1109 arrived in Bangkok April 28 where they were briefed by U.S. military and embassy personnel on their new assignment. May 4 the team reached their destination--Chiang Kham.

Since then the Seabees have been working

with a local 15-man Thailand border patrol police (BPP) team. The BPP provides liaison for the Seabees with local officials on projects being accomplished by 1109. In turn, the Seabees are instructing the BPP in methods of construction, medicine, civic action and English.

With the help of the BPP Seabee TEAM 1109 is now covering a wide area around Chiang Kham. Eight Seabees are working on a dam, reservoir, school, clinic, soccer field and roads at the Huai Fuang Yao resettlement area. (Con't. P 5)

PROJECT REPORT

PROJECT	% COMPLETE
MCB Eleven Camp	78
Five maintenance buildings for 3rd MARDIV	63
Five reffer buildings for 3rd MARDIV	40
Ten storage warehouses for 3rd MARDIV	54
Cantonment, FLSU	76
Cold storage, FLSU	78
Covered storage, FLSU	51
500-man galley, FLSU	24
Khe Sanh airfield lighting	90
Lang Vei Special Forces camp	15
Helo pads	35
Helo revetments	45
Well drilling for 3rd MARDIV	81
LCU ramp and staging area	97
Strongbacks and piling for Larks	70
Task Force Kreuger	41
Revetments for hospital	88
Strongbacks for Dong Ha	3

TOMORROW

LTJg W. E. Dodson, CHC
This prayer was clipped from a newspaper by HN Paul Beals' grandmother who was an Army nurse during World War I.

"Tomorrow" by Roscoe Gilmore Stott.

O God, much of knowledge has been thrust upon us of late with a fierce swiftness that almost topples reason and stifles the heart. Each new day makes us realize with increasing awe the immensity of a new task, a giant readjustment, for which past years have but poorly prepared us.

So, dear Father, we lift our hearts in prayer for our Nation in her most eventful day: Tomorrow.

God, give us Thy wisdom. Our own is scant. Bestow Thy wisdom, Father, particularly upon leaders who sit into the depth of long, still nights, struggling with problems beyond human ken. Grant to them a discernment rich with the qualities of divinity. Save them from man-made blunderings in the use of an intelligence that is Thy gift, and Thine alone. And to us who follow may there come an awakening so vivid, so inwrought with unselfishness, that we may find ourselves promptly meeting life-changes with renewed sincerity and hopefulness.



XO's NOTES

LCdr J. C. Totten

This past week MCB Eleven gained. We gained in the fact that we improved our living conditions by completing more living huts and improving those that we have now. A few more Sunday efforts and our camp will be complete.

We gained in another way and that is appearance. To be outstanding and great one must look outstanding and great. This is the story of the men of Eleven. We stand out on the Dong Ha Combat base by our outstanding work and appearance.

Uniforms worn properly with shirts tucked in, regulation haircuts, hats worn at all times outdoors and a clean camp and job sites. These are signs of an outstanding battalion. These are the signs of Eleven. Keep up the good work.

Make us strong in spirit, glorified in the Washington of Valley Forge and the liberty loving Lincoln. May now Lees and Jacksons, new to Thy wisdom is us with Shermans and Grants be a great courage. May our heritage. May all there be a reincarnation weakness within us be

(Con't. P 4)

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A NON LECTURE

After all, going to the club or the movie every night is far more important than stripping and cleaning your rifle, so hang it in some convenient corner of the hut while dust piles on it and rust eats it. Have a contest to see whose rifle deteriorates faster. Judges should award ten points for each: 1. The barrel is completely red 2. The stock has mud from four conditions red ago 3. The gas plug is loose 4. The bolt won't pull back. To use your rifle, sight on the enemy and pop your cheeks loudly as you did during the summers you played cowboys and Indians. If you're fortunate enough, you can club the enemy before he overruns your position.

Why should a Seabee in a hurry waste five extra minutes waiting in the scrub line when he can just as easily walk through the mess hall door and already be eating before his buddy, sanitary Sam, finishes cleaning his gear. Afterwards during your four or five visits a day to the four-holer you can catch up on the national and international news from discarded newspapers and even when you have read all the magazines and papers you can sit near the wall and squash ants as they scurry from place to place. Soon you'll know all the flies by name.

The mortar holes are convenient places for the sweepings of soda cans, cigarette butts, razor blades, and punji stakes. Marvel at the speed that the mortar hole is filling with all you throw into it. Guess how many different ways you will be injured when on a dark night you have to jump into your hole. Better yet, ignore condition red. Sit on the edge of your mortar hole or go outside and sit on the edge of one with a better view of the incoming rockets, artillery, and mortars. War is ten times more exciting when you actually see the rocket exploding 20 feet in front of you.

The best thing to do with an empty canteen is to leave it alone. Don't worry about filling it because water isn't that delicious anyway and rum is hard to get. When there is a condition red in the middle of the night and your throat feels cottony and you swear someone has been soaking his foot overnight in your mouth, turn to your fighting hole buddy. He's the type who always has a full canteen and you know that just one swig will make you feel better. With luck, he might have recovered from that severe case of trench mouth he had a week ago.

BONDS

NEVER LATE

What is the product of 13% and 17% ? If $3x+9=11$, x equals?

A man has 4 jackets and 3 ties. How many different outfits can he wear if each outfit is composed of one jacket and one tie?

Define: natal, tome, vacuous, and blithe.

This sentence is correct: "I truthfully can say that I do not feel badly about what happened." True or false?

Every year college enrollment increases. Today employers are asking for a degree when only a few years ago a diploma would have been enough. Even in the Navy many men have one and two years of college.

In the midst of the education explosion, some have yet to finish high school. Many feel that now since they are in the Navy, it's too late to raise their educational level.

But there are still ways while in the service to complete high school, even to go to college later.

In the States you can attend night classes at a local high school. In Vietnam anyone who wants to complete high school may do so through USAFI courses and high school GED tests.

The USAFI courses in grammar, composition, literature, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, trigonometry, government, history, geography, general science, biology, chemistry, physics, bookkeeping and accounting, business mathematics, business law, economics, general business, and shorthand offer a wide selection.

The armed forces ac-
(Cont. P 4)

ALPHA ANTICS

S-2

By EOH2 Curl

Another happy week in Dong Ha has slipped by, and A company continues its mission. One of our priority "one" jobs is the pads for MAG-16 choppers. It's a difficult job, so they gave it to the "meanest" with EOI Davis running the grading show, and EOI Reneer honchoing the asphalt shooting.

When finished, the "meanest" characters will have laid 30 helo pads, plus filled the revetments with dirt. Working with speed and efficiency, they can ave-

CHAPLAIN Con't.

stamped out by the divine favor that can inbreed nobleness.

And grant us humility, O God! Make us realize more strongly than ever that Tyranny cannot be slain by Pride nor can armies be marshalled by Conceit. May the motto of our fathers live before us, as a cloud by day and a pillar of flame by night "In God We Trust."

So as we pause on the brink of the unknown tomorrow, O our God, Maker and King of all Nations, grant us, Thy children, a new sense of faith, a universal creed, radiant with Thy promises, builded of worthy motives, and crowned with the larger touch of brotherhood! Secured in faith, may we move toward a righteous peace, sanctified by invincible honor, and arising with fine eagerness, hasten to new tasks!

rage about two pads a day. Ten pads are shot with asphalt, and the final surface is a graded mixture of three quarter minus, sand and asphalt.

As usual, the fourth platoon had a busy week at the rock crusher and batch plant. The first week in August they crushed 2,425 yards of various size rocks and batched 203 yards of concrete. Charlie and Delta companies got the majority of our fine concrete.

Would you believe the safety PD at the rock crusher had two accidents this week?

The men of the fourth

NEVER TOO LATE Con't.

cepts the GED as the equivalent of a high school diploma. Some high schools even grant a diploma for the GED. Almost all junior colleges and a few colleges and universities require only a high school diploma or equivalent for admission.

The test is divided in five parts: correctness and effectiveness of expression, interpretation of reading materials in the social studies, interpretation of materials in the natural sciences, interpretation of literary materials, and general mathematical ability.

For complete information on high school courses and GED and how to order them, stop in at the education services office.

USAFI

By EAO3 Rosenberg

I'd like to start out with a note to road patch crew number two saying that our article of July 30 was not directed at them. Petty Officer Freeman's crew has been very good about attending briefings and several times they have provided us with valuable information. They have also had their share of excitement having found several mines, two of them the hard way.

If any of you do happen to receive any information from Vietnamese civilians, ARVN troops or any other source, please let S-2 know. What you heard could be either useless or very valuable or somewhere in between but let us decide.

This week for all you great writers out there, I'd like to draw your attention to the Freedom's Foundation posters around the camp. For composing just 300 words or less on freedom: My Heritage, My Responsibility, you may win \$1,000, \$100 or \$50.

We have a lot of subject matter available just by being here for any of you who want to give it a try.

EAO3 Llewelyn and I should be back from Singapore by now but as I'm writing this the day before I leave I'm making no promises.

Buy a Freedom Share along with your U. S. Savings Bond. They are a sound investment in the future.

BRAVO BANTER

KTBCN Dubis

Tuesday morning was a happy one for UTC Smith. He figured that 21 years of service was enough for him and it was time to take it easy. We hope that it will be easy but we all know that law school can get a bit rough. Good luck and we all know that he can't make it because no matter what, UTC Smith has that "Can Do" about him.

We also wish Fred Stepp many happy years as a civilian. Stepp was a 3rd class electrician.

Our detachment has returned from Khe Sanh after doing a fine job on the airfield lighting there. Four of the ones who stayed behind to finish the electrical work also did a favor for a French mission a few miles from the airstrip. In their spare time they wired all the buildings within the mission with materials supplied by the missionary. Most important was the church, school and rectory which had been without lights ever since it was erected. For the first time people of that village saw electricity. The men were well satisfied with just a plain old hearty "thank you" from the people of the mission.

Back on base, the first platoon is with their maintenance projects, especially re-

(Con't P. 6 col. 1)

ESSAY

For an essay of just 300 words or less, you may stand a chance of winning \$1,000, \$100 or \$50.



ALPHA CONTINUED

platoon are wondering how Chief Lassiter's R&R in Hawaii is going. They request that Bravo company be severely reprimanded for not finishing their Chief's surfboard on time. He was highly perturbed because he couldn't take it with him. Actually, we feel he will have little time for surfing.

The office got an interesting request chit the other day. It went something like this: nature of request, Help! Reason for request, shore duty in the colonies. So I can see the mini-skirt rebellion, have plenty of liberty, as much beer and ice as I want, and can forget about trip tickets, PM groups, and Mickey Mouse money. Chief said he would sign it if he could also go.

We feel that it is time to say something about a couple of guys with a thankless job who work as hard as anyone in Alpha company. Their job is also as important as any we have, because without them a large percentage of our equipment would simply gather dust.

We are talking about our tire shop crew headed by EOH3 Don Nolquist, and his sidekick, EOH1N Gary Grose. Faced with a shortage of tires and tubes that would make a strong man cry, they do

STAT CONTINUED

ment site. At Sam Muan a well was drilled and work completed on an airstrip. On all projects the local Thai people willingly volunteered their help and are being instructed how to continue the work after 1109 completes its assignment at Chiang Kham.

Aside from building, an active medical civic action program and English language classes are being carried out by the team. In one month the team's corpsman treated over 2500 patients.

Talking about the team's relations with the Thai people, Ltjg. Bruce B. Geibel, OIC of 1109, said, "Being right in the middle of town we have about 35-40 children flocking over to our house everyday after school to play games, swing on playground equipment provided by Seabees, learn English and mainly just look at the Farangs (foreigners) as they call us. Privacy on the ground floor is impossible as every window has at least five kids looking through it. It is a lot of fun though, especially the English lessons, and everyone has a ball."

Seabee Team 1109 is one of three teams from this battalion. Team 1108 is at Lai Thieu about 13 miles north of Saigon. Team 1110 is presently undergoing training in Port Huene-me.

an outstanding job of keeping Alpha company rolling.

We told our readers last week that we would have a special on A company's new flagpole. Anything we would say would be mostly a lot of wind. Why don't you drop on over and look at it?

Our final words: Mr. Matthews has been selected honorary A company commander.

DELTA DATA

TNT

Parcels

BUH3 Rapp

After a week of unscheduled R&R Delta Data has returned. Last week end Delta extended the hand of friendship to one of the underprivileged companies in this battalion by helping them put up huts on base and also helped with the helo revetments. Sunday of course was shortened by the show that came up from DaNang but a lot of work was still turned out by our crews.

There has been a large turn over in personnel the last two weeks. Delta company waved farewell to: BUH3 T.V. Grimm, BUR3 Hennagir, and BUR3 A.F. Machi. SWC Phillipps has moved in to the company chief's spot since SUCS Nowman's departure. Ltjg. Cahill has been spending a lot of time with our company commander. Is he possibly planning to return to Delta?

The third platoon

BRAVO CONTINUED

pairing the many doors damaged by the recent winds. They are also involved with plenty of small jobs such as file cabinets, money boxes, stainless steel tables for the scullery, duct work for dental and air-conditioner work along with reffer repairs. The second platoon is doing a lot of electrical work for the Marines and Army here along with wiring huts and tents at Camp Barnes.

Our UT's are working on the sewer for the base, installing hundreds of feet of water line, and doing gobs of reffer work for FLSU.

managed to finish two butlers and complete the staging area at the LCU ramp. At the end of this week the third platoon commander left Dong Ha for the States on emergency leave. We were sorry to learn that D.J. Bullock's parents were in an auto accident.

The second platoon kept pace with Delta's steelworkers by putting in a group of top priority huts for the Marines in only a week. The second platoon is also working on a number of projects which include a bridge on the Quang Tri road, and the prefabrication of some 200 huts for the Marines.

The first platoon also has been working on a number of projects which include completion of the builder portion of the special services and recreation storage and the cold storage quonsets. In addition the first platoon has taken over the cantonment project from the second platoon and have been working on the community facilities project. It might also be noted that threemen, Richard Sadowski, and Joe and Marty Satalino are making like a whole platoon with their supersonic construction of living quarters at Camp Barnes.

Safety Sam is always a week behind so despite anything he may write in his article, Delta had an accident free week. Let us hope it is the first of many.

Unsung heroes of the week: Bravo's sanitation crew for freshening the air with all the fires they light.

Question of the week: what happened to Delta's article last week.

Servicemen in RVN have been endangering the lives of their families and fellow Americans as well as violating Post Office Department and MACV regulations by mailing explosives home.

San Francisco customs inspectors have reported many items of explosive ordnance in parcels mailed through Vietnam APO's. These items have included C-4 plastic explosives, claymore mines with arming mechanisms, TNT, rifle grenades, flares and M-72 rockets with launchers.

Custom declarations vaguely identify the contents of these parcels as "war trophies", "fifty dollar gifts", etc.

All U.S. servicemen in Vietnam are reminded that war trophy fire arms will not be mailed, as proscribed in MACV directive 643-2. Despite the fact that the postal manual permits the mailing of most non-concealable weapons, rifles and shotguns may not be mailed if they are war trophies.

Authorized war trophies which are not fire-arms may be mailed if acceptable in accordance with the postal manual.

Customs declarations must show complete and accurate descriptions of contents of packages and parcels.

MACV officials announced that all cases of violation will be referred to appropriate criminal investigation agencies and disciplinary action will be taken in appropriate cases. (MACV)

Letters

From SNUFFY

Dear Mama,

At last I have found a job I really and truly like. I'm in Medical workin. Talk about fun. All of the other sick Seabees come in and I get to patch them up. You should see some the corpsmen here. They are great guys. There is two of them that have really taken a liking to me. Beetle and DT. I have to be real careful here though, I could really make someone sick by messin up. I hope the chief from CTR comes to see me soon.

Mama, I just gave my first shot but Doc Gooseman didn't like the way I did it. I thought the medicine acted kind of funny and all powdery. I guess I forget to add sterile water to the pinkneesillen. How was I to know it came that way. All they have me doing is fixing up mortar hole cuts and bruises now, but I'm going to learn how to sew on people tomorrow or maybe this afternoon. I can hardly wait.

Mama, I just had to wash out a guy's eye, he sure must have had some place to go in a hurry because after I had finished washing his eyes with assatone, he just couldn't wait to get out of there.

Doc Miller, just showed me how to sew. And I had my first patient. He had a real bad cut on his finger. I don't guess I was watching because after I got through, two fingers were sewed together. I remember what Doc Randy had said about tying knots good and secure and don't use bow knots. So I had this guy tied real secure. I used two square knots, a clove hitch and a single becket bend. Chief talks to himself alot, because he said, Why me?

I worked with another corpsman named Wasted for awhile, and now I'm in Dental because I said he looked fat to me. This place has alot of things too. The first class Stiford is a good guy. When I ask questions he always answers me. The other DT is a real nut. He's a little off, but I don't tell anyone so. Mama, they have pliers and everything for pulling teeth. They even have this neat drill that you can engrave with. I tried it on my watch and it sure is neat. Doc Goddard just used the drill and sure was angry about something. Said it was the dullest thing he ever saw and the DT had better fix it. So I took it out and filed it down. The last person he used it on is now in D Med with lock jaw.

Mama, I've been in H co. for a month now and I believe Mr. Bulling said I was to be transferred to Alfa company or someplace.

Love,

Snuffy

SAM SEZ

Smoking

Another week gone by and we are further from our goal of accident free. You know it takes care and teamwork by all hands to reduce our accidents.

On July 8 we had two days lost time for a man in Headquarters company. He was minding his own business eating chow when an over anxious mess cook turned a table on the edge to clean up. The table struck our man in the back and resulted in severe muscle spasm. Sam Sez, proper care and procedres by the mess cook would have prevented this one. What's all the hurry for?

On July 14 good old Alpha company proved they don't heed what Sam Sez. They just don't care. Yep, another flash burn again. Man welding without proper shield and lenses. Sam Sez, we have harped on this one. Where was the supervisor? Lack of a positive program of corrective action can only result in continued accidents of the same type.

July 13 Charlie company had a man working at Qua Viet. Caught his little finger between some cables and a pulley. Result abrasion little finger, right hand. No 108 submitted to date. Sam Sez, it's obvious by who had the accidents this past week which companies are enforcing their safety program.

Speaking of this past week, here's the score. We had 11 accidents. A company had 5 for a new total of 25. One A company petty officer had 2 accidents last week. That's sharp. Charlie company added 3 more for a total of 9, Headquarters added 2 more for a total of 10. Both Delta and Security had an accident-free week. So as of August 9, 78 accidents. Sam Sez, think, eat, breathe, live safety and we will stop the trend.

MAIL THE STINGER HOME

"Americans are giving up cigarettes at the rate of about a million a year." U.S. Public Health Service Surgeon General William H. Stewart made that comment in issuing a new public warning from the National Advisory Cancer Council, which said that the continued increase in lung cancer deaths among Americans is almost wholly due to cigarette smoking.

Sociology

USAFI's Sociology I course is a study of the nature and functions of human society, emphasizing the cultural heritage and the social nature of man as factors in personality development and behavior in various types of social relationships. The 16-lesson course is equivalent to college level survey courses taught in civilian schools.

STAMP

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