

11TH INFANTRY BRIGADE TRIDENT

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BRIGADE'S REGULARS SMASH CONG IN NEW ASSIGNMENT

REGULAR READERS? OUT OF SIGHT, OUT OF MIND?

When alerted for Vietnam duty, I moved with experience and ease, for I am a professional, the mark of a "JUNGLE WARRIOR" so,

Why have you forgotten me?

In January they said "Bronco's your home," then I moved to find, to fix, to kill Charlie, and I haven't seen it since.

The LZ names are: Ryder, Baldy, Center, Cacti, Dottie, Thunder, East O' Conner, Ross, Uptight; the names are just a few...

I manned the lonely observation posts: Dragon, Tiger and Cobra with only the weekly Trident for my news, "My Hometown Newspaper" so to speak. But nothing, not a single (WHY? Cont. on page 4)

IMMEDIATE ACTION:

TOT DELIVERED AT DOTTIE

With makeshift facilities and a little prayer, a medical team from the 11th Brigade's 4th Battalion, 3d Infantry, played midwife during the birth of a tiny Vietnamese baby and pumped air into his empty lungs.

Captain David E. Shanks, medical officer for 4th Battalion, 3d Infantry, and his assistant, Specialist 6 Robert C. Grant responded to a Vietnamese woman's request that they deliver her baby. "We were notified by the Military Police at the gate to Landing Zone Dottie at about 8 a.m." said Specialist Grant.

Captain Shanks added, "When we saw her, we realized that there was no time to evacuate her to the hospital at Chu Lai." So they prepared makeshift delivery facilities at Dottie."

(MIDWIFE Cont on page 4)

Two "Sykes' Regulars" companies operating with the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry of the 198th Infantry Brigade northwest of Tam Ky in Operation Wheeler-Wallowa, took part in a joint assault on three hilltop positions held by a combined NVA-VC force this month.

"Alpha" and "Bravo" companies of the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry have been under the operational control of the 196th Brigade for the past month. The

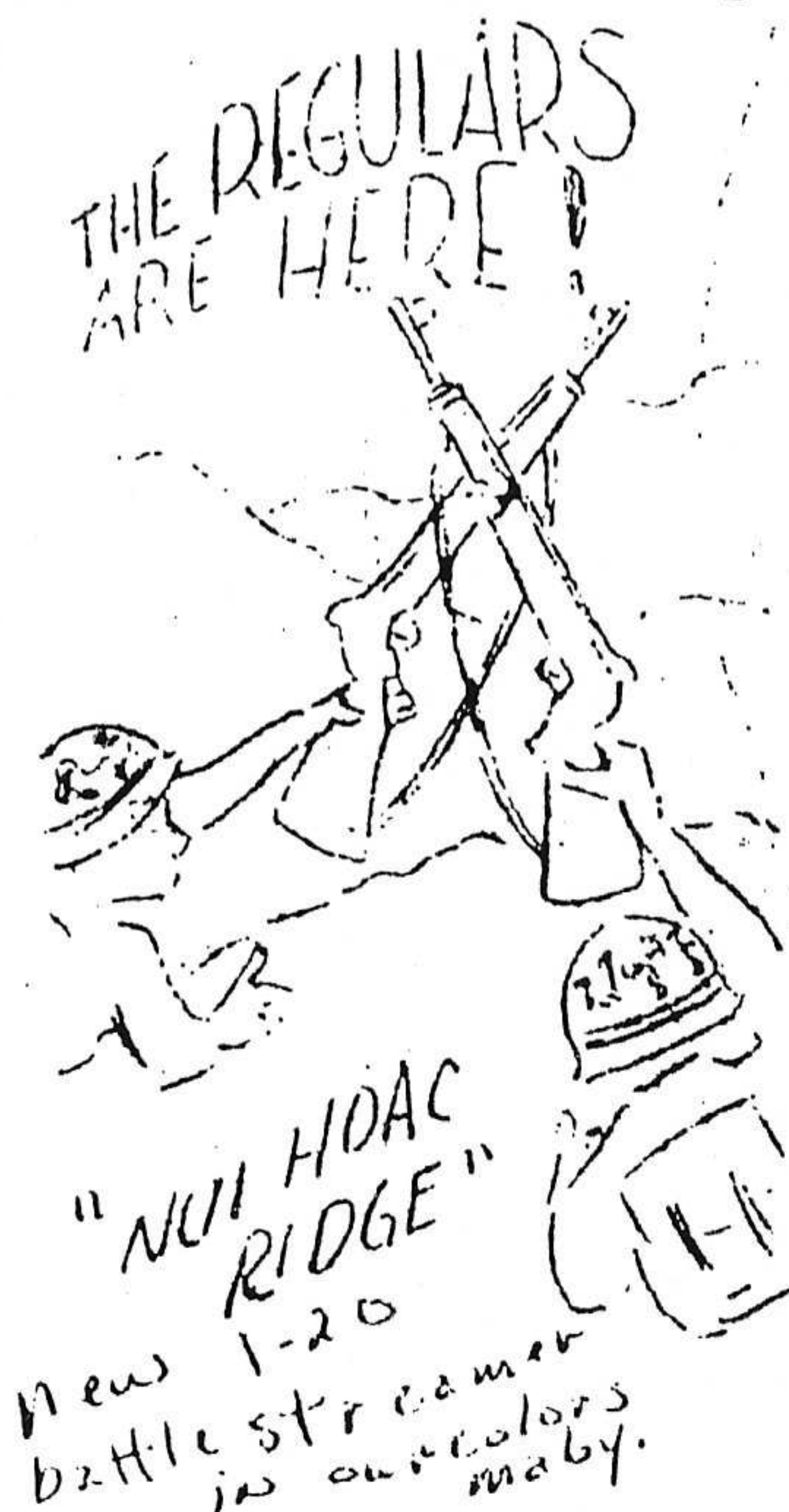
two companies went in with two other 198th companies on the assault at mid-month with the task of dislodging the enemy from dug in positions on Nui Hoac Ridge near LZ Center, about five miles from the village and Popular Forces compound at Que Son.

The combined unit arrived at the base of the ridge May 12, and after three successive assaults in as many days, managed to drive the battalion sized enemy unit from the top of the first hill.

Spec 4 Richard A. Schmidt of A Company, 1/20 noted that "we weren't aware of the enemy's presence on the ridge that first day. The point company got ambushed so we went back down and regrouped. We tried again at another point the next day. Both times we went up with just two companies. We finally took the hill with all four companies on the third day."

Another A Company soldier, PFC Richard A. Chambers, recalled that "mortars were the biggest problem in taking these hills. Nobody got hit on the way up, but when we reached the top, we started catching mortars from the other hills and from down in the valley."

(1/20 Cont. on page 3)



COMMAND INFORMATION

(Editor's note: This is the first in a series of Rights and Benefits afforded to veterans of the Armed Forces. The information was written by William J. Driver, Administrator of Veterans Affairs, and published in the May issue of the Army Digest.)

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Military personnel in any branch of the U.S. Armed Forces who have been on active duty for at least two years are eligible to take advantage of the G.I. Education and Training Program while they remain in the service. Already more than 22,500 servicemen still on active duty have enrolled in this program.

This may be done at extension branches which

some schools, colleges and universities operate on-post in many military installations throughout the country, at nearby colleges and universities which servicemen may reach during their off-duty hours or by correspondence training.

The educational institutions approved for this training may include private or public secondary, vocational, correspondence or business schools, junior or teachers colleges, normal schools, colleges or universities and professional, scientific or technical institutions.

Each eligible serviceman may select a program in any field or branch of knowledge which the school he plans to at-

tend finds him qualified to undertake.

Education and vocational counseling will be provided by the Veteran's Administration upon request.

Each serviceman is entitled to participate in this educational assistance program for a period of one month (or its equivalent in part-time training) for each month or fraction thereof of his service on active duty since 31 January 1965. However, the total cannot exceed 36 months.

Serviceman who take courses will receive payments from the Veteran Administration computed at the rate of the established charges for tuition and fees at the school selected or at the rate of \$13 per month for a full-time course, whichever is the lesser.

Servicemen who complete high school under the Bill will not be charged their basic entitlement for higher education.

Application forms are available at all active duty stations as well as all VA offices. VA contact representatives who visit military installations will be glad to furnish additional information or advice and servicemen may feel free to write to the nearest office or to their station for additional help.

(NEXT WEEK: HOME LOANS)

VIET CONG POST EXCHANGE STOCKS FOR 'OTHER' WAR

The men of D Company, 3d Battalion, 1st Infantry had a problem.

The tunnel they found in the Song Ver Valley, 15 miles west of Duc Pho, was definitely VC, but the contents were something else.

Instead of the usual spartan caches of arms, field rations and ammunition, this hidden installation had all the characteristics of a giant sundry pack.

The items captured from the enemy included sets of new uniforms, underwear and towels, bars of soap, pens and pencils, writing paper, new wallets, lighters and flashlight batteries, candy, cigarettes and bulk tobacco, bottles of food sauce, cans of milk, packages of coffee and tea and four gallons of rice wine.

In addition, medicines such as sulfa drugs, vitamin pills, penicillin and nutrients were found.

In all, more than 300 lbs. of items were found.

At first glance, the tunnel seemed to be a Viet Cong PX. Other items that were brought to light,

however, deepened the mystery. They included: seven brassieres, 60 pairs of earrings, 23 bottles of perfume and one package of Kotex.

Would you believe the supply room for a VC WAC detachment?

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SYKE'S REGULARS: ARE THEY FORGOTTEN?

thing about me. "A Regular, by God," at JUNGLE WARRIOR, but not a single word...

Why have you forgotten me?

On my pocket I wear my insignia to show them who I am, I'm a "JUNGLE WARRIOR" from the 11th first of the 20th, "Sykes' Regulars" is my name, but you don't even remember.

Why have you forgotten me?

To the tops of many hills, in the valleys far below, from the jungle to the beaches I've met and fought the foe. I've fought with many units in a country that's not tame; the 1st Cav Squadron, the 196th, the 198th, a Task Force, and have added to their fame.

Why have you forgotten me?

It's nice to read of sampans, of Chris with you at Bronco, but not a word of my exploits to tell them of my fame. Yet each week I'll eagerly read my Trident, looking for the story with my name.

On my pocket I will always wear my insignia to show them who I am. I'm a "JUNGLE WARRIOR" from the 11th, First of the 20th, "Sykes' Regulars" is my name, but you don't even know it.

Why don't you remember me?

FROM: The officers and men of "Sykes' Regulars," 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry, 11th Infantry Brigade.

(Editor's note: Since the 11th Brigade's 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry has been op-conned to the 196th Infantry Brigade, reports of their activities have been both scant and sketchy. Because they are too far away to be afforded on-the-scene coverage, information gleaned from visiting members is our only source of news (see lead story, page 1). Our Sykes' Regulars are indeed gone, but definitely not forgotten.)



ROTC HEROISM MEDAL AWARDED TO CO'S SON

Usually the soldier serving in Vietnam is the family hero, but in some cases another member of the family may distinguish himself and temporarily overshadow his father's feats.

Such is the case of Cadet Kenneth R. Henderson, a ROTC cadet at Leilehua High School in Hawaii, and the son of COL Oran K. Henderson, commanding officer of the 11th Brigade.

Cadet Henderson was presented the ROTC Medal for Heroism by MG Roy Lassetter, Jr., Commanding General, U.S. Army Hawaii, for his valiant efforts to assist two boys stranded beyond a line of storm surf at Lanikea Beach.

He and two friends paddled out through 15 and 20 ft waves to aid them. After reaching the boys, Cadet Henderson used his knowledge of the area to show the boys how to return to shore.

One of the rescue party was swept from his surfboard, and Henderson again went back into the treacherous surf to rescue his friend. He abandoned his search only when darkness made further efforts futile.

MERCY ROCKERS

The Mercy Rock Sounds will be on hand to entertain troops at LZ Bronco at 1530 hours, June 5th.

A tentative schedule has been arranged for the five-member musical group to arrive here at 1430 and tour the area until showtime.

The two-hour program is but one of the many Command Military Touring Shows now being presented by Special Services.

The show will be held at the VII landing pad.

BABY COMPLICATES DELIVERY

Everything went well until about 9:20 when the baby decided it was time to make its appearance. Instead of the normal head-first delivery, out popped a hand as if waving for help to its new home and the waiting doctor. Then came the head, and 3½ pounds of baby boy.

The biggest complication arose when they tried to get the baby to start breathing. "Perhaps the position of the arm caused an abnormal obstruction in the air passage," said CPT Shanks. "We tried for three minutes, using all the normal methods, but the baby wasn't breathing. Then, with a little prayer, we tried forcing air into his lungs with a tube." At this, the baby began breathing normally and the delivery was a success.

"It's a good thing the woman decided to have the baby with our help," CPT Shanks mused later, "because it was a difficult birth, and I doubt if the baby could have made it under normal conditions."

JUNGLE WARRIORS' GIVE TIPS ON BOOBY TRAPS

Over 80 percent of the 11th Brigade's casualties are caused by mines and booby traps. These injuries can be avoided if you watch your step and know what to look for.

The mortar platoon of B Co., 3d Bn, 1st Inf, at LZ Liz, and the men of B Co., 4th Bn, 3d Inf at LZ Dottie, offered some advice this week on what the infantrymen could look for in order to avoid these hazards.

At LZ Liz, SP4 Arthur Nigro commented: "Booby traps and pits are marked in many ways. The easiest to spot are marked with three pieces of anything making a triangle over a pit, and two sticks pointing to a mine from either side of a road.

"Usually the signs are hard to spot because they are made for Vietnamese to read," Nigro said. "But at times we've found the French word for mine (MIN) on signs over the mines."

SP5 Joseph Scotty recalled an earlier experience. "We were walking in the tracks of an APC which led to an obvious opening in a hedge row up ahead. The VC had placed a mine in the trail made by the track ruts because it was the easiest path.

Funji pits can never be completely destroyed, short of refilling the pit, and the stakes can be easily replaced. "The next best thing," the men echoed, "is to let your buddies know they are there."

SP4 Lynn Rominger found a booby trap on the beach by examining two boot prints in the sand. "They were both prints from a left boot," he said. "Charlie must have had only one boot to camouflage the top of his mine hole."

At LZ Dottie, PFC Larry Holmes said that if there are people and livestock roaming freely in the area, "you're pretty safe."

1LT Thomas Willingham of B 4/9 noted that, as far as avoiding trails is concerned, "These things differ from area to area. In our AO, the VC do not plant mines on the trails because they use the paths to move at night."



REGULARS TAKE HILLTOP

(1/20 Cont from page 1)

Schmidt said that the three hills were connected by a series of saddles, and that the company went on to take the second hill the same day and found that the enemy had abandoned it.

"We set up defensive positions on that hill for the night," he said, "and we caught more mortar fire then."

Heavy enemy fire precluded close air support by fighters and gunships. According to SP4 Gary L. Anderson, also of Alpha, "Those dinks had .50 cal. machine guns, recoilless rifles and a lot of other automatic weapons. The choppers kept getting hit by machine gun fire, so they couldn't come in too close."

"Six men and an officer made a probe up to

AEF & ARS FUND DRIVE OPENS JUNE 29

The 1968 Joint Annual Fund Campaign for Army Emergency Relief and the Army Relief Society will be conducted throughout Vietnam from June 29 to Sept 13 this year.

Contributions in the 1967 campaign amounted to more than \$173,000.

Contributions from soldiers of the Americal Division will be credited to the account of the division AER office.

The fund will be used to provide loans to soldiers of the division when an emergency situation arises which requires them to obtain extra money. In essence, each contribution helps to insure that money will be available to each contributor and his fellow soldiers.

Detailed instructions regarding the campaign will be published in the near future.

the barbed wire on the third hill," Anderson continued. "It used to be an American fire base, and a lot of the old fortifications were still intact. The probing party got caught by accident. They had to kill one NVA, and the enemy up on the hill started dropping 60mm mortar rounds all around the wire. They must have been shooting straight up the air."

"While the company suffered moderate casualties in the assault," said 2LT Michael A. Landes, XO of Alpha Company, "they scored a definite victory in driving the enemy unit off the hill. In the process, they killed more than 35 of the enemy, captured 13 weapons." weapons included two captured, a light machine gun and a 60mm mortar.