

WCO BRIEFS GEN. LIKE THIS

The Americal Division Wednesday morning fired its two millionth artillery round since its formation as Task Force Oregon in April, 1967.

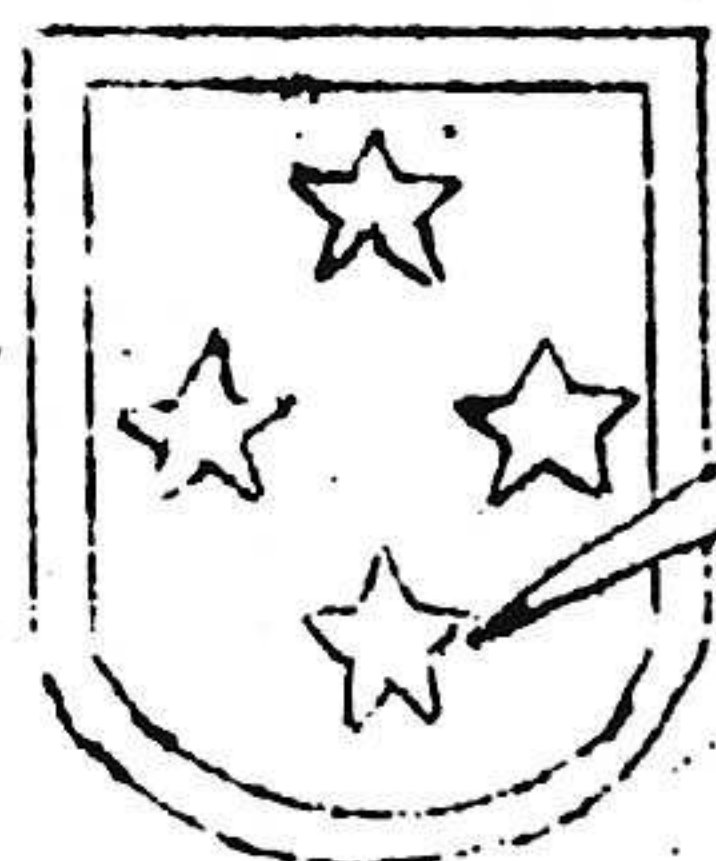
At LZ Center, division commander MG Charles H. Gettys was on hand to pull the lanyard, aided by COL Lawrence M. Jones Jr., division artillery commander.

The round was fired from the guns of C Battery of the 11th Brigade's 6th Bn., 11th Arty, commanded by CPT Bruce A. Raybeck. This unit was singled out for the ceremony after being named outstanding battery in the division.

Before the planned firing, GEN Gettys was briefed by SGT Durnic M. Owens,

gun crew commander, on the weapon's operation. "When the command comes over the radio, sir, you fire the gun by pulling the lanyard...like this..." BOOM!

In a flash it was all over. SGT Owens, still holding the lanyard, turned a bright red as the two millionth round sped on its way.



11TH INFANTRY BRIGADE

TRIDENI

"JUNGLE WARRIORS"



VOLUME 2 NUMBER 7

DUC PHO, VIETNAM

AUGUST 16, 1968

ENGINEER SGT DISCOVERS MINE, DIVES FOR DITCH

A scrap of the foot, a jerk on the wire, and the world went boom for Sergeant Bobby L. Riley of B Company, 19th Engineer Battalion.

Sergeant Riley is part of a team of combat engineers responsible for the maintenance and clearance of Highway 1 in the 11th Brigade area of operation 16 miles south of Quang Ngai city. Early Saturday morning Sergeant Riley prepared for the daily mine sweeping operation from Mo Duc to Duc Pho.

Only a mile out of Mo Duc, at a bridge bypass, a minesweeper picked up a very faint sound in his instrument signifying metal present in the road. It wasn't uncommon, and the operator hardly gave it a second thought. But behind him, Sergeant Riley was checking any suspicious place in the road. At one point a slight depression in the road's edge caused Sergeant Riley to kick at the area. Two (TRAP Cont on page 3)

KILLS INCREASE

BDE UNCOVERS VC HIDEAWAYS

Infantrymen of the 11th Brigade, in a continuing effort to rid southern Quang Ngai Province of enemy activity, killed 54 Viet Cong and North Vietnamese Army soldiers this week while apprehending 81 suspects and capturing 15 weapons, plus documents, enemy flags, tons of rice and other enemy war material.

Aug-8th saw a 1st Bn., 20th Inf. element led by 1LT Bradley J. Burgraff kill an evading VC and capture four suspects held up in a pagoda four mi. southeast of Duc Pho.

The same day, 3d Bn., 1st Inf. soldiers killed an enemy soldier in a hole

a hole and found two tons of rice, two NVA uniforms and flags and documents two-mi. north of Duc Pho.

"Sykes' Regular" infantrymen killed two VC in separate skirmishes.

On Saturday, a company of the "Always First" battalion led by CPT John P. Nolan killed seven VC and captured seven suspects, two M-1 carbines, two grenades and a pistol belt. The scattered action took place five mi. north of "Warrior" headquarters.

Earlier that morning, a 3/1 company killed an evading VC between Duc Pho and Mo Duc.

On Sunday, increased and widely scattered action in the brigade area netted 20 enemy killed, five weapons captured and five suspects apprehended.

A 3/1 platoon led by 1LT Virgil L. Rademaker killed eight VC in sporadic (WRAP-UP Cont on page 3)



and later detained seven suspects five miles northwest of the "Jungle Warrior" home.

The following day an E Troop element killed two enemy and captured two in

COMMAND INFORMATION

AP-UP (cont)
action five
Duc Pho, SSG
aibalan and

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the second part of a series on the History of Vietnam. Today's chapter deals with the country at the beginning of the 20th Century.)

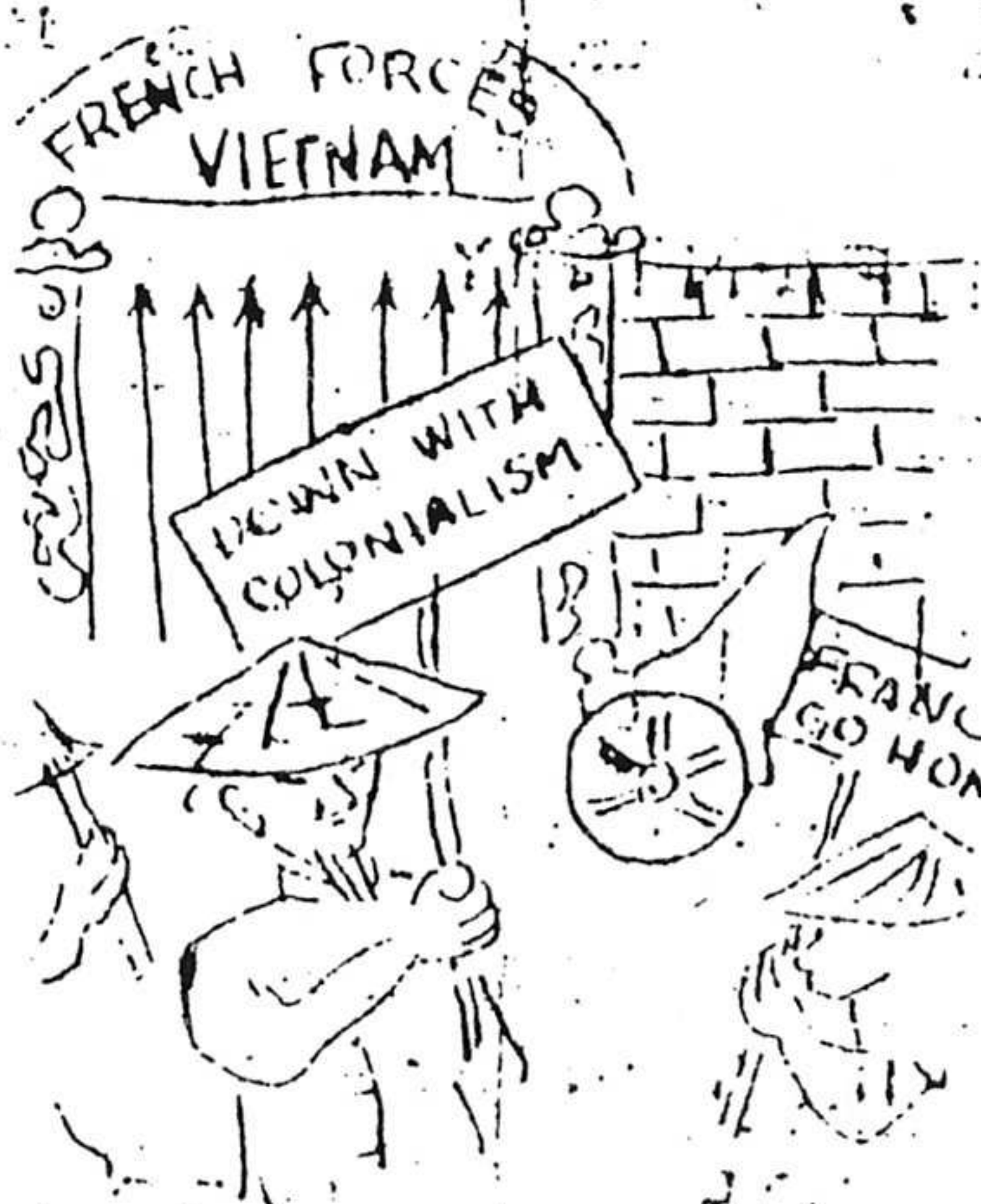
French rule was detrimental to Vietnamese society and culture. It demoralized the emperors and mandarinates, tending to turn them into toadies and "yes" men.

French colonialism also had profound economic effects on the region. Large scale agricultural and rubber plantations soon appeared; absentee ownership grew. Prosperous Vietnamese moved into the cities, and more and more of the land was tilled by peasants who did not own it. Large-scale canal systems were dug in the Mekong Delta to exploit rice production. By the early 20th Century the French had managed to produce a rice surplus. But the worst abuses of absentee ownership also developed. European ideas and culture permeated the country, especially among the Mandarin classes. But western thought also stimulated another movement--the growth of Vietnamese nationalism.

Nationalist movements and anti-French secret societies spread like brushfire across Vietnam. But most were loosely

organized with little or no well-defined political objectives. The leadership of the clandestine nationalist movement in Vietnam was eventually taken over by the Indochinese Communist Party (Dong Duong Cong San Dang). Formed in Hong Kong in 1930, it united several existing independent Communist groups under the leadership of Nguyen Ai Quoc--later known as Ho Chi Minh. When France was conquered by Germany in June, 1940, the Vichy Government acceded to the demands of the Japanese. Eventually all of French Indochina came under Japanese control. The French administration remained intact, and many lucrative agreements were made between wealthy French interests and the occupying forces.

In the meantime, Ho Chi Minh adopted a policy of collaboration with all non-Communist nationalists. The united front organization was known as the Vietnamese Independence League (Viet Nam Doc Lap Dong Minh), or the Viet Minh. One of the first actions of the Viet Minh was to form guerrilla bands under the direction of Vo Nguyen Giap to operate in Vietnamese territory against the Japanese and French, which continued though Ho was jailed in 1941. (NEXT WEEK: Ho Chi Minh's power coup)



VEHICLE REGULATIONS CHANGE FOR DUC PHO

The 11th Infantry Brigade Provost Marshall's Office announced this week that no military vehicles will be parked on the main street of Duc Pho (Highway 1) while road improvement and construction by Army engineers continues in town.

This regulation will be in effect as long as construction work continues, according to 1LT James B. Perez, M.P. platoon leader.

LT Perez said that, in addition to the new parking regulation, drivers making "laundry runs" to the orphanages in Duc Pho will be required to have a man in the vehicle at all times while it is parked.

He reminded brigade vehicle operators that the speed limit for all towns in the brigade area of operations is 15 MPH, and asked all drivers to be especially alert and careful in the villages, due to the hazard that heavy military vehicles pose to foot and bicycle traffic, especially children.

AMERICAL DIVISION NEEDS LIFEGUARDS

The Americal Division has an urgent need for qualified lifeguards.

Those individuals who are qualified as lifeguards and who have approval for release from their unit for 90 days are requested to contact the Americal Special Services Officer. Phone 3313/2613.

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TALENTED TINKERERS TOOL UP FOR TRACK

UP-UP (cont from Page 1)
In action five mi. west of
Duc Pho, SSG William Kaw-
aihalau and his weapons
squad accounted for three.

CPT William Adams and
his 1/20 rifle company,
killed four VC and recov-
ered a carbine and M-16
five mi. south of Bronco,
while another "Regulars"
company killed another VC
and detained a suspect.

Thirty mi. northwest of
Duc Pho the "Always First"
Recon Platoon killed two
NVA and captured 15 82mm
mortar rounds, a pistol,
rice stores and three sus-
pects while another 3/1
company captured a K14 ri-
fle on the beach near
Bronco.

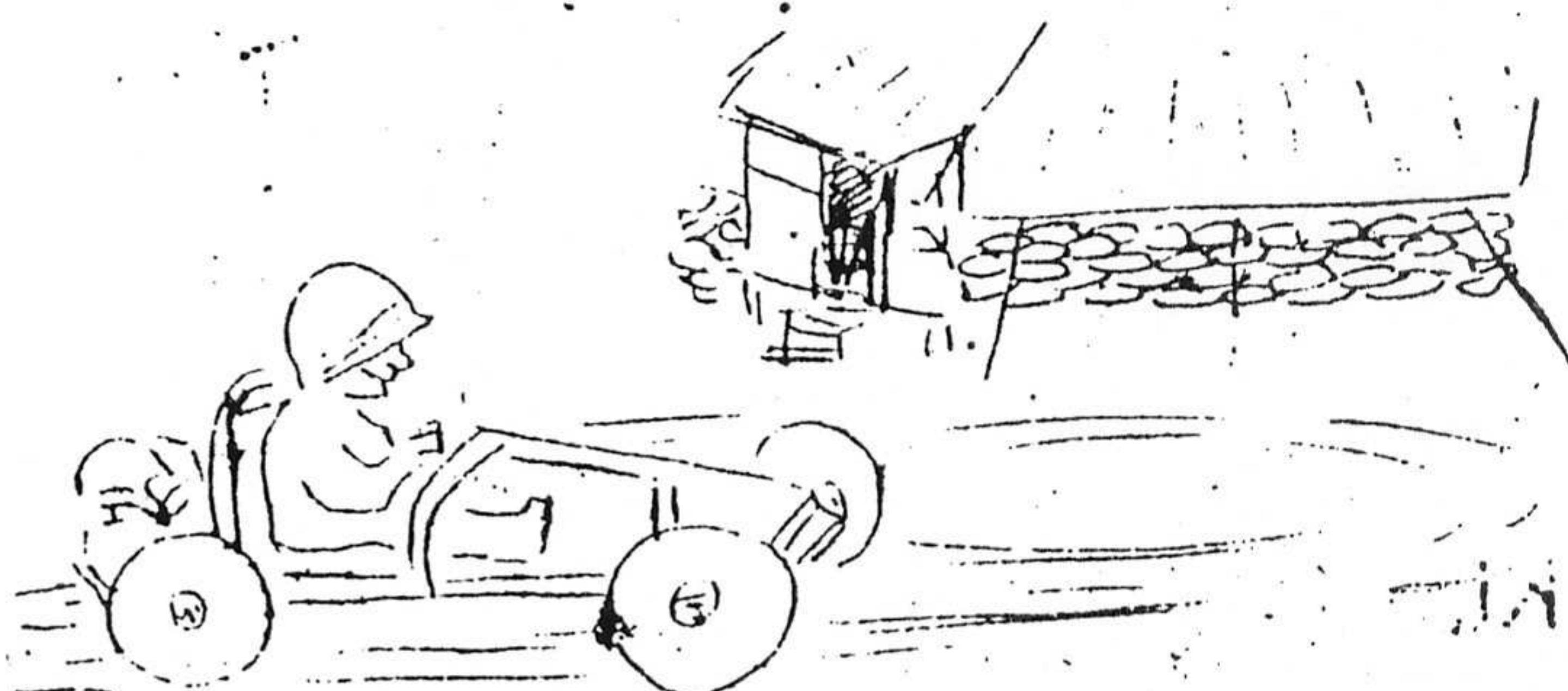
In other action that
day, a LRRP killed two NVA
deep in the jungles; gun-
ships of the 174th Aviat-
ion Co. killed a uniformed
enemy, and an informer led
MI personnel to a VC, re-
sulting in one kill and a
captured carbine.

On Monday, Recon 3/1,
led by 1LT Ovide J. Corri-
veau made repeated contact
with NVA elements in the
Song Tra River Valley, re-
sulting in two NVA sold-
iers killed and their SKS
and AK-47 rifles captured.
Air strikes called in by
the recon platoon caused
13 secondary explosions.
The night before, the same
platoon engaged 30 to 40
NVA before finding an ene-
my base camp and capturing
three weapons, two pair of
binoculars, a telephone,
(Continued on Page 4)

Buzzing, roaring, high-winding engines; spurts of
dust raising clouds over a dirt racing track; these
have been a part of the American scene since the in-
vention of the automobile.

And Americans, as everyone knows, take the trap-
pings of their culture wherever they go. The "Witch-
doctors" of the 409th Transportation Detachment (Avia-
tion Maintenance) are no exception. When these men
knock off from a hard day of tinkering with compli-
cated machinery, they relax and unwind by tinkering
with more complicated machinery!

The 409th, attached as a maintenance unit to the
174th Aviation Company at LZ Bronco, is a highly-
trained, highly skilled group of specialists who spend
all their working hours keeping the 174th's helicop-



ters flying. But some of them just never seem to get
enough of the challenges to their talents that wheels,
cogs and engines present.

With a scrapyard full of broken-down parts and un-
limited imaginations, these men have brought a breath
of the excitement usually associated with the Bonne-
ville Salt Flats or the Indianapolis "500" to Vietnam.
Two such men are Sergeant Raymond A. Williams and
SP5 Richard C. Huber, who have constructed the only
working Go-Kart in Southern I Corps. Their red-pain-
ted machine, powered by a two-cylinder generator mo-
tor, has turned some impressive speeds around the
hastily cleared dirt track behind the detachment's
maintenance sheds, and is constantly undergoing im-
provement.

"It took us about two months to build," SGT Wil-
liams said, "and all the parts are either aviation
parts that were rejected by technical inspectors, or

other items we scrounged
from the junkyard. It
took three engines from
the junkyard to make one
for the go-kart, and not
all of them were the same
type!"

He added that the kart
he and SP5 Huber built in-
cluded such features as a
"posi-traction" two-wheel
rear drive, which a lot of
competition machines lack.

"The hardest part was
the steering assembly," he
said. "We went through
two complete systems be-
fore we finally settled on
one we liked." He said
(Continued on Page 4)

SGT KICKS 'CD' MINE IN ROAD

TRAP - (continued from Page 1)
wires appeared.

As he reached down to pull at the wires, a thought
went through his mind. "Something told me to move,
and as I turned to dive for the ditch, I yelled 'CD'
(command detonated). At that time the blast went off,
knocking me into the mud." The other minesweepers
also scattered and hit the ground.

The next step was to apprehend the Viet Cong cul-
prit. Three of the team remembered seeing a man move
into a position in the rice paddy about 50 feet from
the bridge bypass. In a few minutes they had rounded
up seven suspects, including one wounded while at-
tempting to escape.

As a result of Sergeant Riley's discovery and warn-
ing, the worst injury sustained by the team was a
sprained arm suffered by one of the minesweepers. SGT
Riley escaped with only a small scratch.

BDE AWARDS

The following personnel in the 11th Brigade have recently been presented the awards as indicated.

BRONZE STAR WITH "V"

SGT Thomas F. Goldthwaite, C Co, 6/11; SP4 Paul G. Amason, D Co, 4/3; SGT David L. Johnson, 11th Sig., SGT James E. Hutchinson, 11th Sig., SFC Jerry B. Donovan, HQ, 4/21.

BRONZE STAR - SERVICE

1LT Clyde H. Carroll, E Co 3/1; 1LT Marshall D. Jones A Co, 3/1; 1LT George M. Morris, Jr., HHC, 3/1; 1LT Kenneth M. Haller, C Co, 3/1; 1LT David S. Pena HHC, 3/1; 1LT Samuel P. Stull, A Co, 3/1; CPT Harvey W. White, Jr., 52nd MI; SGT Joseph L. Martin, D Co, 3/1.

SPEEDSTERS - SKILLS - UNLIMITED

(KARTS Cont from page 3)

one we liked." He said the frame for the kart was constructed from aluminum, with chains and sprockets for the drive mechanism taken from bicycle parts purchased in Duc Pho.

"But we're sure to have some competition," he said. "Two more go-karts are being built by other crews in the detachment."

Another twosome in the 409th is interested in racing on a different level. They are SP4's Gary A. Barnes and David T. Nimmons.



The two electricians have constructed a model raceway and a racer to run on it - a completely home made model car patterned after the sleek, rear-engined Offenhausers that run at Indianapolis.

The car is powered by an Enya .15 model airplane engine bolted to an aluminum frame made from 1 X 1/4 inch strips, according to Barnes. The axles are 1/4 inch steel rods, with the rear wheels connected by direct-drive gears to the engine.

The front axle has individual wheel suspension, Barnes said, "similar to 'A' arm suspensions on race cars." The body is styrofoam plastic, coated with a sleek red finish of metal-set material similar to epoxy.

"I traded one of the guys in the detachment for the engine," Barnes said, "and the rest of the parts came from an old Tachometer generator and a windshield wiper motor. I got the gears, springs for the suspension and bearings from them." Brass parts, he added, were made from an old 105mm howitzer shell.

The car runs on a tether around the track, dubbed the "Duc Pho Raceway" by Barnes and Nimmons.

SGT Williams stressed the fact that parts for these projects come only from scrap slated for disposal. "You have to be on the spot when something useful comes into the junkyard," he said, "but aside from the materials, the only thing that limits these guys is their imagination."

KILLS, CAPTURES CLOSE WEEK

(WRAP-UP Cont from page 3)

two flags and numerous documents.

Another 3/1 unit, led by 1LT Frederick W. Long, killed two VC while elements of 1/20, led by SGT William W. Whelan and SP4 Charles N. Schnell killed two VC and recovered an AK47 and two ChiCom grenades from them. The night before, SGT Kenneth Bodine's 3/1 ambush killed one VC and recovered a carbine.

On the 13th, "Always First" soldiers killed seven VC. CPT James O'Herron's ground patrol killed six VC, and a seventh was shot down by the battalion C&C ship as he attempted to evade. CPT O'Herron's men. Two point men, SP4's Gary McGovern and Lawrence Rust, of B 3/1, killed two of the evading VC. One of them was carrying a pistol belt, two grenades, surgical supplies and documents on his person.

South of Bronco, "Sykes Regulars" killed one VC and captured 1200 lbs of rice.

Early on Aug. 14, an ambush patrol led by 1LT Robert L. Dunn killed three VC. Later in the day another 3/1 element, under SGT Clive Wang killed an evading VC four mi. northwest of Duc Pho.

Shortly before mid-

night of the 14th, a "Regulars" night patrol led by SGT Julio Lazu-Lugo killed a VC carrying a pistol belt, hand grenades and M-1 ammo. When the patrol started to search the VC, they found one of the grenades under his body with the pin pulled.

COMBAT STREAMER

The Combat Infantry Streamer has been awarded to two battalions in the 11th Brigade: 3/1 and 1/20.

In addition, all companies except Headquarters Company in both the "Always First" battalion and "Sykes' Regulars" have received the award. Units must have 65% of their members awarded the Combat Infantryman's Badge to be eligible for the streamer.