

11TH INFANTRY BRIGADE

TRIDENT

"JUNGLE WARRIORS"

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DUC PHO, VIETNAM

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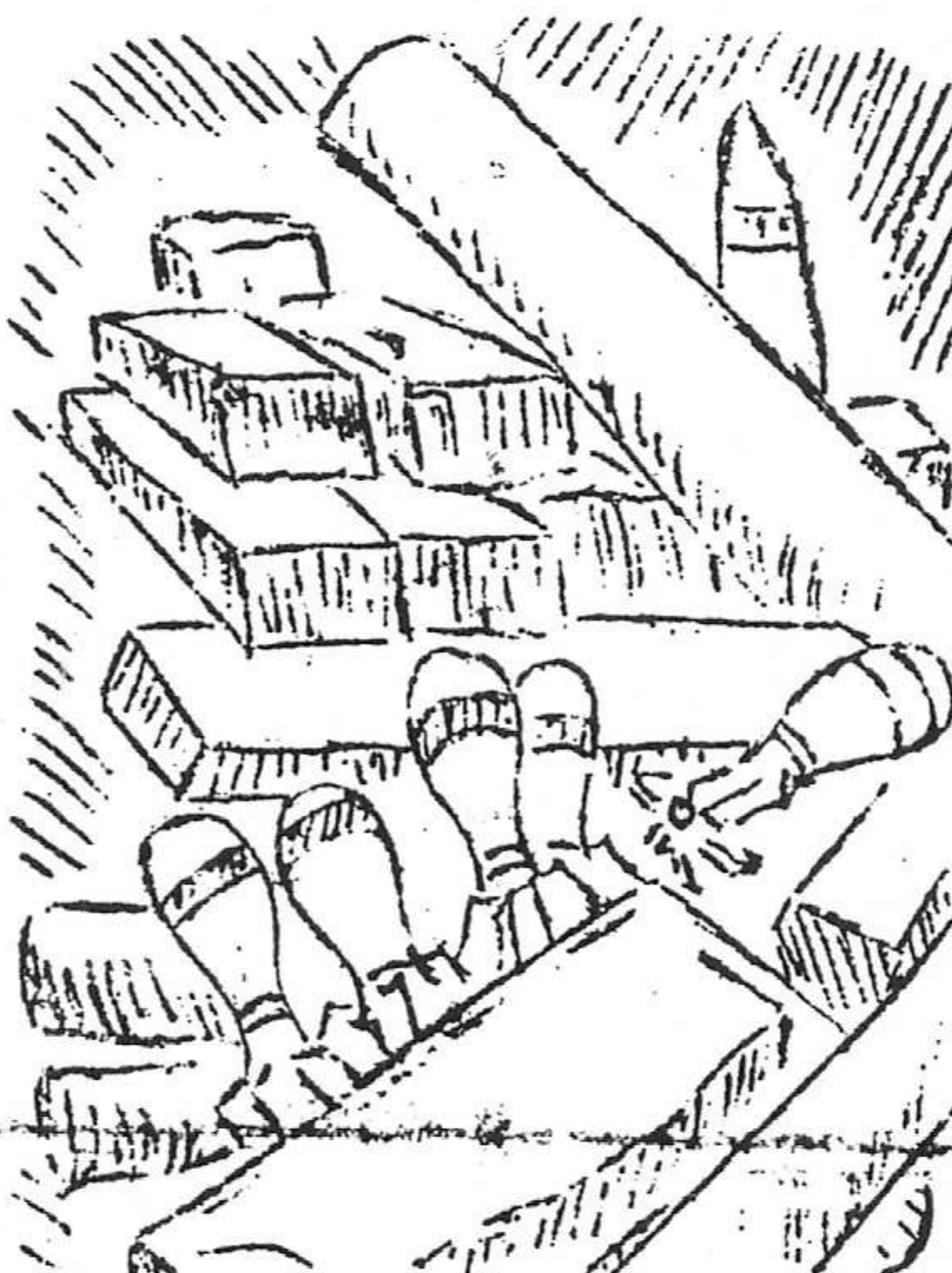
ENEMY REELS IN HEAVY ACTION

AMMO DUMP FOUND BY 4/21

During a recent search and clear mission in an area 11 miles SW of Duc Pho, A Co., 4-21, led by CPT Robert H. Smith (Buffalo, Texas) uncovered eight large enemy basecamps and a large ammunition cache within a period of four days.

"The largest basecamp was 500 meters wide by 500 meters deep and consisted of 50 well-constructed bunkers," said CPT Smith, known by self-admission as "The Bear." "It included a large mess hall, a classroom, bulletin boards, training areas, and a commanders hootch."

Various training devices were found in the camp training areas. These included simulated mortar tubes (FOUR DAYS Cont on page 4)



Heavy action prevailed in Southern Quang Ngai Province this week as the "Jungle Warriors" killed 202 enemy, detained 12 suspects, and captured 21 weapons.

On May 9, D Co., 1-20, killed two evading VC and detained a VCS among hootches four miles NW of Duc Pho. Later in the day, A Co., 4-21, found an enemy basecamp of five hootches 11 miles SW of Duc Pho. One French submachinegun, one Remington with grenade launcher, one Winchester, and assorted ammo were found in the camp. In the afternoon, the Recon element of 1-20 accounted for six VC kills seven miles NW of Duc Pho.

The following day, in an area 11 miles SW of Duc Pho, A Co., 4-21 found a large ammo cache and basecamp area with 50 well-constructed bunkers. Included in the cache were 22 75mm recoilless rifle rounds, 10,750 .51 caliber rounds, 16,800 SKS rounds, 12 RPGs, 12 82mm mortar rounds, and five 60mm mortar rounds.

On the same day, A Co., 1-20 destroyed two tons of rice and 20 pounds of marijuana.

As the week continued, an ARVN regiment, in an area 14 miles NW of Duc Pho, found the bodies of 65 NVA killed by airstrikes. A Co., 4-3 found a food cache buried in the ground 13 miles NW of Duc Pho which included 776 (WRAP-UP Cont on page 3)

VC DISCOVERED IN BIG TREE UPROOTED BY "SYKES REGULARS"

It's springtime and the trees are blooming in Southern Quang Ngai Province. Two 11th Brigade soldiers of the reconnaissance platoon, 1-20, recently came across an unusual tree two miles west of Duc Pho that yielded six VC killed in action.

Just before noon, the "Sykes Regulars" recon platoon, led by 1LT Jack Kurtzman (Hamburg, N.Y.) set up in a defensive perimeter for security and chow. They were going to remain in this heavily vegetated position for the remainder of the afternoon to avoid detection and move north to an ambush site in 515 Valley at night. Scout teams were employed outside of the small perimeter and one team was sent to obtain water.

SP4 Jerald Smith (Traverse City, Md.), and SP4 Bobby Inman (Center, Texas) proceeded south toward the Song Tra Cau River in search of water. "I was walking down a small trail and heard movement to my right and above me. I whirled and fired," Smith explained. A VC, who had apparently been on guard, toppled from the tree, shot through the chest at 30 meters.

VC TREE Continued on page 3)

COMMAND INFORMATION

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This article deals with DEROS: What Ya Gotta Do to Go)

SHORT! SHORT! I'm going home! SHORT!

You're looking forward and counting the days 'till your DEROS. As you get shorter, the excitement builds up... seeing your wife, your girl, your parents and friends...and you run around packing and trying to get things squared away before you leave.

But DO YOU KNOW what to do before you leave Vietnam? Things like—do you have your reassignment orders? Do you know how much baggage can be taken back to the states? How do you clear with your unit?

Take a few minutes to read the following instructions. Then as your DEROS comes closer, you will be able to process out smoothly and be on your scheduled flight to the U.S.

First, reassignment orders. All reassignment orders should reach you 45 to 60 days before your DEROS. But orders do get

delayed due to the large number of personnel in Vietnam. If your orders do not come within 30 day of the DEROS date, see your personnel office right away. They will make sure you are on the unit DEROS roster.

You are authorized to take back to the states 66 pounds, plus an additional 134 pounds of baggage. This is not Hold Baggage and can be carried on the plane. Hold Baggage varies with rank.

Upon receiving your reassignment orders, report to your Hold Baggage area for crates. If you do your own packing, have eight copies of your orders on hand and if the station does the packing, be sure to have 11 copies.

Next step after receiving your orders and taking care of baggage is to clear with your unit or basecamp. Simply go to the orderly room and get three copies of DA Form 137, Installation Clearance Record. All areas requiring clearance will be checked on this form. Officers, warrant officers, and EM grades E-8 and E-9, may sign their own forms. All other personnel will have the respective supervisor sign their clearance papers. You will have to clear such areas as sup-

ply, dispensary, arms room, others. But all the areas to be cleared WILL BE ON DA Form 137.

Have your shot record up-to-date. If it is not, your DEROS could be delayed.

Have all your debts paid before you get on the plane.

Go to the mail room and fill out three locator cards so that any back mail will reach you after you are back in the states. After you have cleared

your unit, report to the Replacement/Returnee Processing office named on your Port Call orders. This is your shipping point back to CONUS. Do not report earlier than 24 hours or later than 12 hours before your departure flight.

At this point you will have an inspection. All Lieutenant Colonels and below will have a 100 per cent inspection for any illegal items—unauthorized weapons, drugs, etc. If you are caught with any illegal items you could be dropped from your flight and sent back to your unit for disciplinary action.

Your uniform for returning to the states will be your jungle fatigues if you are an E-8 or below. The ranks above E-8 have the option of fatigues or khakis. When you get stateside you will be given a set of greens to be worn to your next duty station, or home if you are discharged from active duty.

All personal weapons must be registered with the PMO, complete with export license. No MPC will be taken out of Vietnam, nor will be government-issued weapons except under special circumstances.

In CONUS, you will be processed for six to 24 hours before release—EM only.

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CAPT. MAX

BY SPS
LOU
FEDO

CAPT MAX THINKS FINLEY HAS A GROWING PROBLEM.....



FINLEY YOU JUST
DUMPED MY HOOTCH
OVER, TAKE IT EASY.

THEN CAPT MAX SEES THE STRANGE AIRCRAFT DIRECTLY OVER HIM!

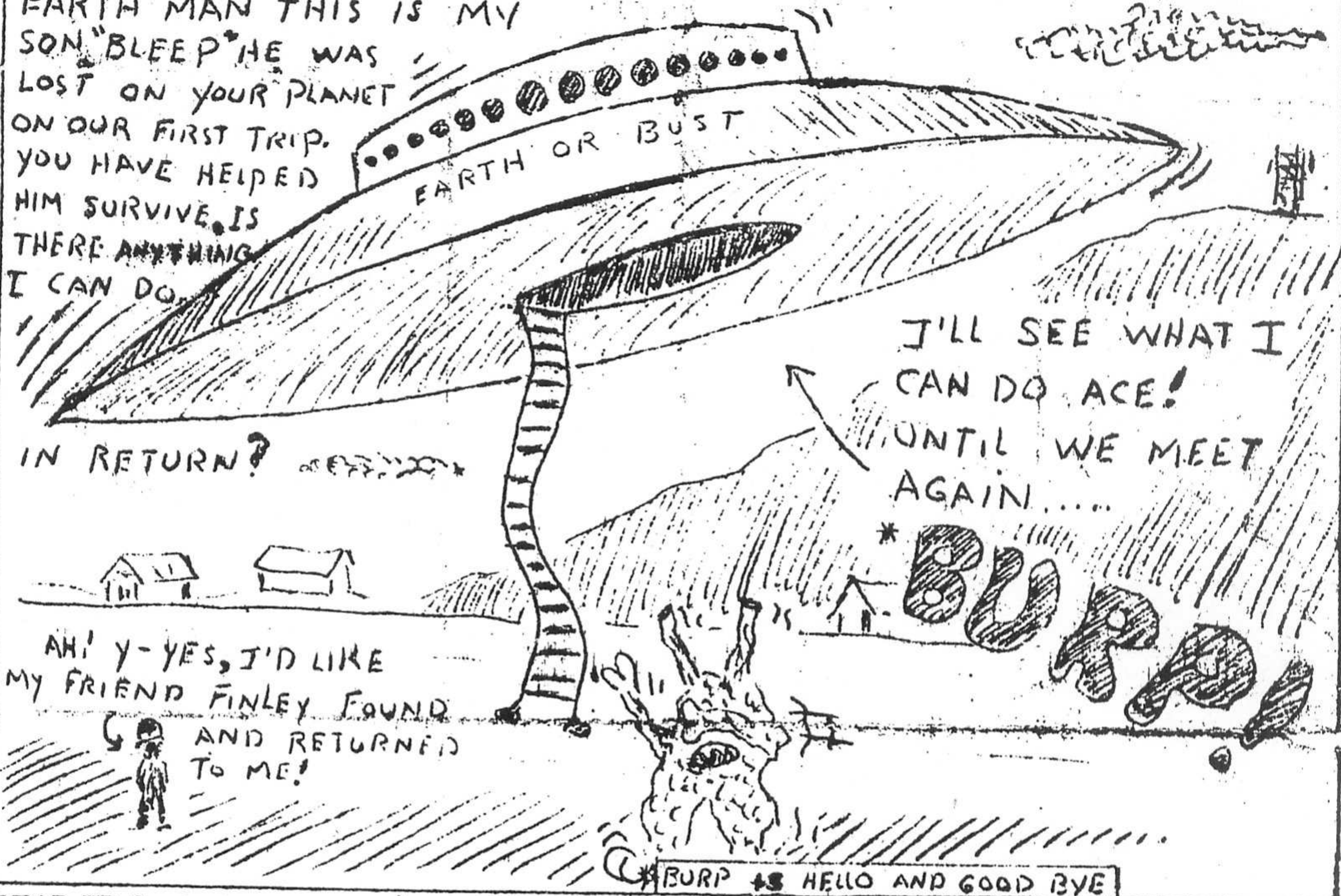
YIFE! WHAT'S THAT?



EARTH MAN THIS IS MY SON. BLEEP HE WAS LOST ON YOUR PLANET ON OUR FIRST TRIP. YOU HAVE HELPED HIM SURVIVE. IS THERE ANYTHING I CAN DO

IN RETURN?

AH! Y-YES, I'D LIKE MY FRIEND FINLEY FOUND AND RETURNED TO ME!



I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN DO ACE! UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN....

*BURP!

BURP IS HELLO AND GOOD BYE

(WRAP-UP Cont from page 1)

cans of mackerel, 68 cans of ham, 61 cans of lunch meat and 604 bags of salt.

On the 12th of May, C Co., 39th Engineers on LZ Snoopy killed 23 VC and captured three. They also accounted for three AK47s, one .30 caliber pistol, one flare gun, and one AK-50. Later, E Troop, 1st Cav, accounted for 18 NVA kills five miles SE of Duc Pho. In the same encounter, B Co., 3-1 killed three NVA, capturing an AK 47, a .30 caliber machinegun, and a heavy G.I. Com machinegun. In the same contact, D Co., 3-1 killed three NVA and captured two AK47s, and a .30 caliber machinegun.

On the following day, C Co., 3-1, five miles S of Duc Pho, found five NVA bodies killed by air (WRAP-UP Cont on page 4)

VIET CONG IN TREE ZAPPED BY RECON 1/20

(VC TREE Cont from page 1)

The two infantrymen then made a thorough search of the base of the tree. Inman climbed up to the OP and discovered that the tree was hollowed out with a tunnel going straight down from the base. As he began to lower himself into the tunnel, he detected several enemy moving below him. "I had my M-16 on automatic, pointed it in the tunnel and expended an entire magazine," Inman exclaimed.

They called for demolitions and reinforcements from their squad. Claymore mines were detonated to open the entrance and upon excavating the tunnel, five VC bodies were found along with miscellaneous uniforms, ponchos, canteens, freshly cooked rice, and propaganda from the Quang Ngai City and Duc Pho Liberation Front Information Offices.

CPT Alfred E. Webb (La Jolla, Calif.), the battalion's S-2, pointed out: "It appears that this was a local force recon squad that was in this area to observe U.S. troop activities. Obviously the enemy squad was trapped in a scissors maneuver by our B Co., mounted on APC's from E Troop, 1st Cav., conducting a recon in force to the south; and our A Co., inserting a short-range patrol to the west.

(FOUR DAYS Continued from page 1)

carved from wood, and simulated concertina wire and hurricane fencing made of woven vines, probably used in teaching "Sappers" the methods of getting through wire obstacles.

Many tunnel complexes were also found by the soldiers. "Some of these tunnels we've been finding are large enough to allow a man to walk in without stooping," the "Bear" continued. "Most have an 'L' shaped entrance."

On the fourth day of the treasure hunt, a four-man patrol from the fourth platoon came upon a huge enemy ammunition cache. "We were searching along one of the trails when we spotted what appeared to be a cage off the side of the trail and hidden in heavy foliage," explained PFC John R. Eason Jr. (Piscataway, N.J.). "At first we thought it might be some sort of NVA POW camp."

Suddenly the men heard movement to their right. "We figured the NVA were still in the area so we reacted by fire and went back to report what we had seen to our platoon leader," related PFC Gerald C. Duska (Erie, Pa.).

1LT Allen W. Hendrickson (Missoula, Mont.), 4th platoon leader, told what followed. "We heard the firing up ahead and began to move toward it. We were met on the trail by Eason who reported what the patrol had seen. When we got to the location of the cage-type structure, we discovered that it actually was a storage bin, larger than two U.S. canteens and filled to the top with brand-new enemy ammunition."

Included in the cache were 22 75mm recoilless rifle rounds, 10,750 .51 caliber rounds, 16,800 SKS rounds, 12 rifle grenades, 12 82mm mortar rounds, five 60mm mortar rounds, and enemy documents.

1LT Hendrickson continued that there were many well-worn trails in the area and he did not believe the ammunition had been there for a few days.

CPT Smith pointed out that one of the most significant facts about the basecamps was that they were still under construction. This indicated that the work force had not been there long and had not been able to complete its mission. "We've definitely caught them off balance," said CPT Smith. "This place is a goldmine and my men and I are determined to uncover every basecamp in the area. The 'Bear' is back in the woods."

ENGINEERS REMODEL CHAPEL ON BRONCO

"This is the first time since I've been in Vietnam that I feel like I'm in a church," was the comment of Chaplain Robert Dombrowski, 11th Brigade Chaplain, as he viewed the recent remodeling of the Brigade chapel here.

The remodeling includes a new ceiling, floor, altar rail, podium, and wall paneling, and was accomplished by three members of C Company, 26th Engineer Bn.

SP4 Donald Street (Toledo, Ohio) a draftsman in civilian life, planned the design of the chapel, and with the help of SP5 Robert Koch (Jacksonville, Fla.) and SP4 Gary Fackett (Baltimore, Md.) completed the job in three days.

The men are also planning to get new seats for the chapel and will build a steeple in the near future.



CHIEF IN TREE

While working on a Revolutionary Development project in the village of Pho Hung, three miles N of Duc Pho, members of A Co., 19th Engineers, were met with a big problem. Standing in the middle of an area to be cleared was a large dead tree. The engineers decided that it had to go, but the village chief had different ideas.

It seems that several years ago when the VC overran his village, the chief used the tall tree to hide in. Now, in spite of the massive RD project, the tree has sentimental value to the chief.

After a short conference, the engineers decided to work around it.

(WRAP-UP Cont from page 3) strikes and three more killed by small arms. Also, eight more evading VC were killed.

Later in the day, elements of the 4th ARVN Regiment killed six VC 14 miles NW of LZ Bronco and found four B-40 rockets. That afternoon, the recon element of 1-20, working in an area six miles NW of Duc Pho, killed six NVA and detained one VCS.

On May 14th, C Co., 4-21 killed two NVA six miles SW of Duc Pho, while the 123rd Aviation Bn. "Warlords" found many well-built fighting positions two miles SW of Duc Pho.

As the week ended, C Co., 4-3 discovered an enemy basecamp consisting of six large bunkers and killed four NVA in an area 14 miles west of Duc Pho.

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