MUSCATINE BATS 1000

Muscatine, a highly successful Americal operation of which the 11th Brigade is an important part, has pushed its enemy killed total to over 1,000 this week.

Operation Muscatine, which began December 19, 1967, was named after the home county in Iowa of Major General Samuel W. Koster, commanding general, Americal Division.

The 198th Infantry Brigade and the 3rd Brigade, 4th Division, first conducted search operations in this area. The 11th Brigade took control of the multi-battalion operation in January.

The 2nd ARVN Division had coordinated combat operations in Muscetine from its inception. They have played a major part in all combat activity.

The most punishing operations undertaken by the brigade in Operation Muscetine's area involved three separate raids into the village and vicinity of My Lai, which cost the VC 276 killed.

"OLD GUARD" UNCOVERS ENEMY MUNITIONS CACHE

"Jungle Warriors" of the 11th Brigade killed 74 enemy in operations throughout the Brigade area during the past week, detaining more than 100 suspects and capturing 155 enemy weapons.

The biggest weapons haul for the Brigade to date occurred Wednesday when enemy sniper fire and a captured NVA soldier led an "Old Guard" company commanded by CTP John A. Gonzales to a cache containing 121 Soviet, French and U.S. rifles and carbines, 12 submachine guns, a French 7.5mm anti-aircraft machine gun and a 60mm mortar. The cache also held 1,664 Chinese Communist grenades, 3,500 rounds of small arms ammunition, 1,000 pounds of raw explosives, 290 Bangalore torpedoes, 321-60mm mortar rounds, 300 blasting caps, 277 81mm rocket rounds, 35 shaped charges, 91 50 caliber rounds, 16 Chicom booby trapped soda can bombs, seven mines, two radios, two claymore mines and an Underwood typewriter, as well as NVA uniforms and enough medical supplies for an NVA regiment.

A Company of "Sykes Regulars" under CTP Ralph Clark uncovered another cache in the same area, containing 17-57mm recoilless rifle rounds, 10 84mm rounds, two 30 lb. shaped charges and a Chicom grenade.

Other units discovered smaller caches in the area and brought the day's total of captured weapons up to 139.

The week began with reduced offensive action in the Duc Pho and Operation Muscetine areas, but picked up quickly by mid-week as several companies operating in the highlands west of Quang Ngai made contact with several main-force VC units reinforced with elements of the NVA.

(See SUMMARY-Cont. on Page 3)
Do you know what to do before leaving Vietnam? Read this article if you consider yourself short, so you will not have to spend one minute longer here than you have to.

Reassignment orders should reach you 45 to 60 days before your DIAOIS. Orders do get delayed, though. If you don't have them within 30 days of that magical date, see your company clerk. He will check on their whereabouts.

You are authorized to take 66 rounds back to the states, plus an additional 134 pounds of baggage. This does not include hold baggage. The amount you are allowed to ship depends on rank. For instance, up to E-5 you are allowed 200 lbs; E-4 over four and all enlisted ranks above are authorized 400 lbs. Officers are authorized from 600 to 1,000 lbs depending upon grade.

Upon receiving your reassignment orders, report to your Hold Baggage area for crates. If you own packing you will need 8 copies of your orders; if the Hold Baggage station does it, they will need eleven. Your next move is to clear your unit and base camp. Get three copies of DA Form 127 (Installation Clearance Record) from your orderly room. All areas requiring clearance will be marked on this form. Officers, Warrant Officers and EM grades 3-6 and E-9 may sign their own forms. All others will have the respective section supervisor sign them.

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

After you have cleared your unit, report to the replacement/returnee Processing office named on your call orders. This is your shipping point back to the States. Do not report earlier than 24 hours or later than 12 hours before your departure flight.

Your uniform for returning to the U.S. will be short-sleeved khakis. When you get stateside you will be issued a set of greens to be worn either to your next duty station or home.

All personal weapons must be registered with the proper provost marshal and you must have an export license. This includes weapons taken home as war souvenirs, but not U.S. weapons captured from the enemy. Your NFC will be changed into U.S. currency after you have been manifested for a flight.

Upon your arrival in the States you will be taken directly to the personnel center. You will be there for 6 to 24 hours of processing, including being fitted with your greens. This processing is only for enlisted men.

Start your outprocessing early—even before receiving your reassignment orders. Plan ahead—and be ready to go.

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**Command Information**

**PSYOP Makes Munition Hall in Muscatine**

If Operation Magenta infantrymen uncover fewer booby-traps these days, a lot of credit will belong to PSYOP personnel working along Highway #1 north of Quang Ngai.

The five personnel, two Americans, two Kit Carson scouts and an interpreter, broadcast appeals to Vietnamese civilians to participate in the Volunteer Informant Program by turning in munitions to the team.

The team moved along the highway throughout the week and civilians piled an impressive array of potential booby-trap devices into the PSYOP jeep.

The collection included nine LAWs, 5,200 assorted rounds of small arms and automatic weapons ammunition, 54 3.5 rocket rounds, 34 hand grenades, 33 M79 rounds, 12 artillery rounds, 25 60mm mortar rounds, eleven rifle grenades, eight 8mm mortar rounds, 10 pounds of TNT, three 840 rounds, a 106mm recoilless rifle round, one claymore and a field telephone.

The Vietnamese were given monetary rewards for their cooperation.

**007 Promoted**

On the current "Major's List" is James Bond, 04071198. Branch: Military Intelligence, of course—Army Digest.
The principal mode of transportation in Vietnam is by air. Keeping the many types of aircraft flying is effected through the coordinated efforts of many different units, and one of the least known except by the pilots they aid are the Air Traffic Controllers.

It is the responsibility of this small but highly trained group of men to sort out the hundreds of aircraft plying the skies over Vietnam and to direct each of them safely to its destination.

Detachment F, 1st Platoon of the 125th Air Traffic Control Company (ATC) handles all traffic in the Duc Pho area. The unit is under the operational control of the 1st Aviation Brigade, at Bien Hoa, and is attached directly to the 11th Brigade, working closely with the 11th's Aviation Section.

In addition to units stationed at all fixed wing air strips in the republic, each of the four platoons of the 125th maintains one forward control team on a standby basis which can be dispatched to any area at a moments notice. "Basically, our mission is to operate and maintain all systems necessary for the safe conduct of air traffic in an area," says SSG Donnie O. Wright, NCOIC of Detachment F. "In our case it involves a Ground Controlled Approach (GCA) system, a Non-Directional Radio Homing Beacon and the air field control tower."

The homing beacon is maintained around the clock, broadcasting an identification signal to all planes in air routes through the Duc Pho area. It allows the pilots to get an accurate position check at any time of the day or night, even though they may not be landing here.

"The GCA system is a little more complicated," Sergeant Wright says. "Through the use of radar and other avionics equipment, we can talk an airplane from a point over 40 miles out right to the end of our runway."

"Using different patterns on our radar scope," explained SP4 Steven Jeter, one of the men qualified to operate the GCA system, "we can instruct the pilots as to terrain features within the radius of our equipment, as well (ATC Cont on page 4).
In the story covering this week's activities of units in the brigade published in last week's edition of the "Trident" under the title "VC AID STATION RAIDED BY 3/1 IN WEEK'S ACTION," the story erroneously referred to CPT William Higgs' company as a unit of 4th BN, 3d Inf.

CPT Higgs' company is part of 3d BN, 1st Inf, and credit for the company's exploit in killing four VC, capturing six weapons and destroying a tunnel complex containing ammunition, booby traps and other ordnance, should go to 3d of the 1st.

**EDITORIAL COMMENT**

The editorial staff of this publication solicits news copy from all units. The Editor reserves the right to edit all copy forwarded for publication. Units or individuals desiring assistance or guidance in preparing news stories are requested to contact the Brigade Information Office.

**BRIGADE AWARDS**

SILVER STARS: 2LT Donald R. Boyle, A 3/1; SGT Douglas L. Walsh, C 3/1.


FULL HOUSE: FFC Robert W. Stewart, B 3/1; LTC James A. Franklin, HHC 3/1; CPT Virgil L. Mix, HHC 3/1; 2LT James E. Laird, C 3/1; SSG Victor R. Cancho, TRF E; 1st Cav; FFC Dan Atkins Jr., D 3/1; FFC Gary J. Ugalini, TRF E; FVT Willie S. Tilliman, B 3/1; FVT Winfield C. Knight, HHC; E; SGT Roger M. Chandler, E 3/1; SGT Daniel D. Collins, B 3/1; SPC Billy D. Cutsinger, C 3/1; SPC Frederick R. Newman, C 3/1; SPC Alberto Rodriguez, HHC 3/1; FFC Harold Burris, C 3/1; FFC Larry C. Page, E 3/1.