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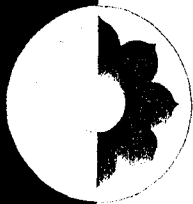


V I E T N A M

The Mekong Delta



Delta Division 1969



Contents

Commanding General	2	31st Infantry	54
Delta Terrain	4	3d Squadron, 5th Cavalry	55
Dong Tam	7	9th Aviation Battalion	56
Mobile Riverine Force	10	2d-4th Artillery	57
Reliables in Review	13	1st-11th Artillery	58
Vietnam Highlights	21	3d-34th Artillery	59
Octofoil and Unit Crests	32	1st-84th Artillery	60
Vietnam Highlights (Contd.)	34	9th Signal Battalion	61
Civic Action	40	15th Engineer Battalion	61
Reliable Academy	42	709th Maintenance Battalion	62
Religion	43	9th S & T Battalion	62
39th Infantry	45	9th Med Battalion	63
47th Infantry	48	9th MP Company	63
60th Infantry	51	Division Commanders	64

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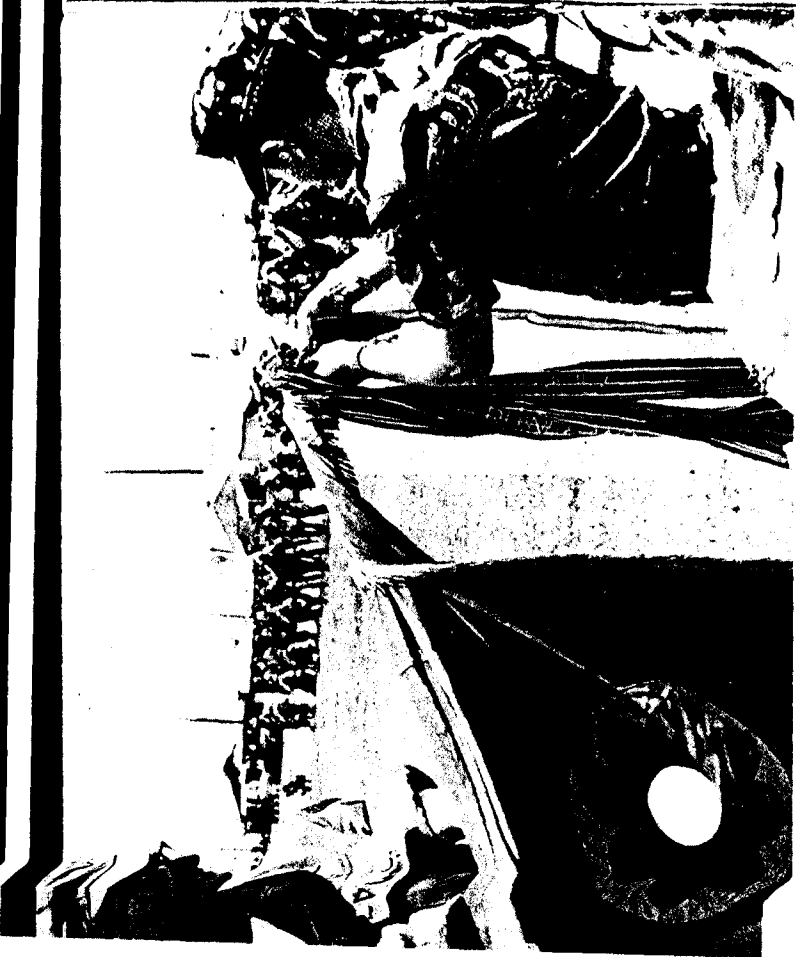
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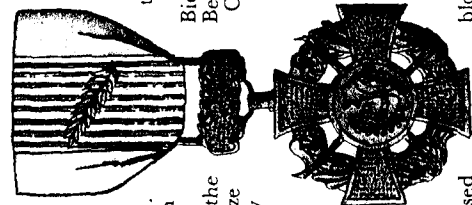
FRONT COVER—Mobility is the byword of the Delta Division. To overcome a labyrinth of natural barriers, the Old Reliables advance into combat by land, air and sea. Using the latest model armored vehicles, helicopters and troop carrying boats, Division infantrymen have scored many decisive triumphs in the one-time enemy sanctuary.

This brochure is an authorized publication of the 9th Infantry Division in Vietnam. Photos were provided by the 9th Signal Battalion, Division Information Office and Department of the Army, Office of the Chief of Information. Any views or opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army.



Vietnamese Valor Awards

The 9th Infantry Division received the Vietnamese Valor Award July 19, 1966, for outstanding performance of duty and extraordinary heroism in action from an armed enemy... The citation, accompanying the Palm, Gallantry with Bronze Cross and the Bronze Cross, read: "The 9th Infantry Division demonstrated great heroism by engaging and defeating the enemy in the rice paddies, mountains and cities. During this period the 9th Infantry Division killed over 11,000 Viet Cong, and North Vietnamese and North Vietnamese invaders."



The Old Reliables were praised for their efforts in Operations JUNCTION CITY, AKRON, SANTA FE, TRIUMPH, CORONADO I through IV, and THANG CONG DINH, TOAN and PEOPLE'S ROAD. "The treacherous Communist Tet ag-

gression brought the 9th Infantry Division new challenges and still greater glory," the citation continued. "The Division responded to the enemy attacks with alacrity, force and the spirit of the offensive. In fierce engagements in Saigon, Bien Hoa, Long Binh, Xuan Loc, Ben Tre, My Tho, Vinh Long and Can Tho, the 9th Infantry Division... drove the determined enemy from these cities. "When the Viet Cong and NVA renewed their attacks on Saigon between May 6-13, the 3d Brigade deployed five battalions to the southern edge of the city where they blunted numerous attacks and killed 852 enemy in some of the bloodiest fighting of the war."

The citation closed with praise for the Division's extensive civic action efforts in conducting MEDCAPS, and repairing or constructing hospitals, dispensaries and schools.

Major General Julian J. Ewell Commanding

Major General Julian J. Ewell, the Division's third commanding general in Vietnam, has commanded the Old Reliables since Feb. 25, 1968.

He arrived from Fort Belvoir, Va., where he was Deputy Commander and Chief of Staff for Combat Developments Command. General Ewell holds numerous U.S. and foreign decorations, including Distinguished Service Cross, Silver Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster, Bronze Star, Air Medal with Four Oak Leaf Clusters, Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman's Badge (2d Award), and Master Parachutist's Badge.

Before leaving his last assignment, General Ewell was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal (the nation's second highest award for service) for a study on the future deployment of artillery.

After graduating from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and receiving an infantry commission, General Ewell took his first assignment with the 29th Infantry at Fort Benning, Ga. He was part of the initial group to enter the 501st Parachute Infantry—at that time a new type of unit.

During the early stages of World War II, he served with various parachute units before becoming a member of the 501st Parachute Infantry in 1942 and remaining with the unit in several capacities until the end of the war. The 501st participated in European campaigns as part of the 101st Airborne (Screaming Eagles) Division. General Ewell jumped into Normandy on D-Day and into Holland in the autumn of 1944.

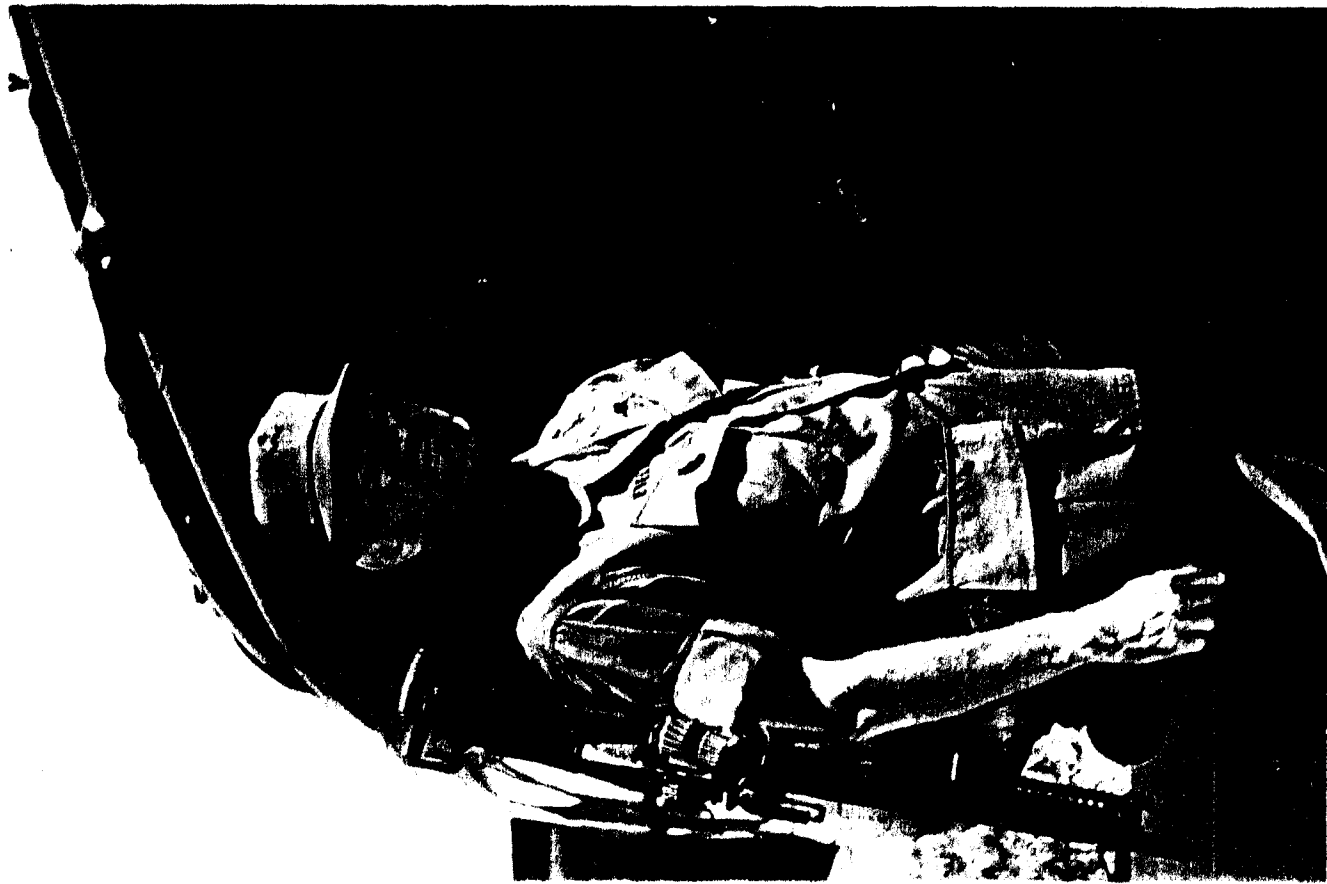
General Ewell returned to the U.S. after the war as a student and, later, an instructor at the Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

After his tour there, General Ewell was assigned to Berlin as executive officer to the U.S. Commander, Berlin, and subsequently became chief of staff of the Seventh Army at Stuttgart.

He attended the Army War College at Carlisle Barracks, Pa., before being sent to Korea in 1952 as commander of the 9th "Manchu" Infantry Regiment of the Eighth Army.

On returning to the States, he spent four years at West Point as commander of a cadet regiment and later as assistant commander of cadets. In 1958-59, he attended the National War College. After graduation he served on the Army General Staff as a planner for two years.

General Ewell was transferred to the White House as Executive Assistant to the Military Representative of the President, General Maxwell D. Taylor. He then moved to the Pentagon as executive to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. In the spring of 1963, he went to Germany as Assistant Division Commander of the 8th Infantry Division. He was transferred in June, 1965 to Frankfurt as Chief of Staff, V Corps, and assumed his last post at Fort Belvoir in June, 1966.



Delta Terrain



The 9th Division operates in a huge alluvial plain called the Mekong delta. Dominated by the coursing Mekong River, it is interspersed with thousands of smaller rivers, streams, canals and backwater areas. During the dry season, the Delta is a land of relatively dry truck farms, ineapple plantations and rice paddies irrigated by the multitudinous waterways. Troop movement is only moderately difficult in a land where the highest point above sea level is just six feet.

In the rainy season, however, torrential monsoon rains inundate the land, swelling the Delta like a sponge. Tons of mud and silt are carried from red China, Laos, Cambodia and Thailand and swept south. This rich earth is deposited throughout the paddies and farms as all waterways verflow their banks and flood the area.

The mud, bringing fertile soil and the promise of good crops, creates a problem for the Old Reliables faced by no other soldiers in Vietnam. It is a sucking mud, swelling waist-deep and clamping on the infantryman as he tries to maneuver in the Delta. It coats equipment, fouls rifles and has an odor all its own.

There is more to the Delta than hundreds of square miles of mud. Only ten miles north of Dong Tam lies the southern edge of the Plain of Reeds, a vast area of shallow, stagnant water and rotting vegetation.

For years, this barren terrain was considered a haven for the VC as they hid entire hospital complexes in the tall elephant grass and occasional woodlines bordering the myriad streams that crisscross the plain.

In the Rung Sat Special Zone, 32 miles northeast of Dong Tam and called the "Everglades of Vietnam," water transportation is the only means of penetration. Massive mangrove trees surrounded completely by water make this one of the most desolate and forbidding areas in Vietnam.

Twenty-five miles east of Dong Tam is Go Cong Province, claimed by many infantrymen to be the worst area in the Delta. In the Rung Sat, there is an occasional tree stump for support or rest. In Go Cong, there is nothing but mud.

All these factors—mud, water, elephant grass and mangrove swamps—have forced the 9th Division to utilize unique tactics.

Unlike the northern provinces where landing zones are hard to find, the Delta is one vast LZ. New tactics of rapid insertion and extraction for pursuit have been developed to take advantage of this, while keeping the troops from losing time and energy battling the mud.

Helicopters and ATCs of the Mobile Riverine Force carry out most insertions in the Delta. But new equipment, such as air boat "swamp buggies," and the larger air cushion vehicle, have been developed to assist the Division in conquering mud and water.



Mud everywhere

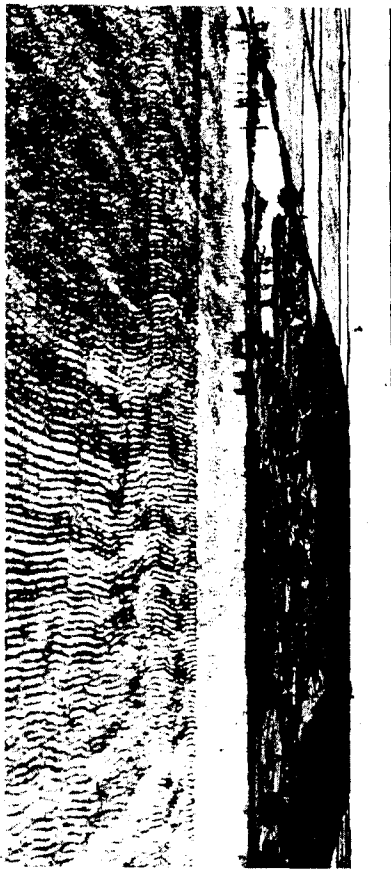
... biggest obstacle

In many ways, the Delta terrain makes the 9th Division war much different from the wars fought by other units in Vietnam. It is a war against two enemies—the Viet Cong and the terrain—and both must be overcome simultaneously.



Ingenious and resourceful Old Reliables

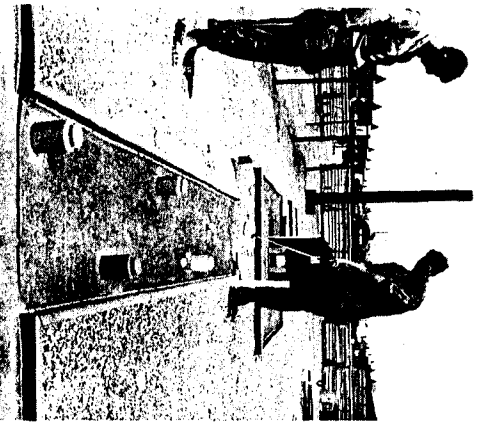
... overcome all natural barriers



Dong Tam in the beginning

... 600 acres of rice paddies

Other small shops specialize in photos, portraits, engraving, jewelry and watch repair, leather goods, optical equipment, automobiles and Siberian fur.



Mini-golf

... leisure-time fun

Off-duty soldiers may take advantage of many Special Services facilities, highlighted by a swimming pool, miniature golf course, all-purpose courts, library, arts and crafts shop, indoor and outdoor movies. Famous entertainers and athletes often stop at the base camp



A call to home

... via MARS

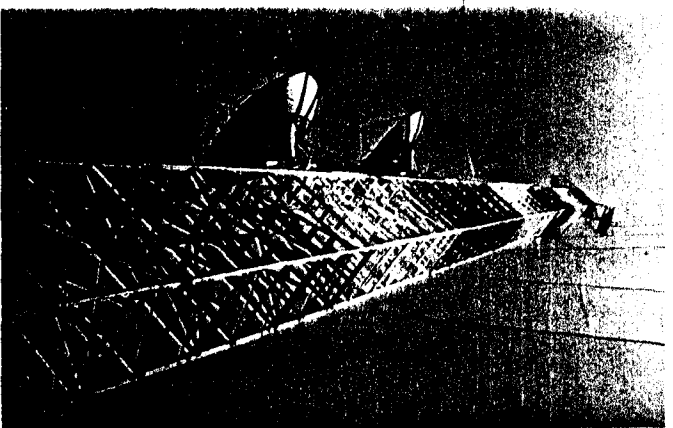
on USO-sponsored performing and handshake tours.

Added touches of home are furnished by the MARS station, allowing Division troops to place phone calls to loved ones in the States, and a large chapel, holding religious services daily and Sundays.

New accommodations continue to sprout up, in stark contrast to Dong Tam's early days. When the Division pitched its first tents in September, 1966, they quickly folded in the sucking mud.

To raise the level of the area, the world's fourth largest dredge, the Jamaica Bay, was anchored in the My Tho River and began pumping sand into the site.

Disaster struck the river basin in January, 1967, when the Viet Cong sabotaged and sank the Jamaica Bay. Two more dredges were called in and, together with three engineer battalions, they converted the flooded expanse of paddies into a habitable base camp, first for the Division's 3d Brigade, later for the 2d Brigade, and finally for the Delta Division.



Commo tower

... for VHF relay



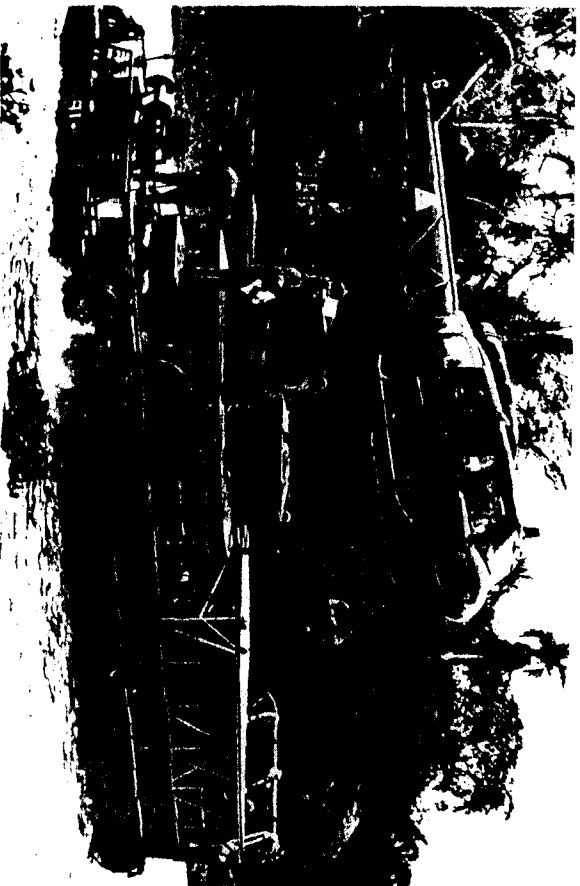
The view from a bunker

... information from the River Tam bar



Mobile Riverine Force

The second Mobile Riverine Force in U.S. military history has proved to be a logical and effective means of probing the Mekong Delta in pursuit of the elusive and native Viet Cong. Formed in June, 1967, the flexible strike force was based on concepts developed during the Mississippi Delta campaign of the Civil War and borrowed 15 years ago by French forces in Vietnam.



Dropping in on Navy mini-pad

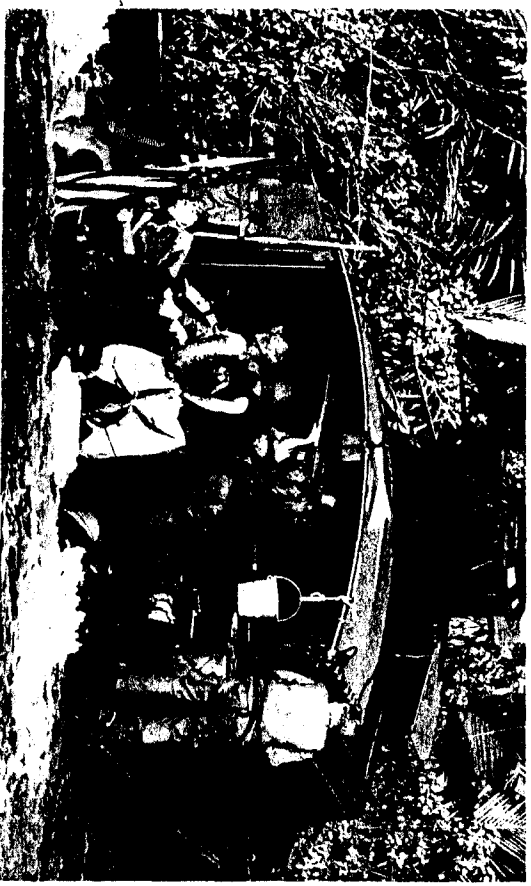
... in midstream to avoid foliage

Today's reincarnation of riverine operations combines air, artillery and infantry elements of the 9th Division with gunboats and ships of Naval River Assault Flotilla One. MRF maneuvers are staged from 11 Navy ships comprising two Mobile Riverine Bases (MRBs). Infantrymen and boat crewmen live aboard comfortable barracks craft, three of which also house surgical hospitals.

Ground troops are transported into action aboard Armored Troop Carriers (ATCs), versatile 56-foot boats that each can land a platoon of fully equipped soldiers. The ATCs, with Monitor gunboats, Assault Patrol Boats (APBs) and Command and Control Boats (CCBs), then remain in the area to lend fire, minesweeping, logistics and communications support.

ASPB crew members

... return enemy fire



1st Division History

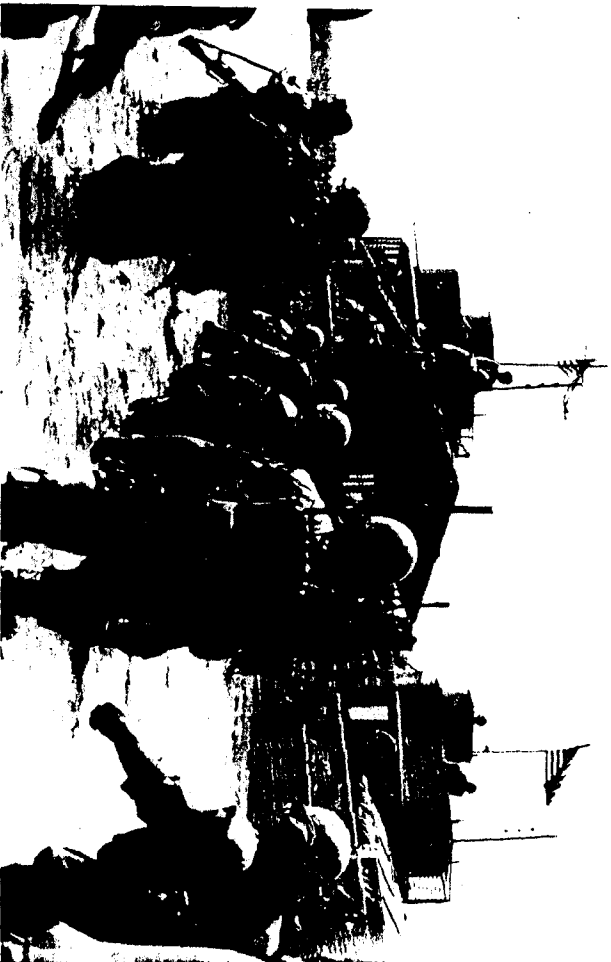
Helicopter fire teams regularly over the boats in transit and then support the soldiers once they are reached. Several ATCs contain helicopter pads and refueling stations. Artillery also is within calling distance thanks to another tactical innovation—floating artillery barges. Two batteries of 105mm howitzers from the 3d Battalion, 34th Artillery, have been mounted on barges. With their small fleet of landing craft, the guns accompany infantrymen almost anywhere in the VC-infested delta.

These modernized adaptations of land-water warfare have propelled the 1st Division forces to staggering

victories over enemy units at Rach Nui Canal, the Cam Son Secret Zone and Rach Ruong Canal.

During the communist Tet aggression campaign in February, 1968, the MRF left no doubt about its quick strike capability. Shifting rapidly from one oppressed Delta capital to another, the waterborne soldiers crushed hostile invaders at My Tho, Ben Tre, Vinh Long and Can Tho.

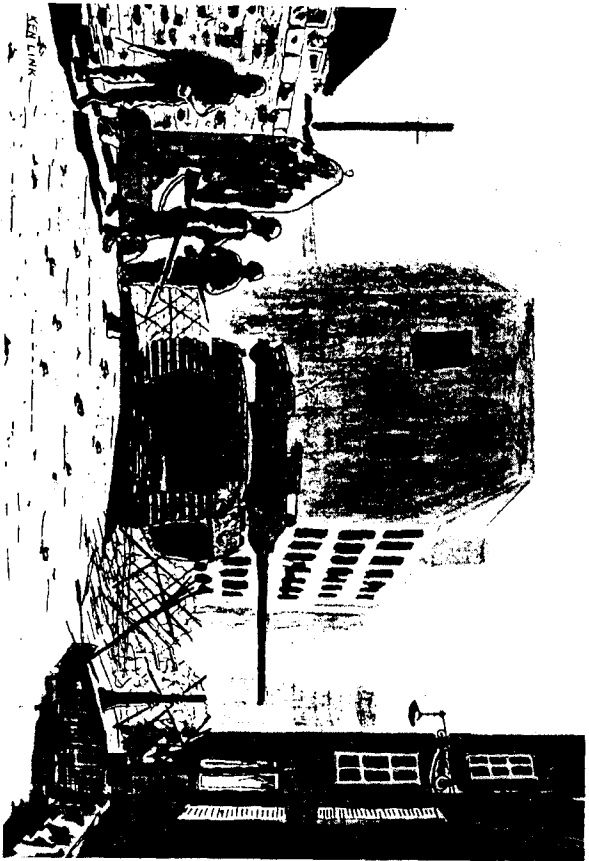
Early in August, the MRF ventured deeper than ever before into the enemy's Delta stronghold. An extensive nine-day operation in and near the treacherous U-Minh Forest produced frequent contact that netted over 240 enemy dead.



MRF troops return to ATCs

... after routing VC from My Tho





Reliables in Review

918 Organized July 18, 1918, at Camp Sheridan, Ala., the 9th Infantry Division was in training in the United States when World War I ended. The Division was demobilized Feb. 15, 1919, but was redesignated a Regular Army unit in 1923, although it remained on the inactive list.

940 Reactivation of the Division came Aug. 1, 1940, at Fort Bragg, N.C., with units assigned to it that had seen combat action during World War I. Among them were three infantry regiments, the 39th, 47th and 60th, that had already distinguished themselves in combat and would receive many more honors in the years to come.

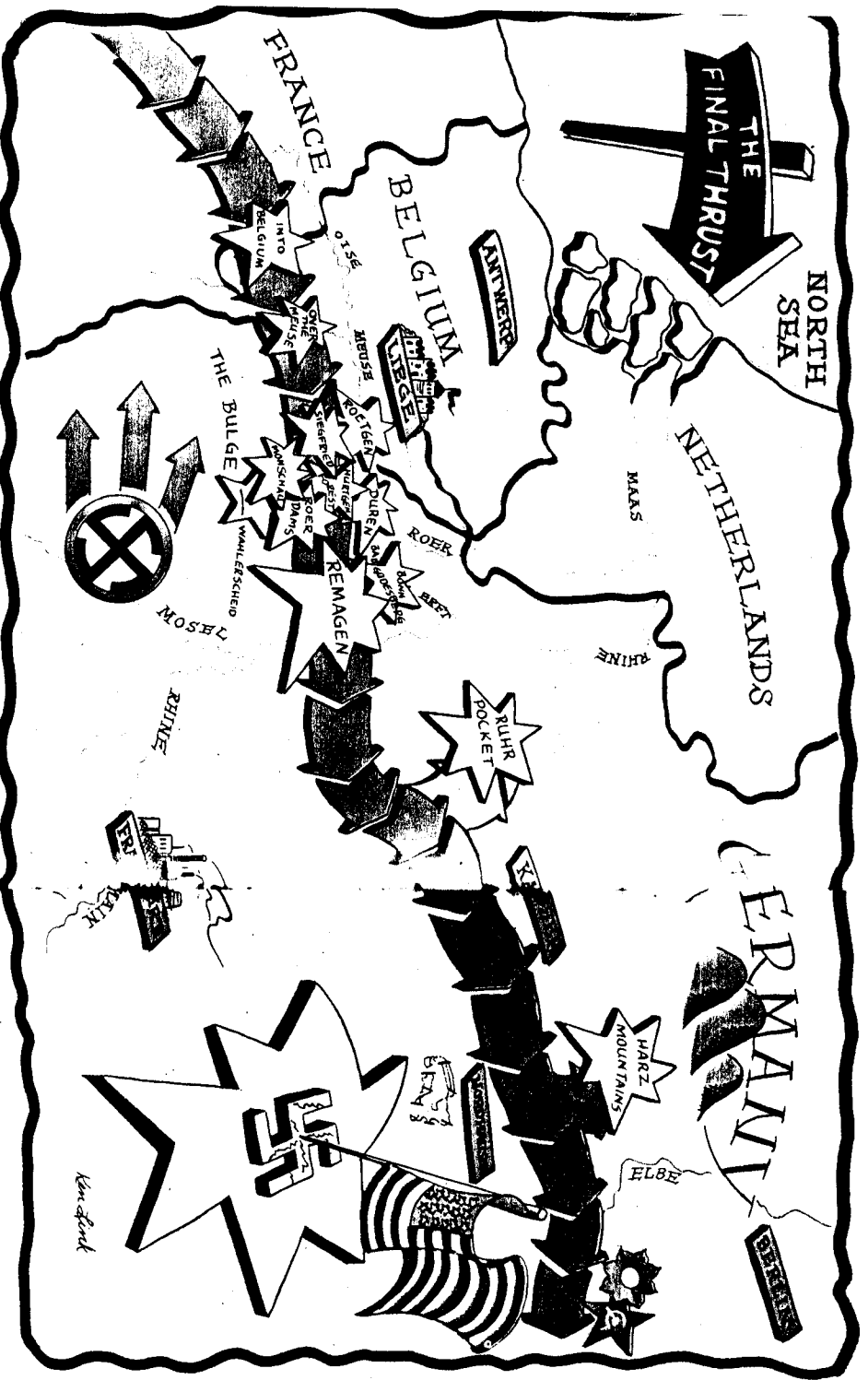
After reactivation the Division entered a period of intensive training, allowed by the Carolina maneuvers, conducted by the First Army in September, 1914. The Division later was attached to the Amphibious Corps of the Atlantic Fleet and underwent amphibious training. Subsequently released from its attachment, the Division again came under the control of the Army Ground Forces.

942 The first elements of the 9th Division departed in November, 1942 for the North African Theater of Operations. Elements of the Division took part in "Operation Torch" when the 39th Regimental Combat Team landed at Algiers, the 47th hit the beaches of Safi, French Morocco,

and the 60th fought on the beaches at Port Lyautey, Morocco, and secured the "Citadel" (Kasba).

In the weeks that followed, the 9th Infantry Division completed combat missions in Tunisia (where the "Afrika Korps" was smashed) and in Sicily, and then left for England where it went into training for the invasion of Fortress Europe. The Division landed on the Normandy beaches June 10, 1944, battled across France and, on Sept. 2, laid claim to being the first Allied unit to begin the liberation of Belgium when a unit of the 9th entered Mornignies. The Meuse River was crossed early in September and the Division moved into Germany, south of Roetgen, on Sept. 13. It later moved to the Monschau Forest area where, on Dec. 16, the "Battle of the Bulge" launched the German winter offensive. Here the Division beat back the enemy's best efforts.





"Men of the 9th have reason to feel pride in their division. It has been hailed in the closely written lines of countless war correspondents, complimented by the leading military heads, praised by officers and men, not only by those now with the Division but by those who have left it—for hospitals or for quiet graves overseas." Standard-Times (New Bedford, Mass.)



Ski troopers of 60th Regiment
...training in Mulzenich, Germany, 1945

1945 High point of its World War II record was the crossing of the Rhine early in 1945. By the morning of March 7 all bridges across the Rhine had been blown except one—the Ludendorff Bridge below the small town of Remagen. After a forced march, the 47th Infantry's 2d Battalion deployed over the bridge, crossing against heavy artillery, to become the first infantry regiment to battle across the Rhine barrier since the Napoleonic Wars. Soon the 60th made a daring dash

across the battered bridge followed by the Division support units. Meanwhile, the 9th's Military Police Platoon, despite artillery and air attacks, kept traffic moving and doubled as medics and evacuation men. By March 11 all combat teams of the 9th were over the Rhine. On March 17 the bridge collapsed and all further crossings by Allied troops in the central sector had to be made on pontoon bridges erected by engineers. By March 20 the 9th had conquered the entire central bridgehead



Embattled bridge at Remagen

... Division crossed under heavy fire

rea between the Rhine and Wied rivers, securing a front from which the final blow was struck at the heart of Germany.

The "Old Reliables" (a nickname given the Division for action around the Schwammannel Dam) worked constantly on the shrinking Ruhr pocket in the closing days of the war, freeing approximately 900 slave laborers from five different countries with the capture of Sinu on the Dill river. On April 21, 1945, the Division relieved the 3d Armored Division along the Mulde River near Jossau and held that line until V-E Day. Following the war, the Division was assigned to Ingolstadt, Germany, where it performed occupation duties until Jan. 15, 1947, when it was inactivated.

947 The 9th Division was re-activated July 15, 1947, at

Fort Dix, N.J., as a training division. On May 25, 1954, the Division was transferred to replace the 28th Infantry Division at Coepingen, Germany, where it served as a part of the NATO Forces until the autumn of 1956.

1956 The Division was rotated to Fort Carson, Colo., in 1956 under the Army's "Operation Gyroscope." It was reorganized into a Pentomic division in December, 1957 and the three infantry regiments became five infantry battle groups. During the reorganization many of the organic elements had their identities changed either by reorganization, redesignation or by activation as new units. From its arrival at Fort Carson until its inactivation Jan. 31, 1962, the 9th Division trained approximately 102,000 men in the basic military arts.

Scanning for Luftwaffe

... as Reliables enter Remagen



Snow-caped infantrymen

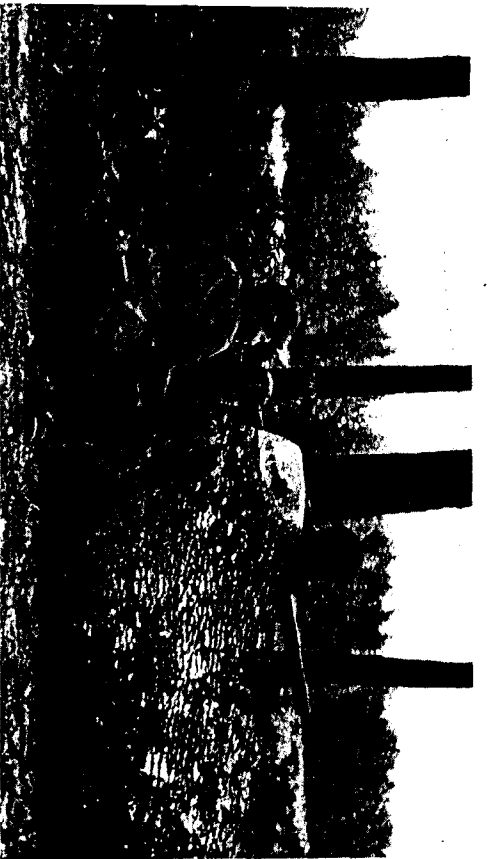
... in pursuit of fleeing Nazis



Opening up



Scouting



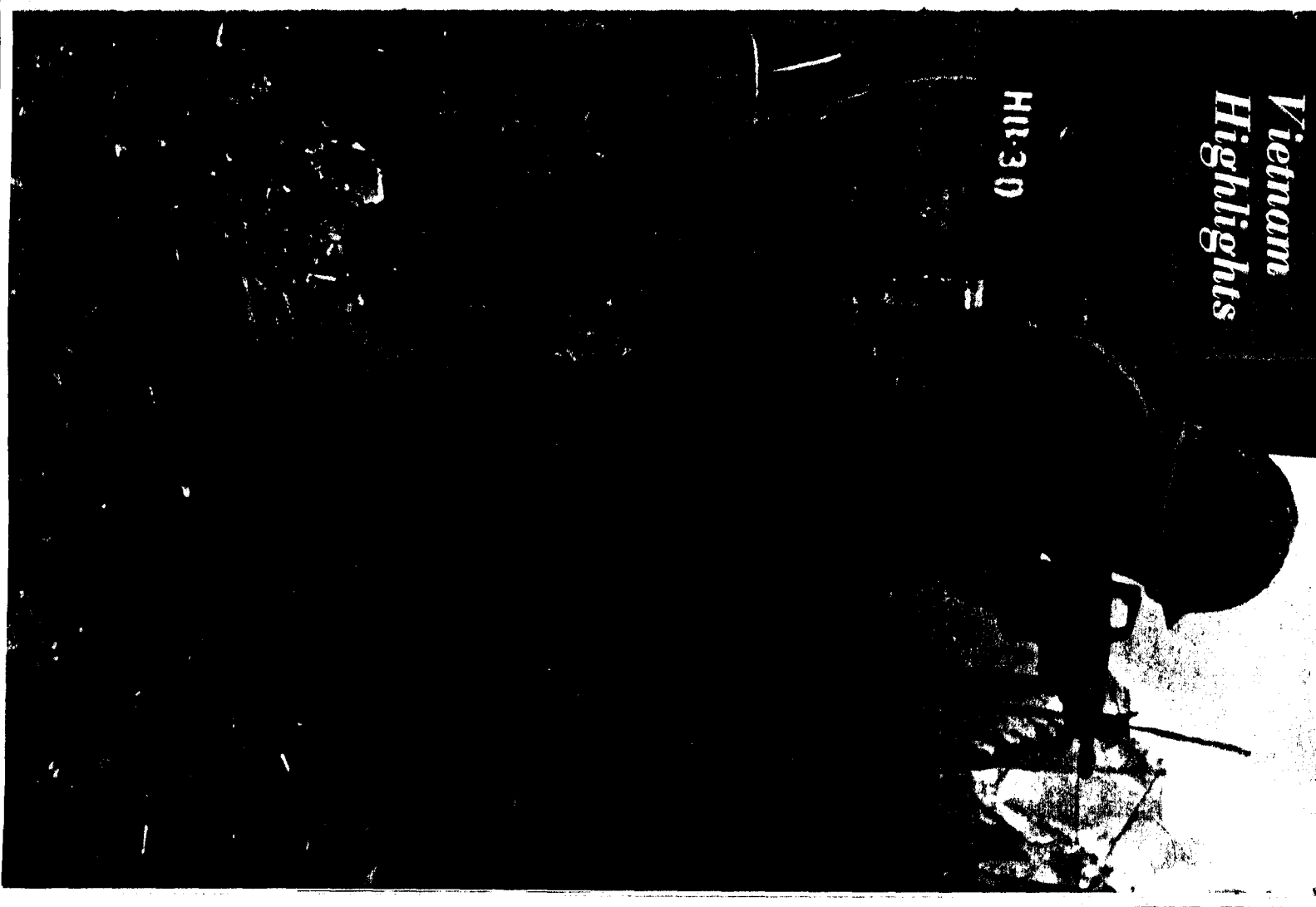
9th Regiment troops aim 2.36 rocket launcher
...at German half-track in Andaine, France

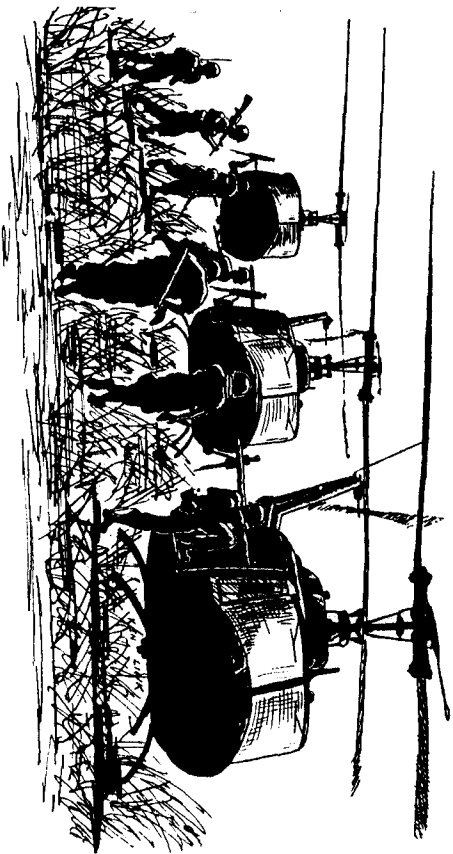


"Aggressors" guard Neckar Valley
...training in 1955

Vietnam Highlights

HR-30





Highlights

Troops of the 9th Infantry Division, nicknamed "The Old Reliables," we scored many major triumphs since launching combat operations in Ietnam during December, 1966.

The most significant achievements include numerous victories over Main orce Viet Cong and North Vietnamese units from the Demilitarized Zone , the Mekong Delta, formation of a Mobile Riverine Force, discovery of e largest enemy weapons cache of the Vietnam war, suppression of the C terror campaign during Tet, 1968, and of a followup attempt to invade aigon in May.

Since Jan. 1, 1967, Old Reliable forces have accounted for more than 2,275 enemy dead, almost 4,000 small arms and 640 crew-served weapons aptured.

On the equally important civic action front, the Division has conducted ver 4,600 MEDCAPS, treating more than 514,400 Vietnamese patients. n addition, Division troops have helped repair or construct some 55 schools, 8 dispensaries and 60 playgrounds.

Psychological Operations (PSYOPS) planes have dropped over 200 tion leaflets and recorded over 2,900 loudspeaker hours disseminating nformation to friends and enemies.

966 The latest chapter of 9th Division history opened Feb. 1, 1966 when the Old Reliables became the first division since World War I to be organized, equipped and trained for deployment to an overseas ombat theater.

At Fort Riley, Kan., the 9th was prepared for a new kind of war, where J.S. helicopters dominate the airtanes and armored assault boats pursue he enemy in his remote ground and water hideaways.

Early in May, a warning order from Department of the Army alerted he Division for movement to Southeast Asia during December.

Organized under the ROAD (Reorganization Objective Army Division) concept, the Division includes 10 maneuver battalions (three each assigned to the 39th, 47th and 60th Infantry, plus the 6th Battalion, 31st Infantry), the 3d Squadron, 5th Cavalry, 15th Engineer Battalion and Division Artillery boasting four organic artillery battalions. Furthermore, it has three brigade headquarters, the 9th Aviation Battalion, 9th Signal Battalion and the typical support command setup with Headquarters Company and Band, 9th Administration Company, 9th Medical Battalion, 9th Supply and Transport Battalion and the 709th Maintenance Battalion. There are also a Division Headquarters and Headquarters Company and the 9th Military Police Company. Supporting the Division are two additional engineer battalions and an aviation battalion.

On Oct. 19, the 15th Engineers became the first echelon to arrive in Vietnam and immediately began developing a Division-size base camp, called Bearcat, located near Long Thanh, about 20 miles north-

east of Saigon.

Other advance parties of the Division deployed to Vietnam by air, with the first group landing Dec. 8. The rest traveled aboard Naval transport ships and arrived between Dec. 19, 1966-Feb. 2, 1967.

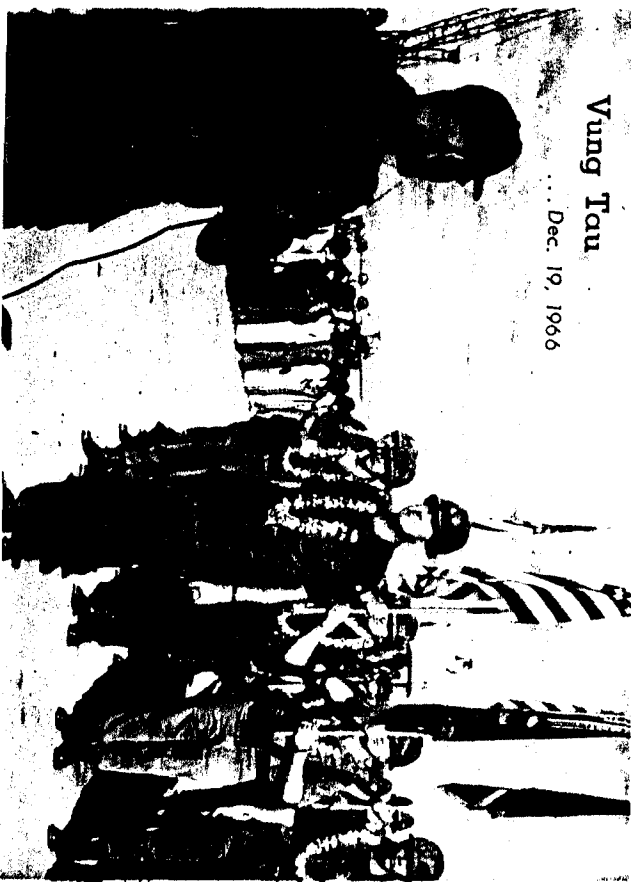
The official entry of the Division to Vietnam was recorded Dec. 19 when Major General George S. Eckhardt led an increment of 5,000 Old Reliables onto the beaches of Vung Tau, where they were welcomed by General William C. Westmoreland, then commander of the Military Assistance Command, Vietnam.

1967 In mid-January, the 9th Division became the first American infantry unit to establish a permanent camp in the VC-infested Mekong Delta. The Division's 3d Brigade headquarters and the 3d Battalion, 60th Infantry occupied Camp Dong Tam, five miles west of My Tho on a branch of the My Tho River. (See story beginning on page 7.)

In the Division's first significant contact with the enemy on Jan. 20, 1st and 3d Brigade units, along with

Vung Tau

... Dec. 19, 1966





the 3d Squadron, 5th Cavalry, cut down 14 Viet Cong during Operation COLBY.

A month later, the 3d Battalion, 34th Artillery, supporting the 3d Battalion, 47th Infantry, mounted 105mm howitzers on floating barges and began to navigate the Delta waterways.

In March, the 1st Brigade and the 3d/5th Cav joined Operation JUNCTION CITY, the largest operation of the war. During this multi-division operation, the Old Reliables encountered their first important battle. In the pre-dawn hours of March 20, Troop A, 3d/5th Cav was attacked by elements of the 273d VC Regiment near Bau Bang, about 34 miles north of Saigon. A furious six-hour firefight left 230 enemy dead, while friendly losses were four killed and 67 wounded.

A few weeks later, another lopsided engagement near Rach Kien in Long An Province produced 207 VC killed, against one American dead and 15 wounded. A pre-planned air-strike exposed underground VC positions and forced the enemy to flee their damaged hideouts. Immediately the 3d Battalion, 39th Infantry, together with the 2d, 3d and 5th Battalions, 60th Infantry, boxed in the disorganized enemy and took a heavy toll.

Deeper in the Mekong Delta on May 2, elements of the 2d Brigade collided with a force from the 514th VC Battalion. Displaying exceptional resourcefulness, the 3d Battalion, 60th Infantry and 3d Battalion, 47th Infantry encircled the enemy as helicopter gunships and fighter bombers rained deadly streams of fire. A search of the Ap Bac battlefield, near Dong Tam, accounted for 195 enemy bodies.

During mid-May, the Cam Son Secret Zone, 20 miles west of Dong

Tam, became the target of a combined recon in force operation. In this sweep, the 3d and 4th Battalions, 47th Infantry, joined by elements of the 7th ARVN Division and several naval river assault teams, killed 113 enemy.

Emphasized during the Delta fighting was the need for a mobile strike force capable of navigating the Mekong waterways. In June the solution came with the formation of the Mobile Riverine Force, composed of two 2d Brigade battalions and Naval Task Force 117. Operating from a fleet of 100 naval vessels, the MRF initiated extensive combat operations in the Mekong marshlands.

In their first major contact June 19-22, MRF units netted 256 VC kills at Rach Nui Canal, west of Rach Kien.

The focus of action shifted north to Phuoc Tuy Province on July 10, as the 1st Brigade teamed with the 1st Australian Task Force and two battalions of Vietnamese Marines to begin Operation PADDINGTON. The six-day mission, designed to open VC-dominated jungle, resulted in 93 enemy killed.

Another heated engagement came two weeks later as elements of the 11th Armored Cavalry conducted a major jungle clearing operation along Highway 20 in Long Khanh Province. Suddenly besieged by an estimated battalion of the 275th VC Regiment, the cavalrymen mounted a savage counterattack which felled 90 enemy.

Early in August, a joint American and Vietnamese force tightened the noose around a suspected enemy stronghold in the Cam Son Secret Zone during Operation CORONADO II. After eight days, the Allies from the 2d Brigade, Naval Task Force 117 and ARVN Rangers, Marines and infantrymen counted





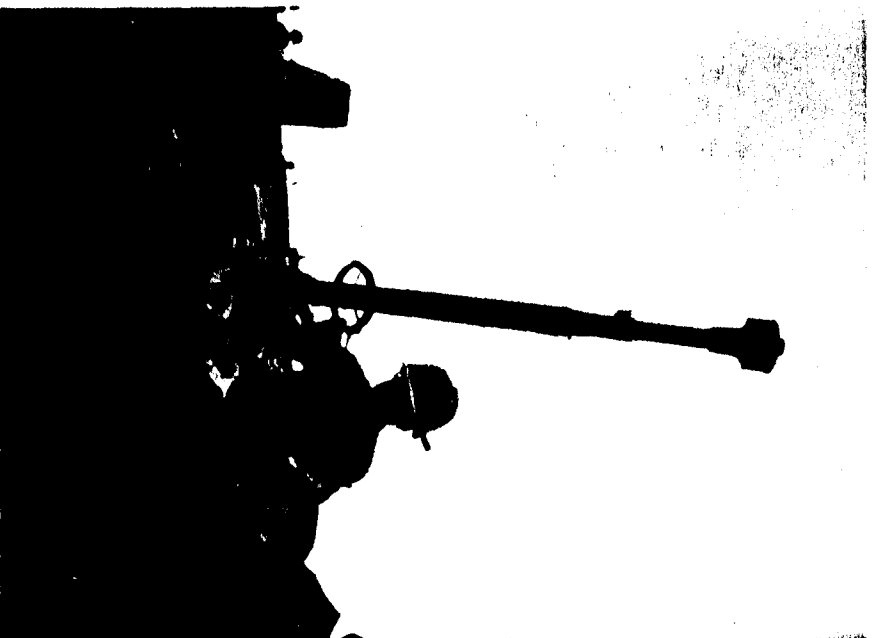
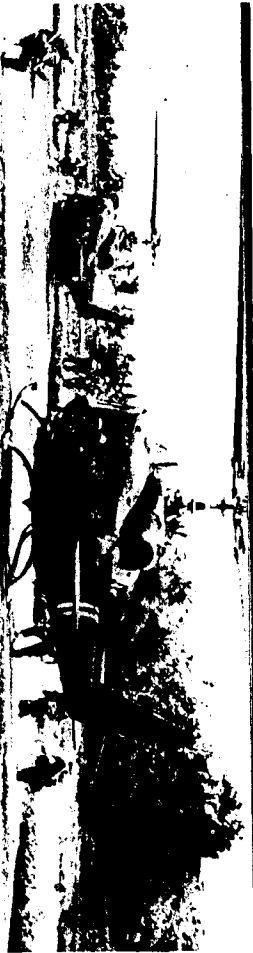
Air cushion vehicles
... provide mobility and firepower in Delta war

285 dead VC. Encouraged by the success of CORONADO II, soldiers of the 2d Brigade, combined with two battalions of the 3d Brigade and ARVN units, continued combat probes into the enemy haven of Cam Son. Totals for the 27-day Operation CORONADO V in September were 330 enemy killed and one crew-served and 11 individual weapons with 11,200 rounds of small arms ammo seized from enemy supply caches.

On Sept. 21, after months of preparation by the 9th Division, the 2,200 man Royal Thai Army Volunteer Regiment landed in Vietnam as the fifth free world force to join the South Vietnamese in their struggle. Operating out of Bearcat, the Queen's Cobras began combat and civic action operations in the Nhon Trach jungles, 20 miles southeast of Saigon.



Chieu Hoi
... taken by 3d-5th Cav



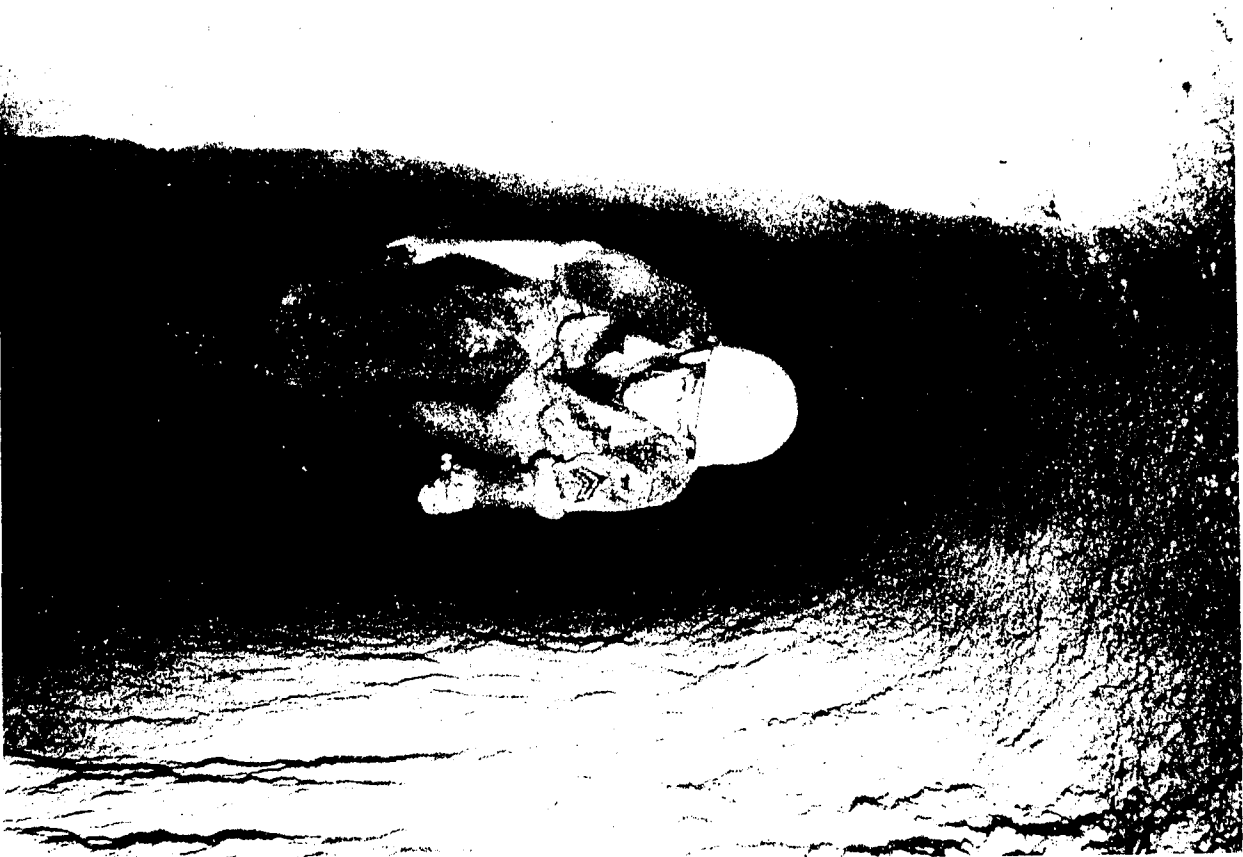
War's Largest Arms Cache

October was highlighted by the largest arms cache ever seized in the Vietnam War.

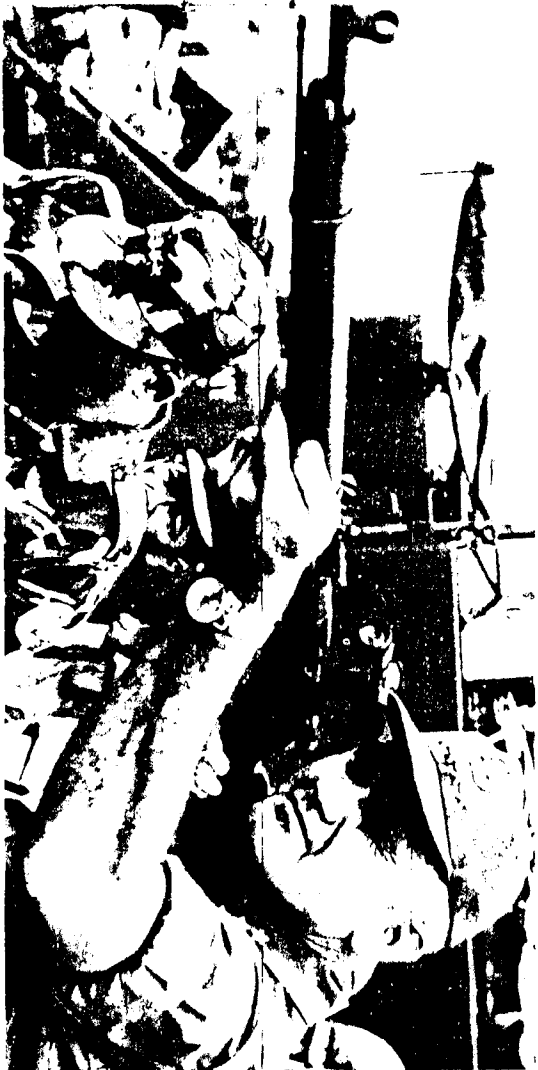
While clearing dense jungle during Operation AKRON III, elements of the 1st Brigade, 3d/5th Cav and support units turned up a massive system of tunnels and bunkers 13 miles southeast of Bearcat. Spanning a 2,200 yard area, the intricate subterranean system con-

tained complexes as deep as 35 feet with three to five levels and ceilings from four to six feet high.

Nearly two weeks of extensive digging and counting yielded 1,140 weapons, almost 95,000 rounds of small arms ammo, 3,634 grenades, 2,273 recoilless rifle shells and 452 mortar rounds. The haul included four 75mm howitzers—the first artillery pieces taken from the VC by



Sergeant searches huge enemy tunnel complex
...found during AKRON III



Gen. Westmoreland examines Soviet sniper rifle
...extracted from subterranean system

U.S. forces.

Also captured during the lengthy underground explorations were enough drugs and medical supplies to treat 1,000 patients for a month.

In addition, large quantities of rice, clothing and supplies were confiscated, along with maps, medical records, tax collector sheets, book-keeping logs, duty rosters and VC meritorious unit citations.

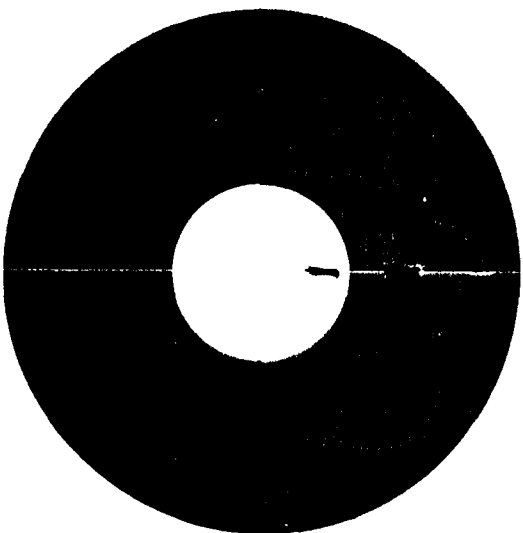
As searchers concluded their profitable labors, demolitions experts destroyed the vast network to prevent the enemy from re-using their once secret supply zone.

*
 *
 After a month of scattered contact, action exploded again during Operation CORONADO IX, Dec. 4. Two battalions of the Mobile Riverine Force, working with the Vietnamese Marines, eliminated 250 VC in day-long fighting along the Rach Ruong Canal, 65 miles southwest of Saigon.



Adding one more weapon
...to largest cache of war

Octofoil and Unit Crests



THE OCTOFOIL shoulder patch of the 9th Infantry Division dates from the 15th Century when it was customary for each son in a family to have an individual mark of distinction. Under the rules of heraldry there are eight foils or positions. The Octofoil went to the ninth son, symbolic of his being surrounded by eight brothers. The symbolism of the Octofoil makes it a logical and correct insignia for the 9th Division. The red quatrefoil of the patch alludes to the Artillery, while the blue one represents the Infantry.



9th Infantry



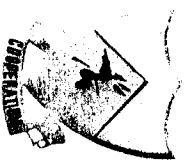
8th Artillery



7th Artillery



1st Infantry



9th S&T Battalion



39th Infantry



84th Artillery



9th Aviation Battalion



2nd Engineer Battalion



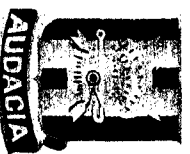
3d Squadron, 5th Cavalry



9th MP Co



4th Artillery



4th Artillery



1st, 2d, 3d Brigades DISCOM Division Troops



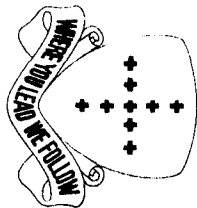
9th Signal Battalion



47th Infantry



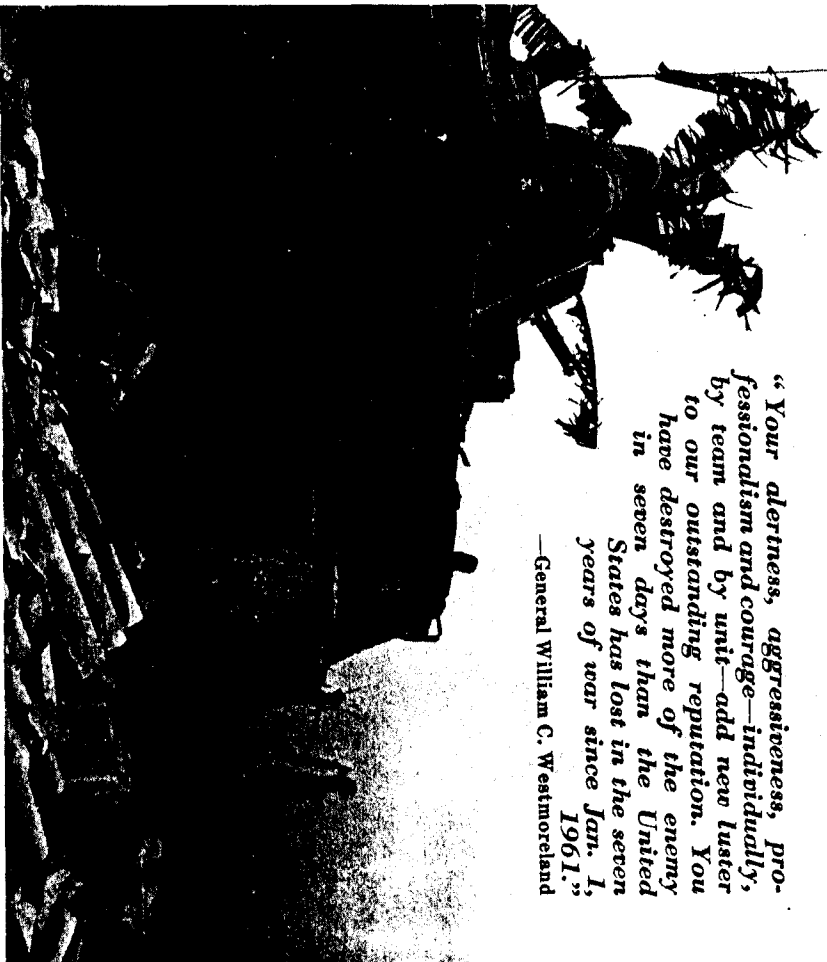
709th Maintenance Battalion



9th Medical Battalion

"Your alertness, aggressiveness, professionalism and courage—individually, by team and by unit—add new luster to our outstanding reputation. You have destroyed more of the enemy in seven days than the United States has lost in the seven years of war since Jan. 1, 1961."

—General William C. Westmoreland



Armored personnel carrier and infantryman

...assaulting enemy position near Long Binh

Tet Aggression

1968 Combat activity slackened the first month of 1968. The only major engagement during the first 30 days came Jan. 10, when the 2d Brigade counted 47 enemy bodies after bitter fighting in Dinh Tuong Province. The action marked the first contact with the 261st VC Battalion.

Then on Jan. 31, during the Tet truce, massive guerrilla attacks broke out from the DMZ to the Delta. The 9th Division swiftly grabbed the initiative and turned the tables on the brazen insurgents. Once the VC and North Vietnamese Army units exposed themselves, they immedi-

ately were shoved on the defensive by the Division's inexorable counter-thrust.

Before the communist tidal wave subsided, Division infantrymen found themselves engaged on many unaccustomed fronts and unrehearsed missions.

Units of the 1st Brigade were summoned from their jungle environment into the Mekong Delta. Armored vehicles from the 3d/5th Cav helped to crush an enemy uprising at Bien Hoa airport, first and last stop for many servicemen in Vietnam. Troops of the 2d and 3d Brigades, who normally sash through the Mekong mire, tracked down marauding bands of invaders in World War II-style street fighting at Ben Tre and My Tho. Other Delta-oriented units flushed communist terrorists out of the Saigon-Cholon area.

To overcome the biggest communist push of the war, the Old Reliables gained momentum early and never failed to carry the battle to the VC. Division soldiers achieved decisive victories at Long Binh, Bien Hoa, Saigon-Cholon, Ben Tre, Xuan Loc, My Tho, Vinh Long, Ap Bac, Can Tho and Tan An.

By Feb. 22 more than 1625 VC and NVA bodies were credited to Division troops. A stunning blow had been dealt the terrorists.

Nevertheless, on Feb. 25, the daring enemy attempted an early-morning assault on Fire Support Base Jaeger, 10 miles west of Dong Tam. More than 500 VC were repelled by members of the 5th/60th, reinforced by artillery batteries. After four hours of fierce fighting, more than 100 enemy bodies were counted, and over 45 weapons were captured.





Second Wave

For weeks after squelching the Tet terrorist outbreak, Allied forces ringed Saigon, sealing off the city to would-be infiltrators. At the beginning of May, the upcoming Paris peace talks reinforced expectations of another enemy show of strength.

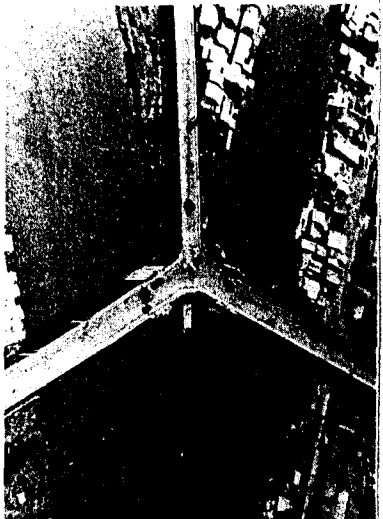
When the long-awaited second wave of communist thrusts finally began May 7, it proved a pale replica of its predecessor. Only at the southern edge of the capital, where the Y-Bridge crosses the Kinh Doi Canal, did the enemy follow up his mortaring with a ground assault.

The Old Reliables, seasoned by their February conquests in urban operations, dashed to the scene and repeatedly smothered enemy jabs at the entrance of Cholom, the Chinese community of Saigon.

As action spilled over into the suburbs, thousands of men, women and children poured into the city, seeking refuge. Many were cut down by the enemy, who honor no dis-

Smoke billows from factory complex

...as mounted troops close in on trapped VC, NVA



Y-Bridge in Saigon

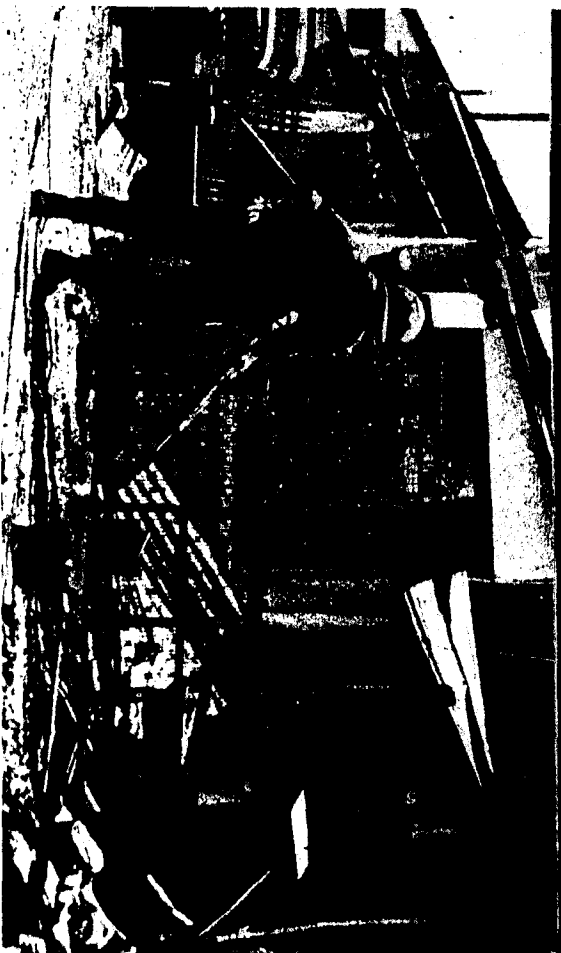
... scene of invasion attempt

inction between Allied soldiers and innocent civilians.

Five battalions of Division infantrymen, closely supported by armored personnel carriers, helicopter gunships, artillery and Air Force warplanes, killed almost 1,000 VC and NVA in eight days of sharp fighting. Over 200 enemy bodies were counted the first day, when ground forces choked off the intruders in a factory complex, where Huey gunships sprayed their lethal rockets and miniguns on the frenzied invaders.

Later, U.S. and ARVN commanders credited the Division with





House-to-house search

... flushed out enemy from Cholon suburbs

thieving "one of the biggest victories of the war."

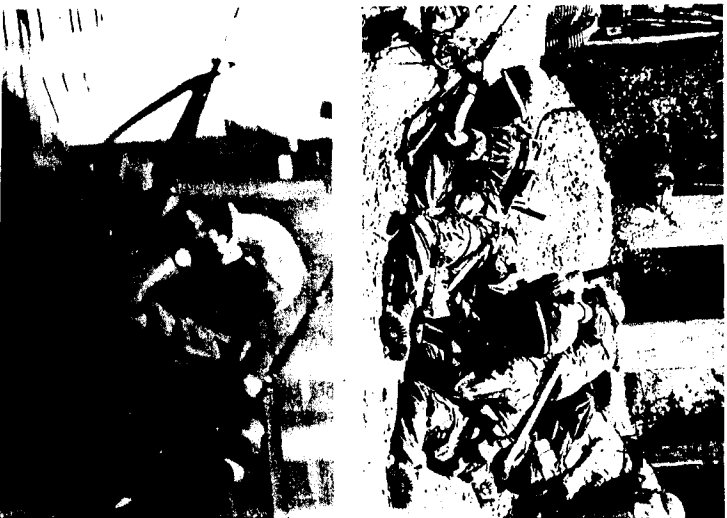
Yet, the Old Reliables did not let up in their pursuit of enemy forces throughout the Mekong Delta.

Pushing On

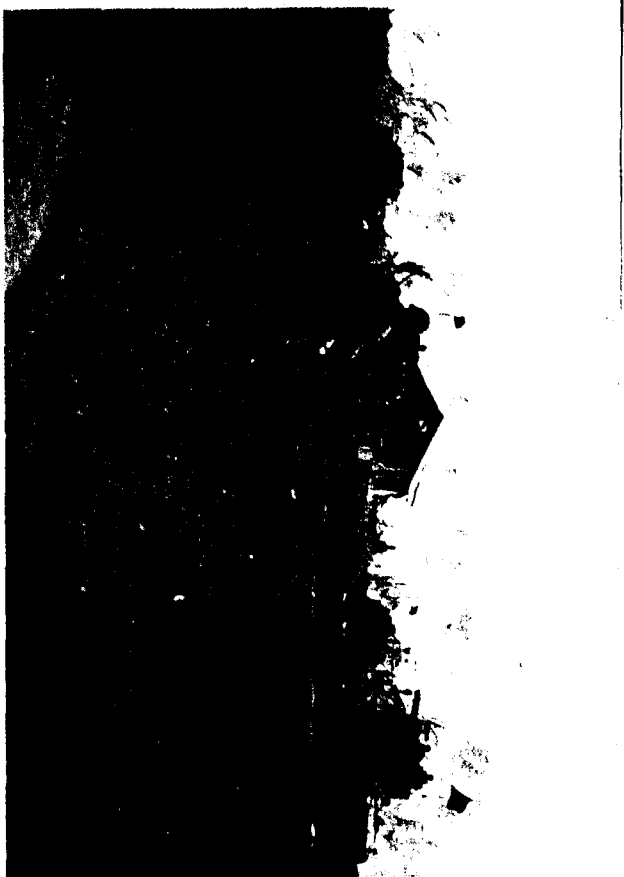
From June 1-4, elements of the 1st Brigade, led by the legendary "gunfighter," Colonel Henry Emerson, relentlessly tracked two VC battalions through the treacherous plain of Reeds and joined with artillery and airstrikes to kill over 225 enemy.

In recognition of its stunning successes, the 9th Division, during its 50th Anniversary celebration July 3 at Beararr, received the Vietnamese Valor Award—Army Level—the first such presentation to a U.S. unit. The ribbon, consisting of the Cross of Gallantry with Bronze Palm, is worn with gold border by all Old Reliables who served from Dec, 1966-June, 1968. (See inside front cover for text of citation.)

Resuming combat sorties in the Mekong Delta late in July, the 1st MRF, bolstered by the 5th Vietnamese Marine Battalion, killed over 130 VC and captured over 75



38



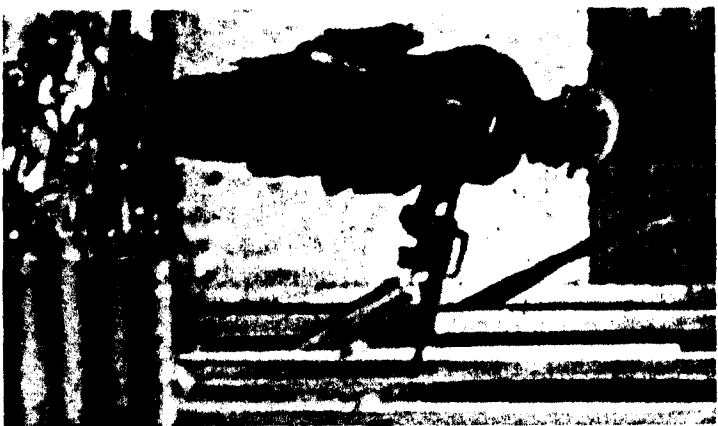
Fast-moving tracks and ground forces

... halted invaders on fringe of capital

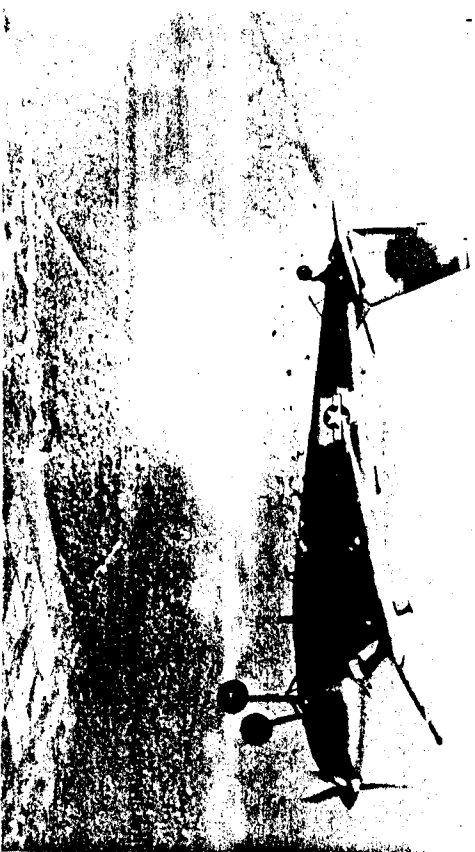
weapons from sampans and an arms factory near Vi Thanh, about 20 miles southwest of Can Tho.

Early in August, the water-borne infantrymen plunged into the previously secure enemy lair of the U-Minh Forest.

On Sept 17, the Division gained its first two Medal of Honor winners in the Vietnam war. (Four members of the Division earned the nation's highest decoration during World War II.) At a ceremony in Washington, D.C., President Lyndon B. Johnson pinned the awards on Sergeant Leonard B. Keller and SP4 Raymond R. Wright. While serving as riflemen with the 3d/60th during the May 2, 1967, encounter with a VC battalion near Ap Bac, the duo personally killed 12 enemy in reinforced bunkers, knocked another dozen snipers out of their tree-top perches and destroyed an automatic weapons position and 60mm mortar—all amid heavy enemy fire.



39



ir Force U-10 scatters PSYOPS leaflets
 ... messages aimed at friends and enemies

Civic Action

Through extensive civic action programs, the 9th Division has pursued vigorous attack on disease, poverty and isolation among the Vietnamese people. Spearheaded by the G-5 Civil Affairs section, the Division has extended substantial aid to the Vietnamese in support of pacification efforts of the Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN). The Old Reliables' civic actions effort includes teaching programs, EDCAPs, self-help construction projects, commodity distribution and psychological operations (PSYOPS). Using materials furnished by the Division the Vietnamese people have built or rebuilt their villages with new schools, roads, orphanages, bridges, sports and dispensaries. Division PSYOPS have disseminated information to friends as well as enemies. Planes fly loudspeaker missions or leaflet drops throughout the Division area of operations. Results of the civic action projects are not measured in body counts, but the support and friendship given to the Government of Vietnam and the Allied forces by Vietnamese peasants. According to this standard, the title is being won.



Winning Friends



Reliable Academy

First stop for new replacements the 9th Division is the Reliable Academy, where combat veterans teach the basics of Mekong Delta warfare and other subjects.

All replacements from private to platoon undergo the same five-day course. NCOs and officers take three additional days of instruction.

Upon arrival the men are issued field gear and the M-16 rifle which they will carry during his tour in Vietnam. The fundamentals of infantry weaponry are next on the agenda. For infantrymen, it is a review of advanced individual training. For clerks and other support troops, it is a vital lesson they may someday put to use.

Succeeding classes cover VC tactics, including mines, booby traps, handling of prisoners and enemy weapons. Other subjects offered are personal hygiene, field sanitation, first aid, squad tactics, patrol and ambush techniques, automobile operations, narcotics laws, radio security, rifle cleaning and maintenance, the Geneva Convention, land navigation and security.

Lessons learned are put to practical exercise with an ambush patrol which climaxes the training.

After graduation and a welcome to the Division, the men are transported to their units to begin the real test of their knowledge.



Religion

By helicopter, jeep, truck, boat or foot, chaplains of the 9th Division make their weekly rounds to visit troops in the field.

Whether their altar is a beautifully built structure in the Dong Tam Memorial Chapel or a pile of artillery ammo boxes in the midst of a fire mission, the clerics bring

the religious ceremonies of their respective faiths to men of the Division.

A total of 20 chaplains, representing the Catholic, Protestant and Jewish religions, serve the Old Reliables. They think of themselves not as chapel-centered, but as troop-centered. This means they serve

ts and men, not a particular fire or chapel. Each Sunday, 70-80 services are conducted and another 80 are held throughout the week. This gives Catholics and Protestants in the Division a chance to attend services at least once a week. Jewish soldiers usually are visited by a II Field Force chaplain. Memorial services are offered when requested. In addition to conducting services, chaplains visit hospitals and counselors. Virtually every service available in a civilian church in the Division is available in the Division.

All faiths worship

... at Dong Tam Chapel



Mortarmen take time out for prayer

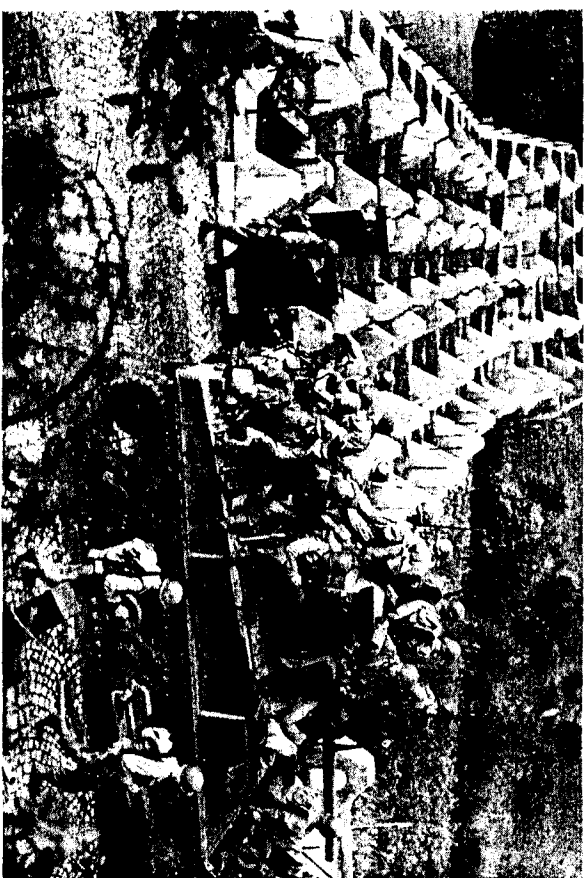
... in the midst of fire missions

39th Infantry Regiment

Jungles, cities and swamps constitute the varied combat environment of the 2d, 3d and 4th Battalions, 39th Infantry, in Vietnam. The 3d/39th devoted many months to Operation ENTERPRISE in Long An Province, then distinguished itself in rescuing the enemy-held town of Ben Tre during Tet, 1968, and in clobbering enemy forces who tried to invade Saigon early in May. The 2d/39th, which also rushed to the aid of Ben Tre, participated with the 1st Recondo Brigade in many overwhelming victories over enemy units in the Plain of Reeds during the middle months of 1968. In the last two months of 1967, the 4th/39th became the first Divisional unit to operate in the Central Highlands, serving under the operational control of the 11th Infantry Division.

The day was bright and clear on June 1, 1917 at Camp Syracuse, N.Y., when the 39th Infantry Regiment, "The Fighting Falcons," was activated. On July 18, 1918 the 39th, participating with the American Expeditionary Force, joined in battle for the first time in the now famous Aisne-Marne offensive, which was destined to swing the fortunes of war in favor of the Allies.

When the smoke of World War I cleared away, the 39th's colors showed battle honors for the campaigns of the Aisne-Marne, Meuse-Argonne, Lorraine, St. Mihiel and Champagne; a Distinguished Unit Citation from the grateful French government and the French Croix de Guerre with Gold Star. The regiment returned home in 1919 and was deactivated in 1921.



Moving on foot or aboard bulldozer tank

... 39th pierces vaulted Siegfried Line

5th Infantry Division
Viet 1968
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1968/3



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**COMBAT
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VIETNAM
1968**

U.S. Army Military History Institute

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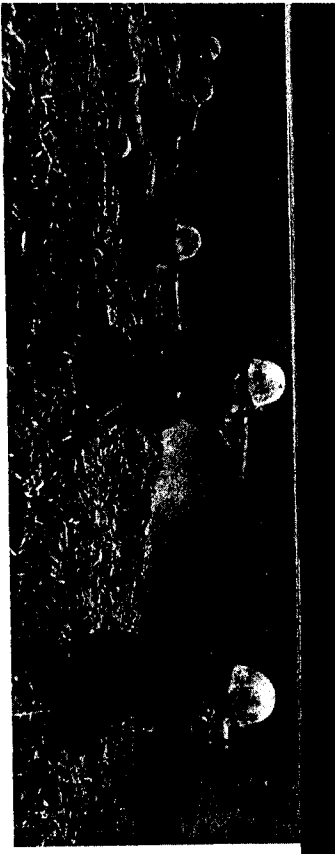
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Fire and Manner



troops of 39th overlook Urft River
... firing at retreating German forces

The 39th Regiment became part of the 9th Division when the Division as reactivated at Fort Bragg, N.C., July 20, 1940. After the U.S. entered World War II, the Regiment trained long and hard, readying themselves for the test of battle. The first combat unit of American troops to set foot on a foreign, though friendly, soil in World War II were members of the 39th. The regiment landed Oct. 17, 1942 at Inverary, Scotland.

Soon the 39th had a mission—that of securing the northern coast of Africa and thereby safeguarding the Mediterranean link in the Allied line to the Middle and Far East. To accomplish this mission, they landed Nov. 8, 1942 on the beaches near Algiers. Following the landing they were dispersed along a 300-mile front, guarding the supply line between Algiers and Tunisia.

The 39th took a decidedly more active role in the war when they employed east of the famed Kasserine Pass as a covering force for the 1st Armored Division. This was followed quickly by successive battles in the final drive to Bizerte. The 39th played a leading role in this action—thus ringing the German Panzer Arme, Afrika to its knees and winning control of North Africa.

Sicily loomed on the horizon for the Fighting Falcons and during this land action, Colonel H.A. "Paddy" Flint took command. This legendary hero of the regiment gave it the slogan, "Triple A Bar Nothing." The



Alert soldier peers through hedge
... along Siegfried Line, Sept., 1944

"Anything-Anytime-Anywhere-Bar Nothing" regiment immediately put the slogan to work with eight days of ferocious fighting for Troina, the hub of the German defenses in Sicily.

By Nov. 11, the 9th Division, including the 39th, was on the high seas bound for England and more intensive training in preparation for the Normandy invasion. On D-Day plus four the regiment landed at Utah Beach.

On June 12 the Division began a series of battles which resulted in a race to the sea and the eventual sealing off of the Cherbourg peninsula. The battle for the Cotentin peninsula began June 18. Again the 39th excelled, this time at Anderville, which fell July 1, yielding 3,000 prisoners.

Next followed the famous "Battle of the Hedgerows." For 25 days the men of the Fighting Falcons fought, bled and died in one of the bloodiest battles of all time.

After the St. Lo breakthrough, the 39th raced across France tangling with the retreating Germans at every town and crossroads where the Germans chose to stand and fight.

By Aug. 19, 1944 the 39th was poised for the drive to the Seine River and Paris. By the 26th the Seine was reached. The 39th then moved northward and sealed off the Mor's Pocket. It then wheeled eastward into Belgium. On Sept. 13, 1944 the 39th swept forward to begin a long and costly drive through the Huertgen Forest. It moved past the Dragon's Teeth and closed in on the fortified town of Roetgen, Germany. On Sept. 14 the town fell to the 39th, the first German city captured in World War II.

Day by day throughout the rest of September, October and the first week of November, the 9th Division battled its way through the Huertgen Forest. On Nov. 16 it started a campaign to close up the left bank of the Roer River. This was accomplished by Dec. 16, 1944.

By New Year's Day 1945, the 39th and the Division were on the move again. By the end of January the Division was spearheading the drive across Germany to the Rhine.

The 39th reached the Rhine on the morning of March 7. On that day the first Division troops crossed the Rhine and by March 21 all infantry units of the Division were across the river and poised for the mortal blow to the German heartland.

Forging east and then north during April, the Fighting Falcons fought into the Harz Mountains and the Ruhr Pocket. The days wore on until May 8, 1945 when victory in Europe was gained.



Alert soldier peers through hedge



Princestown of Hohn lies smoldering. The 47th Infantry scored a victory.

47th Infantry Regiment

The 2d, 3d and 4th Battalions, 47th Infantry have spanned almost the entire Division area of operations in Vietnam. The 2d/47th has conducted major combat operations in the jungles of Bien Hoa and Phuoc Tuy provinces and has provided security for Highway 4, the lifeline of the Delta. In addition, the battalion has been instrumental in three of the Division's biggest achievements—finding the war's largest arms cache and stamping out the enemy's Tet attacks at Long Binh and second wave invasion attempt at southern Saigon.

Both the 3d and 4th/47th have participated in crucial missions of the Mobile Riverine Force in the Mekong Delta. Camp Syracuse, N.Y., witnessed the birth of the 47th Infantry Regiment on June 1, 1917.

Almost a year later, on May 25, the 47th landed at Brest, France. Two months were spent training with British and French units before July 27 when the Raiders were marching knee deep in mud to their first action, tracking the German line by fighting Indian style, the 47th soon took possession of the town of Sergy.

The 47th then joined with other units of the American Expeditionary Force to deal decisive defeats to the Germans at St. Mihiel and the immortal Meuse-Argonne, thus breaking the German war machine and ending the hostilities.

By December the 47th had moved to the Rhine and remained there until the fall of 1919 when it sailed home. On Sept. 21, 1921 the regiment was reactivated after earning five battle streamers for action during World War I.

The 47th Infantry Regiment was reactivated on Aug. 1, 1940. In early November, 1942, in the campaign to secure the northern coast of Africa, the 47th Regimental Combat Team stormed the beaches of Safi, Morocco. The 47th continued across North Africa with the Allies in their successful campaign to drive the German armies from that continent. Landing at Palermo, Sicily, on Aug. 1, 1943, the Raiders swung into

action one week later. On Aug. 26 Sicily was officially declared in the hands of the Allies.

On D-Day plus four the 47th landed on Utah Beach. By June 14, 1944 combat patrols were in contact with the Germans and by nightfall of the 16th the 47th blocked the last escape route for the Germans in the Conventin peninsula.

The famous port of Cherbourg was next and its capture is one of the brightest chapters in 9th Division history. With the help of sister regiments the 47th laid siege to the city. Stubborn opposition greeted the Raiders, for the enemy held the high ground and other strategic positions. However, just after noon on June 25, the regiment's 2d Battalion became the first Allied troops to enter the city. Stiff resistance was encountered until the 28th when Cherbourg fell. The 2d and 3d Battalions received Distinguished Unit Citations for their gallantry in the seizure of the city.

For a few days 9th Division operations halted for necessary rest and re-supply. The order to resume combat came July 9 and soon elements of the 47th were in the midst of the "Battle of the Hedgerows," one of the bloodiest and toughest encounters of the French campaign.

With the breakthrough at St. Lo, the rush was on. Innumerable Allied units raced across France in pursuit of the retreating Germans. By August, 1944, the 47th had forded the Seine River and headed for the Vesles and a memorable anniversary. It was in August 1918 that the 47th battled over the Vesles in a bloody crossing. Twenty-six years later the regiment crossed the river unopposed at the same point. In crossing they passed a monument erected to commemorate their heroic efforts in World War I.

Belgium was next for the 47th and they gained another first—this time they were the first Allied troops to set foot on Belgian soil in the drive for Germany.

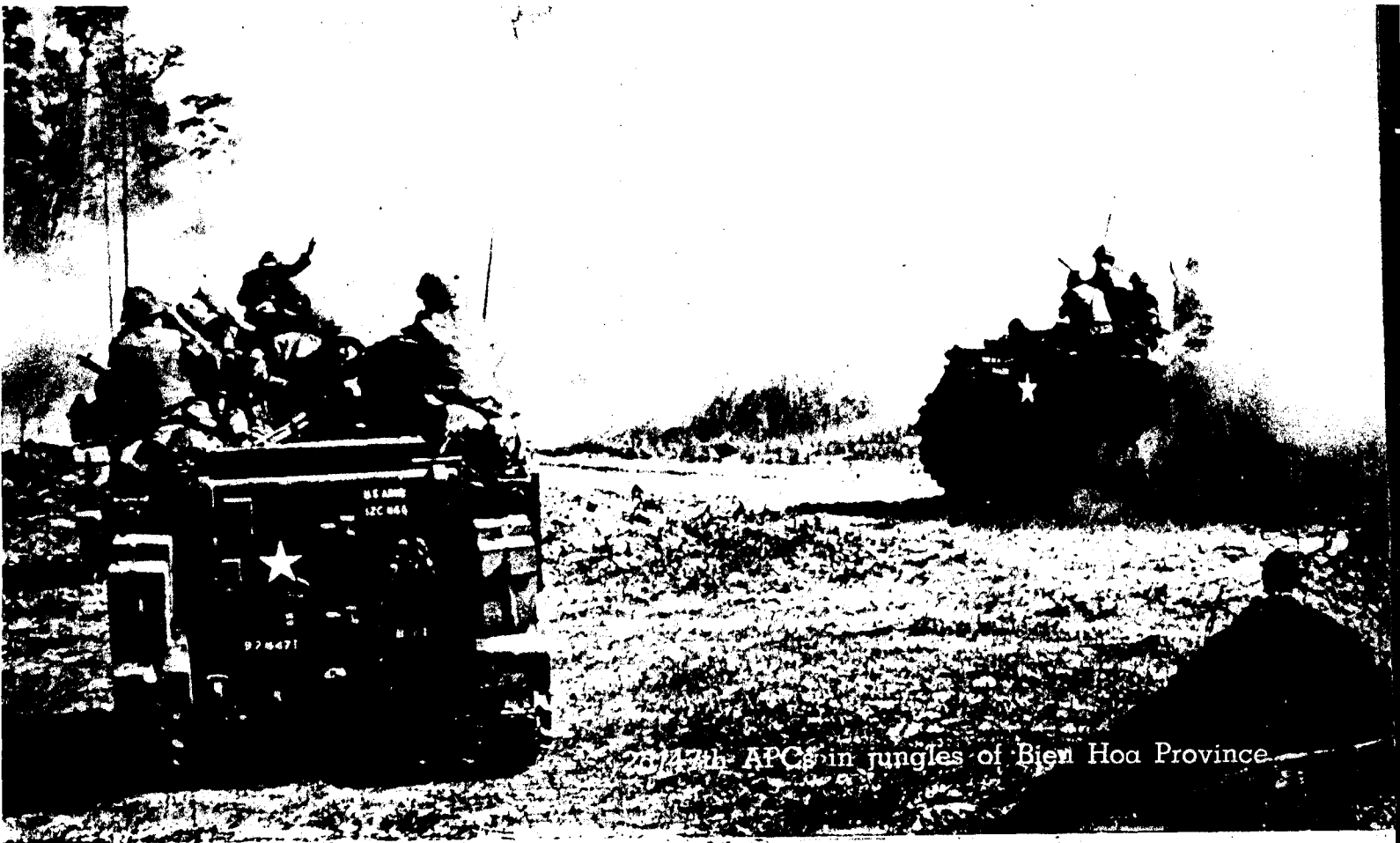
Then, the long-awaited invasion of Germany began. On Sept. 14 the Raiders breached the mighty Siegfried Line. Three days later the 47th became the first Allied unit to pierce the Siegfried Line.

Following the battle of the Huertgen Forest, the regiment was directed to shift north and drive to the city of Frenzenberg. Despite staggering U.S. losses, the city fell. The 1st Battalion and Medical Detachment received the Distinguished Unit Citation for their action in the battle which punctuated 145 continuous days of combat for the Raiders.

The German counter-offensive in December hit the 47th full force, but it repulsed the attacks and soon ripped open the way to the center of Germany. The famous Rhine River was now in sight and one of the most glorious chapters in the history of the U.S. Army was about to take place at the Ludendorff Bridge near Remagen.

This key span marked the spot where the first infantry regiment since the Napoleonic Wars battled across the Rhine. The 47th was forced to earn this distinction by engaging in some of the most savage warfare of World War II. The Germans showered the Ludendorff Bridge with shrapnel and shells. Through this wall of death, the 47th pushed forward, established a bridgehead and held it against all attempts to dislodge them.

Finally, in the last week of April, elements of the 47th Infantry Regiment and the 337th Russian Rifle Regiment joined ranks. The once mighty Third Reich had been defeated and among its conquerors stood the Raiders of the 47th Infantry Regiment.



26/27th APCs in jungles of Bien Hoa Province.



60th Reg. troops march across hill
... before entering town of Bizerte, Tunisia

60th Infantry Regiment

Both the 5th and 2d Battalions, 60th Infantry participated in the long-term, multi-faceted Operation ENTERPRISE in Long An Province. The 5th/60th, then mechanized, became the first Divisional unit to fight in Saigon during the Tet aggression and also crushed would-be enemy invaders on the first day of the Saigon attacks early in May, 1968. Later in the year, the original 5th/60th was switched to the 1st Division, becoming the 1st Mechanized Battalion, 16th Infantry. The old 1st/16th, in turn, joined the 9th Division and was redesignated 5th Battalion, 60th Infantry.

The 2d/60th, after shifting from the 3d Brigade to the 1st Recondo Brigade, rolled up numerous one-sided victories over VC forces in the Plain of Reeds. Meanwhile, the 3d/60th, a 2d Brigade unit, made its mark in combat operations with the Mobile Riverine Force.

The 60th Infantry Regiment was born June 10, 1917 at the historic Gettysburg National Park, Pa.

In World War I the allegedly impossible crossing of the Meuse River by the 60th was regarded by military experts as indicative of the skill possessed by the American fighting man. This crossing and the brilliant records accomplished at Alsace-Lorraine and St. Mihiel were handed down to the 60th when it was reactivated at Fort Bragg, N.C. on Aug. 1, 1940.

The 60th's battle honors during World War II date from the campaign fought to control the northern shores of the African coast and keep open the Allied lifeline in the Mediterranean Sea. Highlighting this campaign for the 60th was the seizure of the Kasha (Citadel) in early November, 1942. The "Go Devils" continued across North Africa with the Allies until the German-Italian Army Group Africa was totally destroyed.

Sicily was the 60th's next assignment and they landed near Enna, July 24, 1943 to support the 1st Division. After numerous actions the cities of Floresta and Basico became the last Sicilian strongholds to fall to the might of the 60th Regiment. On Aug. 14, 1943 the 60th was ordered to halt and was put into reserve with the rest of the 9th Infantry Division to await its next summons.

That next assignment called for the 9th Division to enter the battle of "Fortress Europe."

The 60th's first taste of battle on European soil came June 2, 1944 when it joined the 39th and 47th Regiments for an offensive into France. The order was given to march toward St. Colombe. In this action the 2d



Infantrymen and tanks of 60th Regiment
 ... before entering Bath, Germany, Feb., 1945

Germeter-Huertgen road junction. In doing so, they captured more prisoners than they had men present for duty in the battalion.

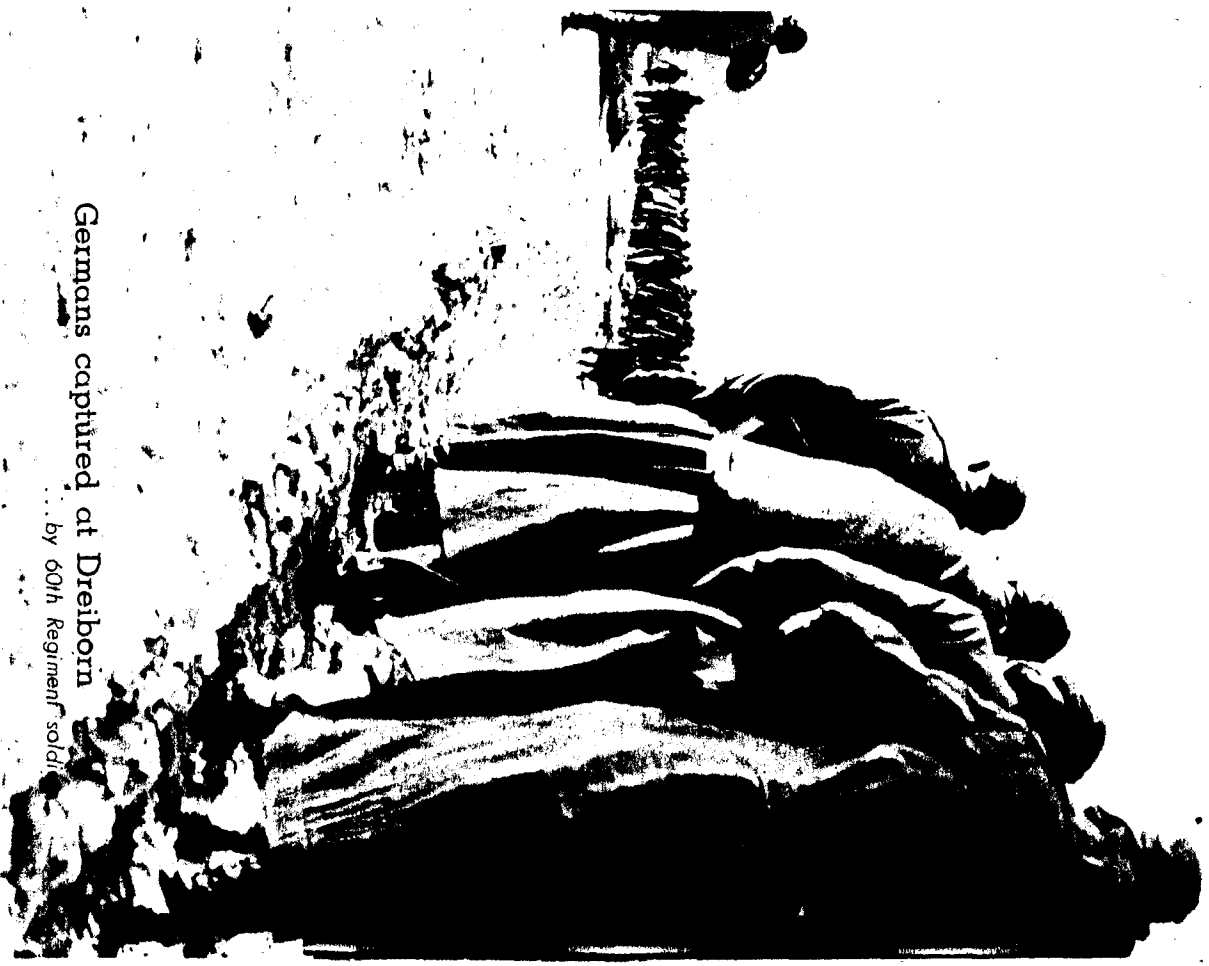
The Ludendorff Bridge at the town of Remagen was used for a bridgehead over the Rhine River. German troops were preparing to destroy the bridge on March 7 when American forces captured it intact. The 9th Division quickly seized the advantage and prepared to cross the river. The 60th began crossing the bridge the night of the 8th under heavy machinegun and artillery fire. The crossing took 24 hours.

Now the job of mopping up began. Thousands of dislodged German troops surrendered. The last objective of the war for the 60th and the 9th Division was Drohndorf, which fell April 21. Then on April 26 a patrol of the 60th contacted elements of the Russian Army and the East and West fronts were now one. This link-up signaled the end of Hitler's Germany and of fighting in World War II for the 60th Infantry Regiment.

During the next three months, the Allied pincers began closing on the Fatherland, but two major obstacles stood in the way—the Meuse River and the Siegfried Line.

After a lapse of 26 years, on Sept. 4, 1944, the 60th again found itself on the west bank of the Meuse River.

By Sept. 17 the Hofea position of the Siegfried Line was being patrolled by elements of the 60th. Later the Siegfried Line was breached and the Allied drive continued toward the Roer River. In a quick change of direction, the 1st Battalion of the 60th diverted to capture the vital



Germans captured at Dreiborn
 ... by 60th Regiment' soldi

6th Battalion, 31st Infantry

The 6th Battalion, 31st Infantry, which joined the 9th Division in April, 1968, played a major role in thwarting the enemy's attempted invasion of Saigon early in May. Soon after, the unit, dubbed the "Bearcats," spent brief time aboard the boats of the Mobile Riverine Force.

During the first week of October, the 6th/31st helped other 3d Brigade ops corner a large Viet Cong force in reinforced bunkers northwest of Tam and kill 138 enemy in two days of fierce fighting.

The battalion was flown to Vietnam from Fort Lewis, Wash., where it had since reactivation on Nov. 1, 1967. Most of the unit's preparation for Vietnam took place in winter weather, causing such unlikely scenes as an infantryman searching a mock-up Vietnamese village in the snow.

Originally organized in 1917, the 31st Infantry has seen action in every major war fought by the U.S. During World War I, the Bearcats plodded through the bitter winter of 1917 to construct the Siberian Railroad in Russia.

In World War II, the 31st Infantry battled the Japanese in the South Pacific and Asian Theater.

The unit again was summoned to action at the outbreak of the Korean conflict to curb the communist threat breaching the 38th Parallel. In 1951, a regimental colors were retired.

Before 1963, the regiment never had been stationed within the continental United States, thereby earning an additional nickname, "the American Foreign Legion."



First significant contact in Vietnam

Bearcats join fray south of Saigon

Cobra gunship unleashes rockets

... using pinpoint sight adjuster

3d Squadron, 5th Cavalry

Fighting from the DMZ to the Delta, the 3d Squadron, 5th Cavalry ranks as the Division's most far-flung unit.

After the grim Tet attacks in January and February, 1968, three armored cavalry troops of the Squadron were sent to Wunder Beach, 15 miles south of the DMZ, to work under the operational control of I Corps.

Meanwhile, the unit's air cavalry, Troop D, operates in the Mekong Delta with the Army's most-advanced choppers, the Huey Cobra and Cayuse light observation helicopter (LOH). The 3d/5th Cav joined in the



NVA hideout

... gutted by 3d/5th

Division's first major contact in 1967 during Operation COLBY. Since then, the unit has amassed important victories during Operation JUNCTION CITY at Bau Bang and the enemy's Tet and Saigon aggression campaigns.

First constituted in 1855, the 3d/5th launched successful campaigns against terrorist bands of Apaches, Comanches and Cheyennes.

In the Civil War, the cavalrymen carried crossed sabres at Bull Run, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg and Appomattox. The 3d/5th received a Presidential Unit Citation for the campaigns.

At Little Big Horn, 3d/5th forces stood with General George Custer, who was in temporary command of the unit.

During World War II in the Pacific, the 3d/5th gained successive triumphs in New Guinea, Leyte and Luzon. It earned a Philippine Presidential Citation with an embroidered streamer.

After participating in numerous Allied offensives in Korea, the Cavalry was deactivated in 1958 and reactivated in 1966 for the Vietnam War.

1589
with 5th 13 B Squadron
and 9th Cavalry Div



"Slick" ship inserts infantrymen for combat mission

... on soggy terrain of Mekong Delta

9th Aviation Battalion

Living up to its motto that "no mission is impossible," the 9th Aviation Battalion has flown the gamut of combat and support missions for the Division, earning a Valorous Unit Award in the process.

Performing combat operations at night, each of the UH-1C Singrays carries two rocket pods containing 14 rockets and 6,000 rounds of 7.62mm ammunition for its two miniguns. In the early days of the Tet aggression, Singrays averaged five missions a day and gunship crews provided round-the-clock maintenance.

Jayhawk aircraft fly general support as command and control ships, utility, mail and courier aircraft. On Sundays the Jayhawks furnish transportation for chaplains and on paydays they carry pay officers to the field.

The Division's youngest combat battalion was organized and activated Jan. 26, 1966 for deployment to Vietnam.

Battalion gunships have supported numerous ground operations with steady streams of fire from above. In addition to flying combat missions, battalion choppers resupply infantrymen with food, water, ammunition and medical supplies.

2d Battalion, 4th Artillery

The 2d Battalion, 4th Artillery has supported all three brigades in Vietnam. In 1967, it was the first unit to introduce portable firing platforms into the Delta war. During the enemy's Tet uprising early in 1968, battalion batteries unleashed devastating fire on the enemy from bases at Tan Tru, Rach Kien, Binh Phuoc, Tan An and Ben Luc. Their quick, effective reactions prevented several towns from being overrun by the VC.

Since then, the battalion has helped in the defense of southern Saigon in May, 1968, and bolstered such key operations as QUYET THANG, TOAN THANG, EN-TERPRISE, KIEN GIANG and LE LOI.

The 2d/4th can trace its history back to the early 19th Century. Some units destined to make up the battalion were organized by June 1, 1812 and were active in nearly every war the United States has fought since then. The 2d/4th has been

awarded 43 campaign streamers for fighting in the War of 1812, Indian Wars, Mexican War of 1846, Civil War, Spanish-American War, Mexican War of 1916 and World War II.

The battalion's 20th Century history involves three units—Battery D, 4th Anti-Aircraft Artillery (AAA); Battery B, 4th Coastal Artillery; and Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 2d Howitzer Battalion, 4th Field Artillery.

On Jan. 28, 1958, the 4th AAA was consolidated with the 4th Coastal Artillery at Fort Bliss, Texas. Six months later the two units joined and adopted the name of Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 2d Howitzer Battalion, 4th Field Artillery, at Fort Carson, Colo. The 2d/4th was reactivated and redesignated the 2d Battalion, 4th Artillery on Feb. 1, 1966, at Fort Riley, Kan., where it underwent basic and advanced training before deploying to South Vietnam.

Platform provides firm firing base

... for artillery in Delta





1st Battalion, 11th Artillery

After supporting the 1st Brigade since 1966, the 1st Battalion, 11th Artillery recently assumed support of the 2d Brigade's Mobile Riverine Force.

The 1st/11th played a major role in suppressing the enemy's Tet and lay aggressions. The battalion also participated in Operations UNCTON CITY, SANTA FE and TRUONG CONG DINH, and conducted artillery raids from Long An to Dinh Tuong Provinces and on the Mekong River north to the Plain of Reeds terrain near the Cambodian border.

First organized as the 11th Field Artillery on June 1, 1917, at Camp Barry S. Jones, Douglas, Ariz., the 1st/11th served with the 6th Division in the province of Lorraine, France during World War I.

The unit's original armament was horse-drawn 4.7 inch howitzers. The regiment was motorized in January, 1918, sailed to England in July and fired its first round at the enemy on October. On Nov. 11, 1918, 'Calamity Jane,' the number two piece of Battery E, fired the last shot of World War I.

From June, 1919 to January, 1921

the unit was in the United States. It then trained in Hawaii until the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

The regiment reorganized into the 11th Field Artillery Battalion, 90th Artillery Headquarters Battery, in October, 1941.

After the attack on Pearl Harbor until August, 1943, the battalion manned batteries of 155 and 240mm howitzers as a part of the tactical defense of Oahu. In August, 1943, the battalion underwent a strenuous training program in preparation for jungle fighting. The 1st/11th was attached to the 38th Division Artillery in January, 1945, and conducted operations on several islands while moving toward Japan from Bataan, Parang Harbor, Tahmo and Leyte Island.

It has received battle honors commemorating heroic actions in the Meuse-Argonne, Central Pacific, New Guinea, Luzon, Leyte and Southern Philippines. It received the Distinguished Unit Citation for its service in the Korean conflict. The unit was reactivated Feb. 1, 1966, at Fort Riley, Kan.

3d Battalion, 34th Artillery

One of the most versatile artillery units in Vietnam is the Division's 3d Battalion, 34th Artillery. The first artillerymen to go afloat in the Vietnam war boast three batteries of barge-mounted 105mm howitzers, which are towed into combat to provide timely and accurate fire for all MRF combat operations.

Ranging from the South China Sea to near the Gulf of Siam, the battalion has participated in such significant operations as CORONADO I through X, TRUONG CONG DINH and QUYET THANG. Its missions have spanned nine provinces of the Delta and have helped open many areas previously considered inaccessible to U.S. combat forces.

Always searching for new and more effective means of overcoming the rugged terrain, the 3d/34th has experimented with airborne firing platforms.

First organized on Aug. 7, 1918 at Camp McClellan, Ala. as Battery C, 34th Field Artillery, the unit was demobilized there in 1919. Ten years

later the unit was reconstituted and assigned to the 9th Division (later the 9th Infantry Division). The regiment was reorganized Oct. 1, 1940 and served with the 9th Division throughout World War II.

The 3d/34th has won battle honors in Tunisia, Sicily, Normandy, Northern France, the Rhineland, Ardennes-Alsace and Central Europe. It was cited in the Order of the Day of the Belgian Army for action along the Meuse River and in the Ardennes.

The battalion was inactivated in 1946 and reactivated in 1948 at Fort Dix, N.J. On Dec. 1, 1957 it was reorganized and redesignated Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 3d Rocket Howitzer Battalion, 34th Artillery. It was all located to the Army Reserve and assigned to the 103d Division. The battalion was withdrawn from the Reserve, allotted to the Regular Army, redesignated 3d/34th, assigned to the 9th Infantry Division and activated all on Feb. 1, 1966, at Fort Riley, Kan.





155mm self-propelled howitzer

... big gun fires from Landing Craft Medium (LCM)

1st Battalion, 84th Artillery

Since arriving in Vietnam in 1966, the 1st Battalion, 84th Artillery has participated in most major operations, including JUNCTION CITY, ANTA FE, RILEY, KITTY, NARAWAK, ENTERPRISE, NARAUAN, HOPTAC, CHING BOY LI, DRONG CUA DAN, TRUONG CONG DINH, QUYET HANG and TOAN THANG.

The battalion consists of one battery of self-propelled 155mm howitzers, two batteries of towed 155mm howitzers and one battery of self-repelled eight-inch guns.

Constituted on Sept. 16, 1918 as Battery A, 84th Field Artillery, the unit was demobilized two months later at Camp Sheridan, Ala. It was activated on July 1, 1936 at Fort Riley, Kan., and redesignated Battery A, 84th Field Artillery Battalion (105mm howitzer truck driven). It was concurrently activated at Fort Bragg, N.C., and assigned to the 9th Division.

The unit was inactivated Nov. 1, 1946 in Germany, after a successful tour in the European Theater with the 9th Division. During World War

II, it participated in the campaigns in Algeria-French Morocco, Tunisia, Sicily, Normandy, Northern France, the Rhineland, Ardennes, Alsace and Central Europe. The 1st/84th won the Belgian Fourragere decoration in 1940 and was awarded Distinguished Unit Citations with streamers embroidered with the names Thala, Tunisia and Remagen Bridgehead. The unit was cited in the Order of the Day of the Belgian Army for action along the Meuse River and in the Ardennes.

On Dec. 1, 1957 the 1st/84th was relieved from assignment to the 9th Infantry Division at Fort Carson, Colo. It was redesignated as Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 1st Missile Battalion, 84th Artillery on June 2, 1958, and 20 days later the battalion was activated at Fort Sill, Okla., as a Corporal missile unit. It was inactivated April 19, 1962 at Fort Sill. Assigned to the 9th Division it was reactivated Feb. 1, 1966 at Fort Riley, Kan., where it underwent training before deploying to South Vietnam.

9th Signal Battalion

The 9th Signal Battalion has been a vital part of the Division since its earliest days in Vietnam. When the Division's first increments moved into incomplete base camps late in 1966, the signalmen established telephone and FM communication between brigade headquarters and the maneuver battalions, completed signal centers, laid underground lines, wired the Bearcat perimeter and set up VHF communication.

The battalion recently won the Meritorious Unit Citation.

The unit was first constituted July 8, 1918 as the 209th Field Signal Battalion, and was demobilized at the end of World War I. In 1924 it was reconstituted in the Regular Army as the 9th Signal Company and was activated in 1940

15th Engineer Battalion

The 15th Engineers paved the way for the Old Reliables in Vietnam. Two months before the first contingent of infantrymen beached at Vung Tau in December, 1966, the 15th Engineers were busy preparing a Division-size base camp at Bearcat. Soon after, they created the Delta camp at Dong Tam.

Operating in close support of infantry units, the engineers have often engaged enemy forces while building or repairing bridges, clearing roads and jungles, demolishing



at Fort Bragg, N.C. Operating in Africa and Europe during World War II, the unit earned eight battle streamers, plus the Distinguished Unit Streamer for Remagen Bridgehead and the Meritorious Unit Streamer for accomplishments in Europe.

After a period of deactivation, it was reorganized and redesignated in Dec., 1957 as the 9th Signal Battalion, Headquarters, Headquarters Company and Companies A and B. Reactivation for Vietnam came in Feb., 1966 at Fort Riley, Kan.

enemy bunker and tunnel complexes and detecting VC mines.

The battalion began as the Fifth Reserve Engineer Regiment on June 3, 1916 and was organized one year later at Oakmont, Pa. Operating as the 15th Engineers (Regiment, Railway) in the National Army, the unit participated in battles at St. Mihiel and Meuse-Argonne before demobilization at the end of the war. In 1921 it was reconstituted as the 15th Engineers in the Regular Army and in 1923 it was assigned to the 9th Division. It became the 15th Engineer Battalion just prior to reactivation on Aug. 1, 1940 at Fort Bragg, N.C.

Moving with the Old Reliables through many tough campaigns, the Engineers earned eight battle streamers and Company B received the Distinguished Unit Citation for actions at the Remagen.



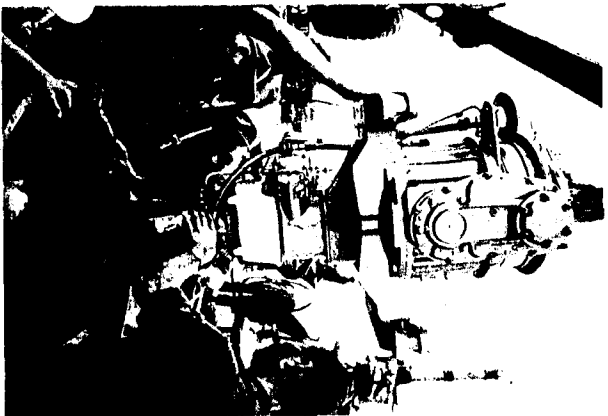
709th Maintenance Battalion

From jeep engines to complicated computers—the skilled soldiers of the 709th Maintenance Battalion can repair anything both at forward command posts and base camps.

First organized May 1, 1936, the 709th earned a Meritorious Unit Commendation in World War II and was cited in the Order of the Day of the Belgian Army for action at the Meuse River. The unit later received a similar award for action in the Ardennes.

Deactivated Jan. 15, 1947, the 709th was reactivated a year later at Fort Dix, N.J.

After four years of deactivation, the unit was reactivated in 1966 with the 9th Division at Fort Riley, Kan.



9th Supply and Transport Battalion

When the Division moved its base camp from Bearcat to Dong Tam, some 70 miles, the men of 9th Supply and Transport Battalion were faced with a monumental task—keep units in both places well supplied.

True to their long and distinguished record, the soldiers successfully met the challenge.

Constituted as the 9th Supply Train on July 8, 1918, the unit was organized on Sept. 21, 1918 at Camp Sheridan, Ala., and deactivated a year later. It was reconstituted March 24, 1923 in the Regular Army and redesignated as 9th Division Train, QMC. On March 23,

1945, the unit was redesignated as 9th Division Quartermaster Train.

Other redesignations followed—the 9th Quartermaster Regiment on May 1, 1936 and the 9th Quartermaster Battalion on June 1, 1940.

Reactivated on Aug. 1, 1940 at Fort Bragg, N. C., the unit was reorganized and redesignated as 9th Quartermaster Company, 9th Infantry Division, on Sept. 27, 1942, and became 9th Quartermaster Company on Oct. 29, 1943.

The unit's World War II decorations include the Meritorious Unit Commendation and Belgian Fourragere.

9th Medical Battalion

Whether it's an upset stomach or a serious bullet wound, doctors and medics of the 9th Medical Battalion stand ready to meet all emergencies for Old Reliable soldiers.

Within minutes after a soldier is wounded in action, he is rushed for treatment to a base camp or hospital. Besides treating the wounded, battalion doctors see more than 5,600 other patients each month.

Constituted July 8, 1918, as the 9th Sanitary Train, the unit has had a long and illustrious career

with the 9th Division. It was active in both World Wars and the Korean conflict before being inactivated Jan. 31, 1962 at Fort Carson, Colo. Four years later it was reactivated.

For World War II services, the battalion earned the Meritorious Unit Commendation streamer, embroidered EUROPEAN THEATER, and was cited in the Order of the Day of the Belgian Army for action at the Meuse River and in the Ardennes.

9th Military Police Company

Detaining and classifying enemy suspects, escorting convoys, controlling traffic and conducting raids, criminal investigations and firearm registration highlight the mission of the 9th MP Company in Vietnam.

Their operations encompass the entire Division area, especially its highways and bridges.

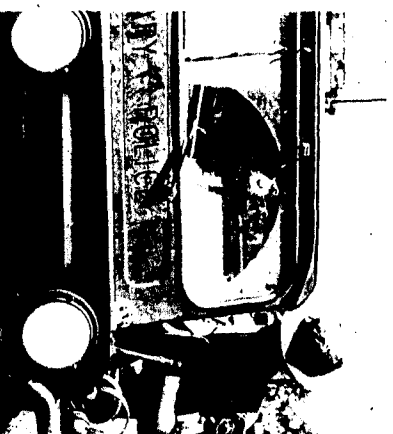
In World War II, the company was awarded the Distinguished Unit Citation for its actions at the embattled Remagen Bridge in Germany.

The unit was organized with the 9th Division at Camp Sheridan, Ala., in July, 1918. During World War II it was redesignated the Police Platoon, 9th Infantry Division, serving with distinction in the European Theater.

Deactivated with the Division at Ingolstadt, Germany on Jan. 15, 1947, the MPs were reactivated later that year at Fort Dix, N.J. They were with the Division when it replaced the 28th Infantry in 1954 at Goepingen, Germany.

In Dec., 1957, the company was deactivated and relieved from assignment as an organic element of the Division.

It rejoined the Old Reliables in Feb., 1966 at Fort Riley, Kan., and was one of the first Divisional units to arrive in Vietnam.



A history of bridges

... from Remagen to Ben Luc

Division Commanders

Colonel Charles C. Clark	July, 1918—Sept., 1918
Major General William A. Holbrook	Sept., 1918—Oct., 1918
Brigadier General James A. Ryan	Oct., 1918—Nov., 1918
Major General Willard A. Holbrook	Nov., 1918—Feb., 1919
Colonel Charles B. Elliot	Aug., 1940—Sept., 1940
Brigadier General Francis W. Honeycutt	Sept., 1940—Oct., 1940
Major General Jacob L. Devers	Oct., 1940—Aug., 1941
Major General Rene E. Hoyle	Aug., 1941—Aug., 1942
Lieutenant General Manton S. Eddy	Aug., 1942—Aug., 1944
Major General Louis A. Craig	Aug., 1944—May, 1945
Brigadier General Jesse A. Ladd	May, 1945—March, 1946
Major General Horace L. McBride	March, 1946—Jan., 1947
Major General William W. Eagles	July, 1947—April, 1948
Major General Arthur A. White	April, 1948—Oct., 1949
Major General John M. Devine	Oct., 1949—Sept., 1950
Major General William K* Harrison	Sept., 1950—Feb., 1952
Major General Roderick R. Allen	Feb., 1952—June, 1952
Major General Homer W. Kiefer	June, 1952—July, 1953
Major General Cornelius A. Ryan	July, 1953—May, 1954
Major General Donald P. Booth	May, 1954—Nov., 1954
Major General H. G. Maddox	Nov., 1954—June, 1956
Major General Harry P. Storke	June, 1956—Sept., 1957
Brigadier General Joseph B. Crawford	Sept., 1957—March, 1958
Major General Martin J. Morin	March, 1958—April, 1959
Brigadier General Richard A. Risden	April, 1959—March, 1960
Colonel Charles L. Heltnan Jr.	March, 1960—May, 1960
Brigadier General Ashton H. Manhart	May, 1960—Feb., 1962
Major General George S. Eckhardt	Feb., 1966—June, 1967
Major General George G. O'Connor	June, 1967—Feb., 1968
or General Julian J. Ewell	Feb., 1968—

