

Annex B Appendix 10 (Cont'd)

The move to the firebase proceeded without incident until 1223 hours when the D/16 Texas tanker hit an Anti-tank mine vic ZA205205 resulting in 2 KIA's (SP5 Joe Pugh and SF4 Michael Crutcher) only one of which required evacuation. Dustoff was called in and completed at 1235 hours. The tanker was a complete loss so it was destroyed in place. At 1400 hours the convoy started moving again closing FSB-4 at 1635 without further incident. At that time the 3rd Platoon moved back to vic ZA205171 for the night.

On 13 June, at 0630 the 1st Platoon with attached Eng near elements departed FSB-4 to commence road clearing operations on Highway 6C. The 3rd Platoon started south along Highway 6C on the same mission. At 1000 hours the 1st Platoon reported that one of the tanks attached to it had hit a mine vic ZA182183, resulting in minor damage and negative casualties. By 1705 hours all TF D/16 elements had completed their mission and closed FSB-4.

On 14 June the company continued road clearing operations and security of the FSB-4 water point.

At 0535 hours, 15 June, TF D/16 departed FSB-4 for roadclearing operations and escort for Brigade elements moving to Catecka. The CO controlled the operation from the air in an OH 13. Six mines were found and destroyed during the day. All elements closed Catecka at 1830 hours and went under OCCON 1/503d for perimeter security.

On 16 June the 2nd Platoon returned to D/16 closing base camp at 1800 hours.

During the period 18 to 21 June, the company pulled maintenance and perimeter security. The 2nd Platoon also ran several convoys to Flicha without incident.

Annex B Appendix 10 (Cont'd)

On 22 June, the 2nd Platoon departed at 0845 hours for a recon south of the base camp returning at 1205 hours without incident. At 2040 hours, the 3rd Platoon spotted movement on the perimeter artillery, M-79, and automatic weapons fire was placed on the area with unknown results.

On 23 June the 3rd Platoon departed base camp on a mounted recon of the area where movement had been sighted on the previous night. The platoon returned without incident at 1400 hours.

On 24 June, a dismounted patrol from Support Battalion, OPCON to D/16 departed base camp to recon the area in vic ZA1935. At 0930 the 2nd Platoon departed on a mounted recon patrol to the east of Catecka base camp. The 2nd Platoon returned to base camp at 1235 and Support Battalion at 1337 hours, both without incident. At 1845 hours the 173d Engineers sent out an ambush patrol to vic AZ225335 and the 3rd Platoon sent out a dismounted ambush patrol vic ZA208354. By 0630 hours on 25 June both patrols returned without incident. At 0930 hours 25 June 2nd Platoon and the 173d MP Platoon departed on a recon patrol to vic ZA2036 and ZA2037. At 1345 hours both patrols returned without incident. At 1700 hours the 3rd Platoon departed base camp with a dismounted ambush patrol to vic ZA205339 and returned at 0630 on the 26th without incident.

On the 26th the 2nd Platoon sent a recon patrol east and returned to base at noon without incident. The remainder of the day was spent preparing for the next operation which was to start on the 27th.

On 27 June 1967, at 0800 hours D/16 started Operation Greeley by escorting elements of the 173d Airborne Brigade from Catecka to a forward base camp FSB-1 at Dai To, deep in the Central Highlands. All elements for the convoy closed FSB-1 (vic ZP 006221) by 1805 hours.

On 28 June, D/16 started convoy security and control missions from Dai To to Kontum. Over a period of time the company ran over 4,200 miles on the tracks while performing this mission. In addition the company was responsible for a large sector of the base camp perimeter.

During the period 29 June to 2 July, the 2nd Platoon provided security for the convoys, making numerous trips without any incident. On 2 July the 3rd Platoon took over the escort mission and although on several occasions light sniper fire was received the convoys were completed with a minimum of difficulty. The 2nd Platoon moved to FSB-3 on 2 July where it provided perimeter security for an Artillery Battery. On 8 July the 3rd Platoon relieved the 2nd Platoon at FSB-3 and the 1st Platoon took up the mission of securing the convoys until 16 July. At that time the 2nd Platoon again started securing the convoys and the 3rd Platoon moved back to FSB-1. On 20 July SSG Williams fell from D-33 during a convoy and injured his head. He was evacuated and later returned to duty. The 2nd Platoon continued to run convoys until 22 July 1967.

On 22 July the 3rd Platoon sent out a dismounted ambush patrol which returned at 0630 with negative results. Both the 3rd and 2nd Platoons had been conducting short day patrols to the south of FSB-1 and on several occasions intelligence information had been obtained

Annex B Appendix 11 (Cont'd)

During this period the monsoon had set in and the roads were very muddy making it extremely difficult for the wheeled vehicles. Many of them had to be pulled by D/16 trucks and this doubled the already mounting maintenance problems. Only through a tremendous effort from the maintenance section was the company able to keep its vehicles running.

During the same period of time improvement of the company's facilities at base camp were hampered by the rain and mud. The mess section had to perform under almost impossible conditions but the men could always count on a good hot meal twice a day.

On 23 July the 3rd Platoon started making the convoy runs while the 1st and 2nd Platoons spent long hours on maintenance and perimeter improvement. On 27 July the company again had two perimeters to defend. In addition to running convoys the 3rd Platoon also secured an Artillery battery at Camp Alpha (ZB156038).

On 2 August both the 1st and 2nd Platoons took over from the 3rd Platoon and secured both convoys and Camp Alpha. On 2 August both the 1st, 2nd and a light section from the 3rd Platoon started securing convoys. The increase in security was due to an increase in the number of convoys. The heavy section of the 3rd Platoon was detached to the 4/503d for security of an ARVN compound. The increase in convoys and additional security commitments continued until 7 August. At that time due to rapidly deteriorating roads the convoys were held to a minimum.

On 10 August the 1st Platoon received sniper fire via ZB150148 but could not return fire due to the size of the convoy. On the 10th two platoons of E/17 Cav were attached to D/16.

Annex B Appendix 11 (Cont'd)

During the period 11 to 12 August both 1st and 3rd Platoons continued to provide convoy escort. The 1st Platoon also provided security for Camp Alpha with the two platoons from B/17 Cav.

On 13 August the 3rd Platoon took over Camp Alpha security. At approximately 0130 hours on the 14th the perimeter came under an intensive mortar and automatic weapons attack. In the fight that followed the Cav had 1 man killed and 2 wounded. In addition, the artillery battery had 4 WIA's including the Battery Commander and 1SG. Gunships were requested and in addition "Spooky" arrived to provide illumination and additional fire support. At approximately 0230 the enemy broke contact and withdrew to the south. Due to bad weather, the Dustoff for the wounded was not completed until 0430 hours. It was later estimated that the enemy had a force composed of approximately 100 men equipped with automatic weapons and three 60mm mortars. Several days later, 5 NVA bodies were found a short distance from the Camp's perimeter. They had been killed by 50 Cal. machine gun fire.

At 0750 it was reported that the bridge at CF 106 had been blown. The 2 Cav Platoons made a visual recon of the area and confirmed this. At 2145 hours CF 106 again came under attack. During the engagement 1 ARVN was wounded. Enemy losses were unknown. Dustoff for the ARVN WIA was completed at 2230 hours. At 0930 hours on 15 August the 1st Platoon sighted a large VC force via CF 106. The 3rd Platoon moved to CF 106 to support the ARVN elements there. The VC force was again sighted via 0613 and artillery was called in on them with unknown results. At 1026 hours the 1st Platoon received sniper fire via CF 104 and returned fire with 106RR and 50 Cal. machine gun.

Annex B Appendix 11 (Cont'd)

Negative casualties resulted. At 1032 a truck in the convoy struck two civilians killing one of them. A Dustoff was called and completed by 1105.

The 2nd Platoon closed back to Camp Alpha with the CO. Later that evening at 2320 hours the ARVN elements at Camp Alpha received an incoming grenade and instantly returned fire. Two VC were sighted and fired upon with unknown results. By 2330 hours all contact had been broken.

On 16 August the 1st and 3rd Platoons continued to provide convoy security from Dak To to Kontum until 20 August. At that time the 1st Platoon returned to base camp and the 2nd and 3rd Platoons continued to provide convoy security until 22 August. On 22 August the 1st Platoon relieved both the 2nd and 3rd Platoons until 27 August when the Cav took over.

On 28 August at 1750 the lead element of the Cav hit a mine and received automatic weapons fire from both flanks. The 1st Platoon instantly departed FSB-1 to support E/17. At 1805 hours the 1st Platoon arrived at the ambush site and the VC withdrew to the east and west. Negative casualties resulted from the engagement.

During the period from 27 August to 18 September the company with attached elements continued to provide convoy escort from Dak To to Kontum. No significant sightings or engagements were reported. The company also pulled considerable maintenance on vehicles and made improvements on the perimeter defenses. During this period the company also made frequent stops at several orphanages in the area handing out goodies and other needed items.

Annex B Appendix 11 (Cont'd)

On 18 September at 0445 hours the 2nd Platoon while attempting to find a water crossing received sniper fire from vic ZPC3255. Fire was returned and 1 VC was spotted. The 2nd Platoon made a search of the area but were unable to turn up anything. The 2nd Platoon had been attached at the time to the 173d Engineers and had been providing them with security at a bridge site just west of FSR-1.

From 18 September to 15 October the roads were closed due to mud and washed out bridges. On several occasions emergency resupply by road was made without incident. The company remained for the most part in base camp conducting maintenance and made preparations for future operations. On 15 October the company was alerted to its next operation and the base camp at Dak To was closed out.

On 16 October at 0730 hours D/16 Armor departed Daik To. The company provided convoy escort for elements of the Brigade moving to Tuy Hoa to participate in Operation Polling. At 1550 hours, D-24 which was being towed by the VFR overturned when the tow bar broke. The track was completely wrecked. By 1800 hours the convoy had closed without further incident.

On the 17th the company pulled maintenance on vehicles before leaving for Pleiku. On the 18th the convoy, with D/16 Armor providing escort departed Pleiku for Qui Nhon. At 2210 hours D-14 and D-3 received sniper fire in An Khe Pass. Fire was returned with unknown results. The convoy closed Qui Nhon at 2230 hours.

On the 19th the company again pulled maintenance and rested. At 0900 hours 20 October 1967, the convoy left Qui Nhon and closed Tuy Hoa at 1800 hours without incident.

On 21 October, the company moved from base camp to AO Sen, which is west of Tuy Hoa. The 1st and 2nd Platoons secured an LZ for the extraction of E/17 Cav. The 3rd Platoon picked up civilian workers at Tuy Hoa North and moved to AO Sen. The rice harvesters were provided with security during the remainder of the day by D/16 Armor. A platoon from B/1/503d Infantry was attached to the company. At 1600 hours the rice harvesters were taken back to Tuy Hoa North and at 1900 hours the company moved out on platoon size ambush patrols.

During the period 22 to 25 October, the company and attached elements conducted search and destroy operations throughout AO Sen. The company dismounted and as infantry made numerous recon patrols in the AO.

Contact was made on both the 22nd and the 24th with negative results. Considerable amounts of rice and other foodstuffs were found and extracted. The company also found that most of the rice paddies could be negotiated by the tracks with a minimum of difficulty.

Many bunkers and tunnels were found and destroyed. At night each of the platoons including the headquarters elements set up mounted and dismounted ambushes throughout the AO.

On 26 October, the 1st Platoon while searching a group of buildings set off a booby-trap via CQ004377 wounding 3 men. 1Lt Bogart, SSG Presley, and SP4 Harris were all injured by the booby-trap, which was a fragmentation grenade. Lt Bogart and SSG Presley were evacuated by Dustoff. The area was again searched and nothing further was turned up. The company moved to their respective ambush sites for the night.

At 1935 hours on the 27th, the 1st Platoon while conducting a mounted ambush made contact with a squad size element at B0970379. During the fight that followed 2 enemy were killed. At 1959 hours the enemy attempted to flee the area but the 1st Platoon requested illumination and pursued the remaining enemy. The 3rd Platoon moved from its position to set up a blocking force and at 2230 fired upon 1 enemy attempting to escape by crossing a small bridge. "Spooky" arrived at 2200 hours and provided additional illumination for the 1st Platoon. The 1st Platoon continued sweeping the area until 2055 hours and then returned to their initial position. The 3rd Platoon also returned to its initial position for the remainder of the night. The next day the company again conducted search and destroy operations with negative results.

Annex B Appendix 12 (Cont'd)

On 29 October, at approximately 1002 hours the 1st Platoon engaged 1VC in a house. The VC was wounded and captured. A Dust-off was called in for the wounded VC and completed at 1040 hours.

On 30 October, D/16 again picked up rice harvesters and secured them during the day as they worked in the fields. That night the 1st and 3rd Platoons set up ambushes but had no contact. On the 31st the 2nd Platoon again secured the rice harvesters while the remainder of the company conducted S&D operations with negative results.

During the period 1 November to 6 November, the company continued to conduct search and destroy operations in the AO. In addition the company and attached elements secured the rice harvesters during the day and conducted ambushes at night. There were no significant sightings or incidents during this period of time.

On 6 November the company moved from AO Son back to base camp at Phu Hiep to prepare for night convoy operations for THSAC. Until 11 November the company conducted maintenance of vehicles and weapons in preparation for the new mission.

On 11 November the 1st and 2nd Platoons provided escort and road security operation between Vung Ra Ray vic CQ 266734 and Phu Hiep on Highway QL1. A liaison representative was sent to the ROK compound vic CQ 233278 to establish fire coordination and a radio relay.

During the period from 11 November until 2 December the company continued to provide convoy escort for THSAC. The company usually had one platoon providing convoy security and the other two would pull maintenance on vehicles and weapons. This was done on a rotational basis.

Annex F Appendix 12 (Cont'd)

Most of the time there were 3 convoys per night and each convoy made at least 2 round trips from Vung to Pay to Phu Heip. On the nights the convoys didn't run a heavy section would patrol the road and conduct firing exercises into suspected enemy locations along the road. No significant contact was made. Also during this time the company received a new Commanding Officer. Captain Mackey was replaced by Captain Felwick.

On 2 December the company was alerted to prepare for operations to be conducted in AO Sen with the 1/503d Infantry. At 0435 hours on 3 December the company departed Phu Heip and moved to CP 3 (Tuy Hoa) and picked up an ARVN element and moved to AO Sen. At 0747 the company picked up one Chue Hoi and 17 VC wives. At 0900 hours the company found a small food cache, some NVA currency and a tunnel complex vic CQ007375. A few minutes later 4 more VC suspects were picked up and later extracted along with the other individuals that had been caught. At 0915 hours the company and attached ARVN troops moved into a blocking position. At 1400 hours C/1/503d captured two VC carrying hand grenades. The company remained in a blocking position until 1700 hours and at that time picked up the attached elements and proceeded to ambush sites extending from CQ001391 to CQ004375. No contact was made during the night.

On 4 December at 0700 hours the company received word to discontinue operations and return to base camp. The attached ARVN elements were picked up and at 1000 hours left off at CP3. By 1100 hours all D/16 elements had closed base camp. That night D/16 continued to provide THSAC with convoy security.

Annex B Appendix 12 (Cont'd)

During the period 5 December to 16 December the company continued to provide convoy security for TFSAO and on occasion fire exercises were conducted along the road. The 1st and 2nd Platoons perfected contingency plans for TFSAO and Tuy Hoa Air Base area. The company was also able to conduct maintenance on vehicles and weapons.

On 18 December at 0530 hours the company again moved out to AO Sen as part of TF Mitchell. D/16 captured 30 adults and 10 children during the morning and then moved to FSB-2 vic CQ915416 and set up a perimeter and lasserred for the night.

On 19 December TF Mitchell departed FSB-2 and began S&D operations in the NW sector of the AO until 1000 hours. At that time the TF moved to the Phu Sen area and conducted another S&D operation with negative results. By 1450 all elements of the TF had closed FSB-2.

On 20 December the TF improved the perimeter defenses and conducted maintenance on vehicles. One Cheu Hoi came into the FSB and was extracted. On 21 December the TF again conducted S&D operations in the western part of the AO until 1215 hours with negative results. At 1230 the TF moved to the Phu Sen area and at 1235 the 3rd Platoon spotted a herd of cattle and an undetermined number of people. The people started running and the TF pursued them catching several women and children. All the males managed to escape in the thick brush.

On 22 December at 0750 hours the 1st Platoon captured 1 NVA and found a tunnel vic 963395. The PW had some web equipment and 2 M-26 Hand Grenades in his possession.

ANNEX D APPENDIX 12 (Cont'd)

At 0845 hours the 1st Platoon spotted 2 VC vic 966317 but due to the terrain were unable to pursue them. The TF then moved to vic CQ970377 and crossed the river into AO Savage. At 1132 the TF picked up 3 men and 1 woman who claimed they were trying to flee from the VC in that area. A sweep was made of the area and 1 hut and a small amount of food was found vic 962373 and destroyed. At 1435 hours the 2nd Platoon found and destroyed 1 sampan vic CQ92359. At 1515 hours the TF completed its mission, recrossed the river and returned to FSB-2 closing at 1700 hours.

On 23 December the 3rd Platoon departed for Phu Heip to provide security for night convoys. TF Mitchell moved to the Phu Sen area to continue S&D operations. At 1145 hours TF Mitchell captured 1 NVA vic 998375. At 1330 the TF found 1 grave (approximately 2 weeks old) with a body believed to be an NVA. At 1415 hours the TF engaged 2 enemy VC vic 999375 and believed they hit one. The enemy fled to the east. The TF pursued but was unable to catch them. The TF sent out 2 ambushes but made no contact. On 24 December TF Mitchell continued S&D operations in AO Sen. The 3rd Platoon D/16 continued to provide convoy security for TF MAC and BSO. TF Mitchell engaged 1 VC at 1145 hours vic 001378. The enemy managed to slip away. All elements returned to FSB-2 at 1700 hours.

Christmas Day found the 1st and 2nd Platoons with the Headquarters elements in the field. The 3rd Platoon remained at Phu Heip. A Christmas dinner with all the trimmings was served and beer provided by the 1SG was enjoyed by all. All operations were suspended for the day. Everyone received some sort of gift and a few promotions were made. The day proved to be a good one with everyone enjoying Christmas.

Annex B Appendix 12 (Cont'd)

On the 26th TF Mitchell moved back to AO Savage and at 1025 hours engaged and killed 1 NVA vic BQ674366. Several boats were also found and destroyed. The 3rd Platoon with one Cav Platoon attached, departed at 0600 hours for FSB-4 escorting elements of the 319th Artillery and Brigade Engineers, closing at 1900 hours.

On 27 December TF Mitchell continued S&D operations and made preparations to return to Phu Heip. The 3rd Platoon made a round trip from FSB-4 to Phu Heip providing security for the 319th Artillery. At approximately 2000 hours the western sector of the perimeter at FSB-4 received 20-30 rounds sniper fire. Fire was returned with unknown results.

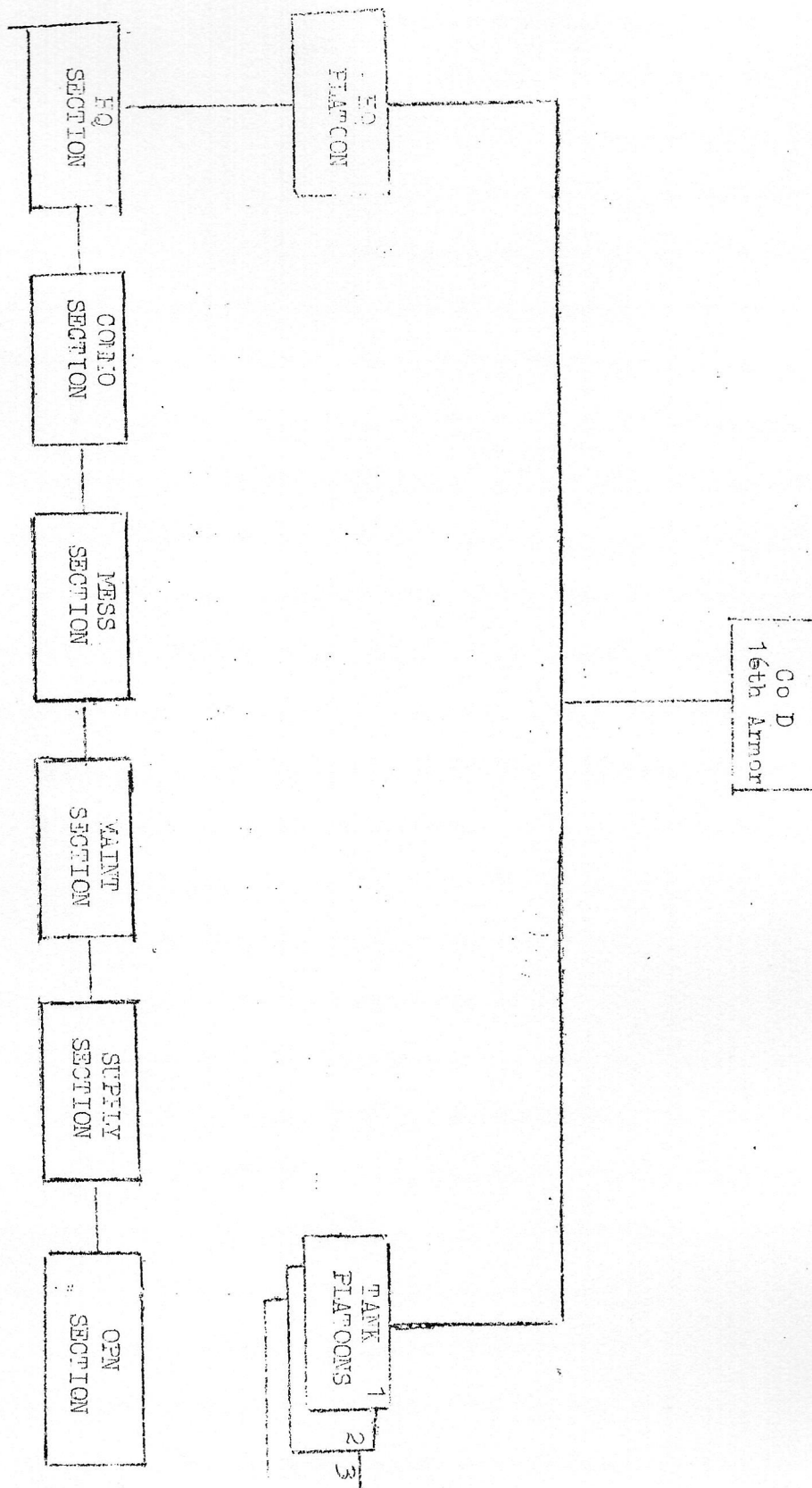
On 28 December, TF Mitchell moved from FSB-2 by air and road back to Phu Heip closing at 1900 hours. The 3rd Platoon and Cav Platoon moved to FSB-6 vic BQ964786 to provide security for the 319th Artillery. On 29 December TF Mitchell minus 2/D/16 departed Phu Heip and arrived at FSB-6 by 1200 hours. The 2nd Platoon provided convoy security for THAC. On the 30th and 31st of December the company made improvements on the perimeter and conducted recon patrols to nearby villages.

New Years Eve was spent in the finest tradition with the CO and XO providing Champagne for the officers of TF Mitchell, to close out 1967.

ORGANIZATION

"D" Company, 16th Armor is presently organized into three tank platoons and the Headquarters Platoon. Prior to 1 May 1967 the company also had a mortar platoon consisting of four M106 vehicles, mounting 4.2 inch mortars. The mortar platoon was deactivated 1 May 1967.

The Headquarters consist of the following elements, a headquarters section, an operations section, a maintenance section, a communications section, a mess section, and a supply section. The headquarters element has one M577 Command Post Truck and two M113's. Each Tank Platoon has five M113's or M113A1's. The company is authorized by MTOE 17-157E, six officers and ninety-five enlisted men.



AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

AWARDS FOR VALOR

PRESLEY, THOMAS R RA19621991 S3GE6 GO 5508

Awarded: Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an armed enemy in the Republic of Vietnam. Staff Sergeant Presley distinguished himself by valorous actions on 17 May 1967 while serving with an armored personnel carrier platoon on a road clearing mission in hostile territory. While clearing the road by firing at suspected enemy boobytrap locations, he detonated a claymore mine close by. He immediately organized his men to search the area and found wires and detonating equipment which he destroyed. The team moved to a bridge and SSG Presley's track crossed. The second vehicle detonated an enemy mine which exploded the fuel tanks and turned the carrier over. Ignoring his own safety, he dashed into the flaming vehicle amidst exploding ammo to pull the injured crew to safety. He was seriously wounded by a detonating mortar round but refused medical aid and rushed back to the wreckage. He was knocked to the ground by another explosion but continued to pull the wounded from the track. Seeing a man pinned under the track, he moved close to the fierce heat to spray the fire with extinguishers. He was knocked down again by a savage explosion and was carried to safety nearby. He continued to direct his men in rescue attempts until being evacuated.

AWARDS FOR VALUE (Cont'd)

NOLAND, CHARLES W. TAG 0722032 SFUEA CO 966

Awarded: Bronze Star Medal for Heroism

On 5 March 1967 while on an escort mission on Highway 4 SFC Noland observed an APC being taken under fire with both automatic weapons and recoilless rifle fire, and the crew of the vehicle was pinned down along side the road. Without hesitation, SFC Noland maneuvered his track and one other APC into the enemy fire and commenced returning fire with all weapons. SFC Noland, then dismounted from his track, moved through the intense enemy fire, and joined the crew from the disabled vehicle. Upon reaching the men he observed two seriously wounded men. With the help of the crew he moved the wounded to the safety of his track and then called for a Dustoff. During this entire period of time SFC Noland constantly exposed himself to the enemy fire, but with total disregard for his own safety he continued to direct the fires of both his tracks. Once the wounded were inside his APC SFC Noland and his other track advanced into the woodline and completely neutralized the enemy fire.

award of the Army Commendation Medal for meritorious service in connection with operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam.

KULPELIER, HENRY RA12568370 SSCE6
6 May 1967

RABTON, WALLACE O. RA53205732 SF5E5
31 May 1967 to 15 June 1967

SMALLS, RONALD K. RA14829934 SF5E5
6 May 1967 to 18 May 1967

ARNOLD, DANIEL J. US51875031 EFCE3
12 June 1967

MACKEY, ROBERT D. 05706608 GPT Armor
17 May 1967 to 20 November 1967

MATTIOLI, CLARENCE L. PA54208466 SF5E5
5 November 1967 to 20 November 1967

RICEFIELD, WAYNE L. US53414555 PVTE2
25 May 1967 to 7 November 1967

SALINAS, ALBERTO R. US54373882 SP4E4
27 April 1966 to 14 September 1967

PAIER, HENRY S. RA19819068 SSCE6
23 May 1965 to 16 September 1967

DALLEN, CONRAD J. RA1775153 SP5E5
8 July 1966 to 25 December 1967

MENCHACA, JUAN A. RA18585717 SGTE5
12 May 1966 to 25 December 1967

BEEVES, ROBERT E. RA53387035 SGTE5
13 February 1967 to 30 November 1967

FUCH, JOE N. RA14807170 SF5E5
1 January 1967 to 1 December 1967

LOVETT, WILLIAM D. RA18710930 SGTE5
15 February 1967 to 13 February 1968

GASCA, FRANK A. RA28044526 SGTE5
15 March 1967 to 13 March 1968

Award of the Purple Heart

FRESEY, THOMAS R RA16921991 SSGE6
Date of Action: 17 May 1967

Award of the Air Medal

MACKEY, ROBERT D 05706608 CPT Armor
21 May 1967 to 30 June 1967

Award of the Air Medal (First Oak Leaf Cluster)

MACKEY, ROBERT D 05706608 CPT Armor
1 July 1967 to 11 November 1967