

A military helicopter is shown in flight, hovering over a construction site. The helicopter is olive green and has its landing gear down. It is connected to a large, dark-colored structure on the ground by several thick cables. Three workers in dark uniforms and red caps are standing on the structure, managing the cables. The ground is a mix of dirt and green vegetation. In the background, there are some bare trees and a clear sky. The overall scene depicts a military engineering or construction operation.

**Rendezvous**

**With**

**Destiny**

101st AIRBORNE DIVISION (AIRMOBILE)





# FLEXIBILITY AND TRADITION



HEADQUARTERS 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION (AIRMOBILE)  
Office of the Commanding General  
APO 96383

Taking command of the 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) on 1 February 1971 was, for me, a personal rendezvous with destiny. Since that time, I have seen the Screaming Eagles in action - in the jungles and air and assisting the people of northern Military Region I - and can testify that the outstanding reputation enjoyed by the 101st is completely justified. I am justifiably proud of your accomplishments and each of you can, in turn, take pride in your contribution to the effort the division is making towards bringing stability to the people and the government, and peace to this Republic.

During the past few months, Screaming Eagles have been faced with new challenges on new battlefields and accounted for themselves admirably. Beginning in late January of this year the 101st participated in Operation Dewey Canyon II, the US drive to reopen Khe Sanh as a staging and resupply area for the thrust into Laos by the Army of the Republic of Vietnam that followed shortly thereafter. That operation, called Lam Son 719, commenced in early February. Our airlift, gunship and aerial rocket artillery support was of vital importance to the ARVN operation, and the redeployment of Screaming Eagle elements to cover all of northern Military Region I released additional South Vietnamese forces to help stop the flow of enemy supplies and to destroy enemy caches across the Laotian border.

It is evident that the nature of the war and the mission of the 101st will continue to change. In the coming days we will be called upon to demonstrate our flexibility and the "All the Way" spirit in getting the job done, which has been a trademark of the Screaming Eagles for over 28 years.

Conducting combat operations to insure the security of the South Vietnamese people as well as our own forces will continue to be our primary mission in the foreseeable future. This will place continual demands on each of us to meet the challenge to our professionalism and also to our dedication. Some of the objectives will be difficult to attain. But the 101st has never failed to meet its commitments.

I commend you for your magnificent service and I urge you to devote your energies and abilities to the battles ahead.

*Thomas M. Tarpley*  
THOMAS M. TARPLEY  
Major General, USA  
Commanding



# Rendezvous With Destiny

WINTER/SPRING 1971

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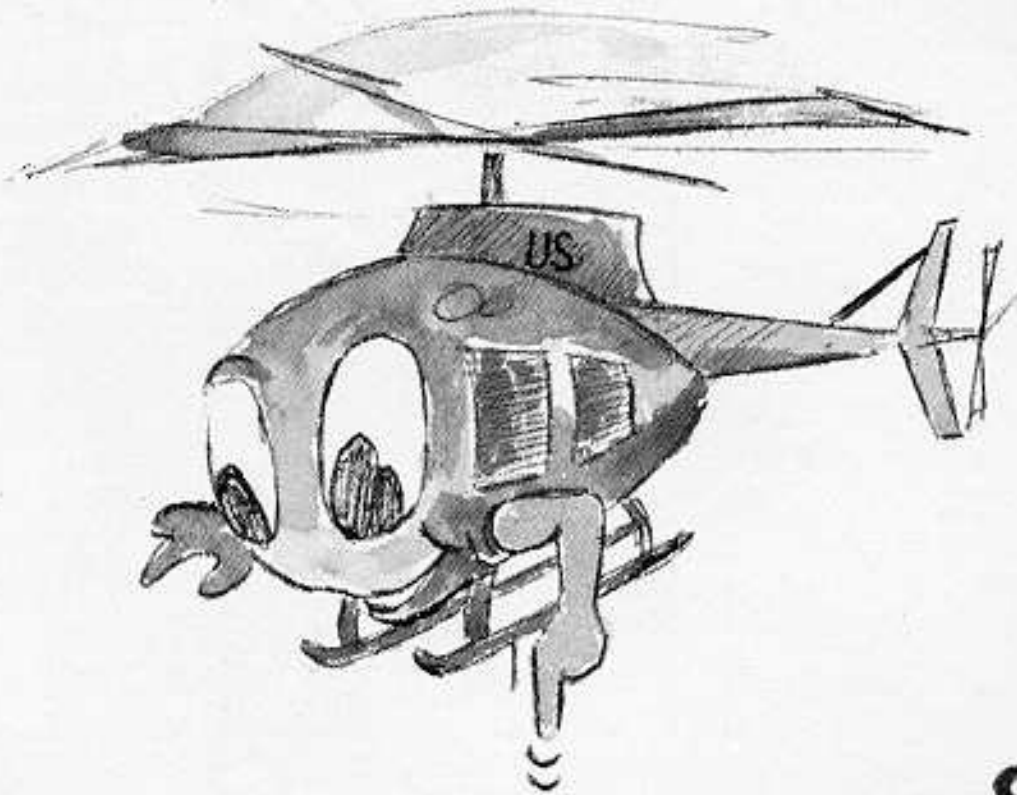
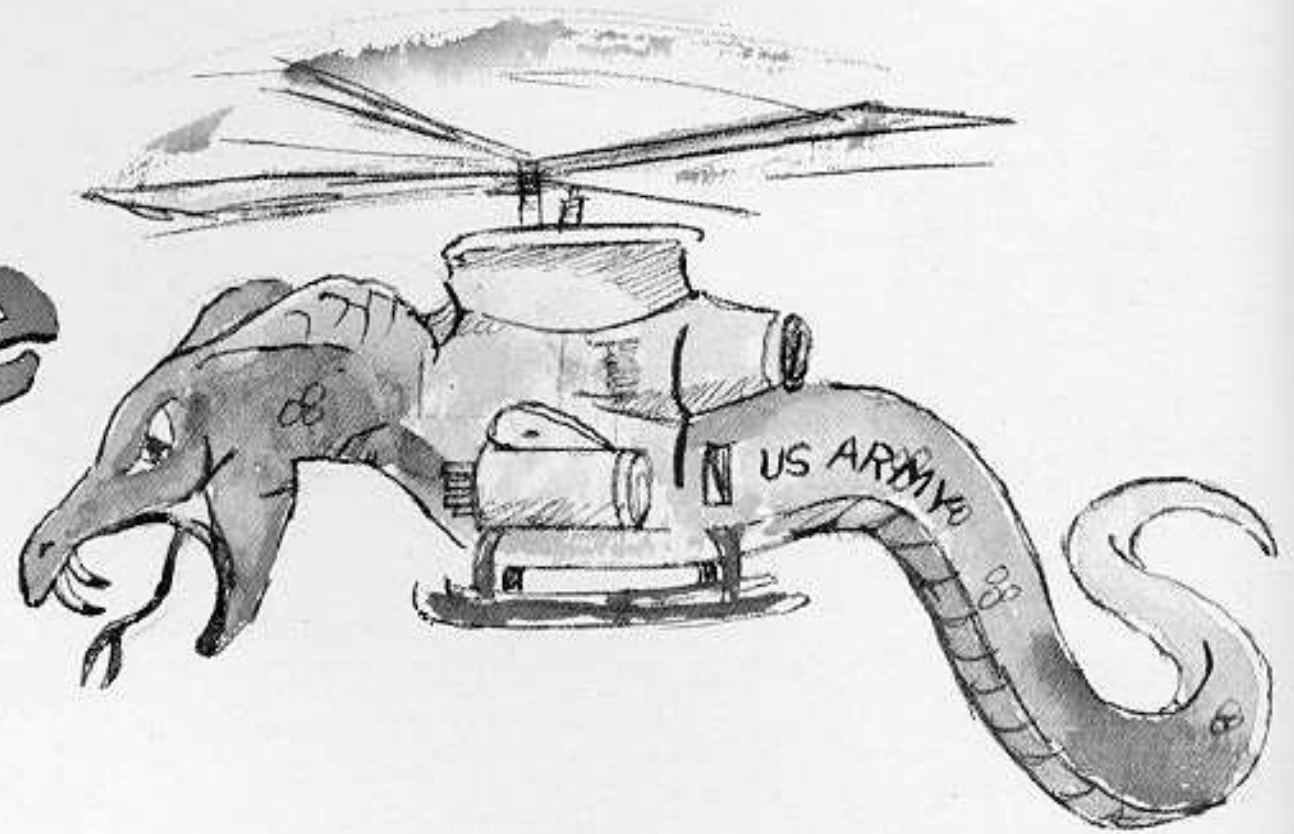
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# the Tadpole and Snake the



story by  
Sp4  
John Del Vecchio





The tadpole and the snake are a team—a team that the enemy dreads and fears, and a team that brings an expression of joy to friendly forces in need of some additional firepower. In military jargon, tadpoles and snakes are “officially” called pink teams, but don’t let the softness of the pastel fool you.

A pink team is made up of several helicopters, each serving a distinctly different, interdependent role. The role each “bird” plays is dependent on the mission. Pink teams are used in aerial reconnaissance and in close-in fire support for the ground troops.

During armed aerial reconnaissance missions, sometimes right down at tree top level, hover light observation helicopters (LOH) which are designated the OH-6. The LOH or white bird is a small helicopter which looks and maneuvers like a tadpole, darting left, quickly up then down, swish right then stationary again. The little bird holds an observer and a pilot. They are always looking, searching the jungle and valleys for signs of the enemy.

Protecting the LOHs are the red birds, the AH-1 Cobras, the hell-bringers. The Cobra is a gunship. It is armed with 2.75 inch rockets, 40mm grenades and miniguns that are capable of lashing out



*There once was a snake who daily made his way...*



*...with his friend the tadpole in search of their prey.*

with a continuous stream of lead. The “snake” dives in delivering a stinging bite to enemy bunker complexes, caches, bridges and troop concentrations. The sleek Cobras with their fierce firepower capabilities orbit near observation ships. When an LOH pilot or observer spots something he calls in a gunship to engage the target with fire.

Nearby the LOHs and the offensive gun platforms circle slick chase birds, UH-1 Hueys. The “slick” is a trouble shooter. Never do the eyes of the men in a chase bird let the little birds out of sight. If something should happen, a chase bird can swoop down, pick up downed pilots and be airborne again within seconds.

The job of the little birds while on reconnaissance is close-in observation. In the 2nd Squadron (Airmobile), 17th Cavalry, the scouts in the observation helicopters are known as the “Eyes with Teeth.”





*Together to the jungle they would go,*



*The Snake up high and the Tadpole down low.*

"I've got two more bunkers five by five," reports an aerial scout to a Cobra. "Oh, I've got another 8 by 10 and about 6 deep. Activity within 24 to 48. I've got a hut down there too," the scout adds. The scout drops a marking grenade on the spot and pulls out of the way.

Then the Cobras roll in to destroy the enemy positions with rockets, cannon and miniguns. A large cloud of smoke rises above the once-tranquil enemy location.

Again the LOH takes a look. "You got it. Not much left. Nice job."

Another mission of the pink team is to provide quick aerial fire support for ground troops in contact with the enemy. The mountainous terrain and the vast triple-canopy jungle of the 101st area of operations can cause problems for conventional fire support. Field artillery may find it impossible to hit targets on the reverse slopes of mountains or in valleys between mountains.

Cobra pilots have direct visual contact with the target and the ordnance carried





*And when the Tadpole's eyes the enemy did spy;  
Fangs ready, his partner would fly on by,*

is of the direct fire type. Rugged land features do not interfere. The pilot can see both enemy and friendly forces. On dives earthward, a Cobra gunner can fire a series of rockets in pairs to land just above the friendlies--right on the enemy concentration. He can then pelt the enemy locations with 40mm grenades.

The music box (minigun) on an LOH can also spray lead on enemy positions as the bird darts back and forth over the engaged forces. The white bird performs reconnaissance observation for his partners and ground forces.

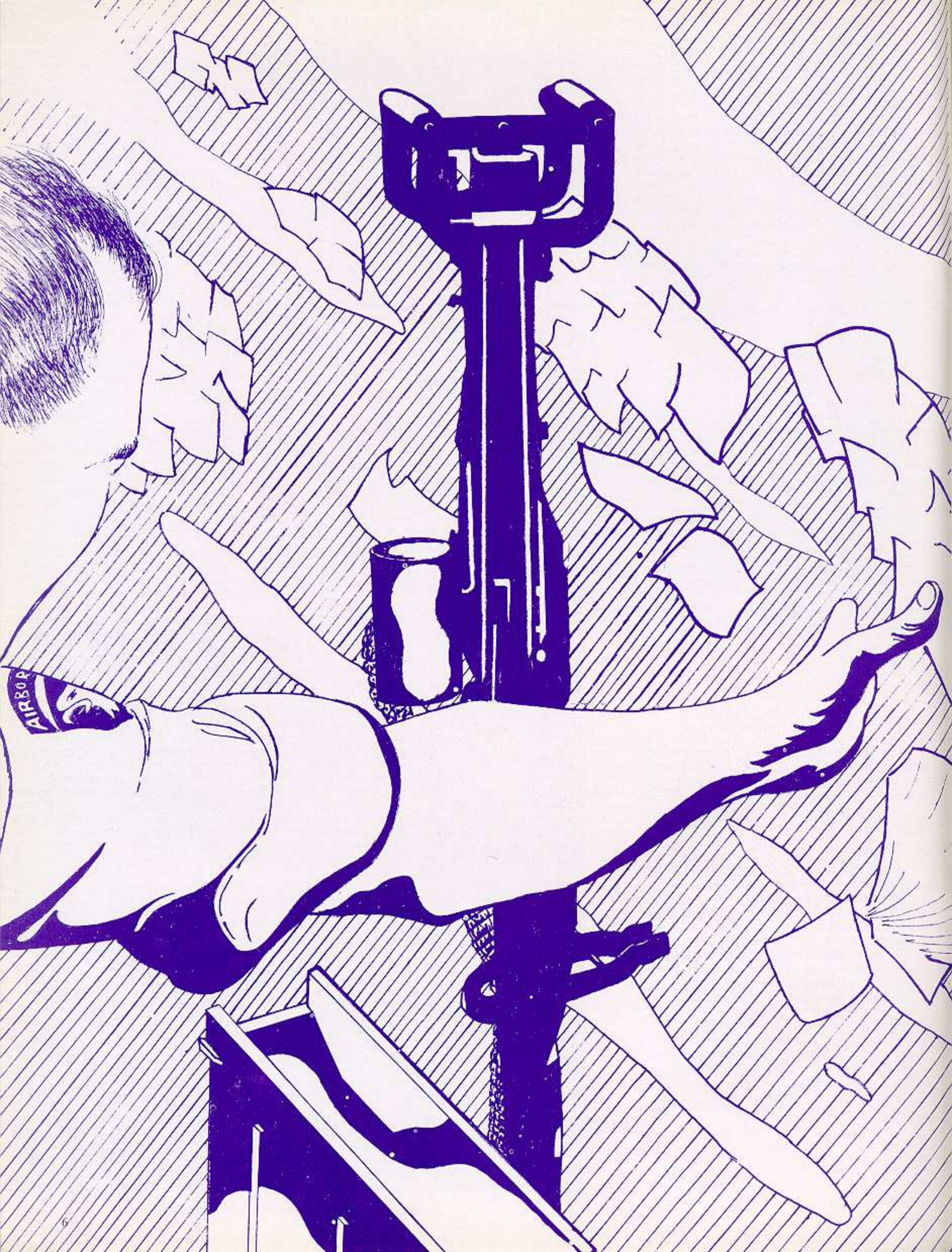
Pink teams also play a major role in protecting troops being inserted onto landing zones (LZ) or rappelling into jungle thickets. The Cobras and LOHs can provide instant suppressive fire if the troopers on the LZ come under fire.

They look like tadpoles and snakes. And though most troops call them pink teams, to the enemy they are "Red Hot."



*Spitting his deadly venom from the sky.*









*Captain Theodore Ning (right), Dayton, Ohio, 326th Engineer Battalion surgeon, talks with two Vietnamese monks about the progress of the Thien An Monastery's new dispensary. The Screaming Eagles of the 326th helped the Catholic monks with technical advice and supplies for their dispensary project.*

**CA+PSYOPS =**

# **PROGRESS FOR PEACE**

As the combat units of the 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) physically seek out and destroy the enemy, civil affairs personnel seek to help the South Vietnamese rebuild the homes and industry destroyed by communist terrorists, and psychological operations (PSYOPS) personnel travel the countryside telling the people about both the Government of Vietnam (GVN) and the enemy. From division to battalion level both civil affairs and PSYOPS personnel are making a concerted effort to help the GVN gain the support of the people.

Unlike previous years, which were characterized by violence and terror, the populated lowlands of Thua Thien Province are considered relatively secure. Military operations are directed primarily toward the uninhabited jungle canopy region and provide a security shield for the pacification and development program in the lowlands. Consequently,

the requirement for US civil/military operations in the populated areas has been reduced.

The mission of security in the lowlands has been placed in the hands of the Popular and Regional Forces under the direction of the Province Chief. Civil/military operations now supplement GVN forces and are usually conducted with psychological operations to counter suspected enemy influence in a given area. The success of civil/military operations continues to improve the security of the lowlands by promoting the reduction of such operational requirements.

The people of the Republic of Vietnam are assuming a greater role in the rebuilding of their nation as each day passes. With the help of the GVN and the country's armed forces, the people are finding new ways of helping each other to help themselves.

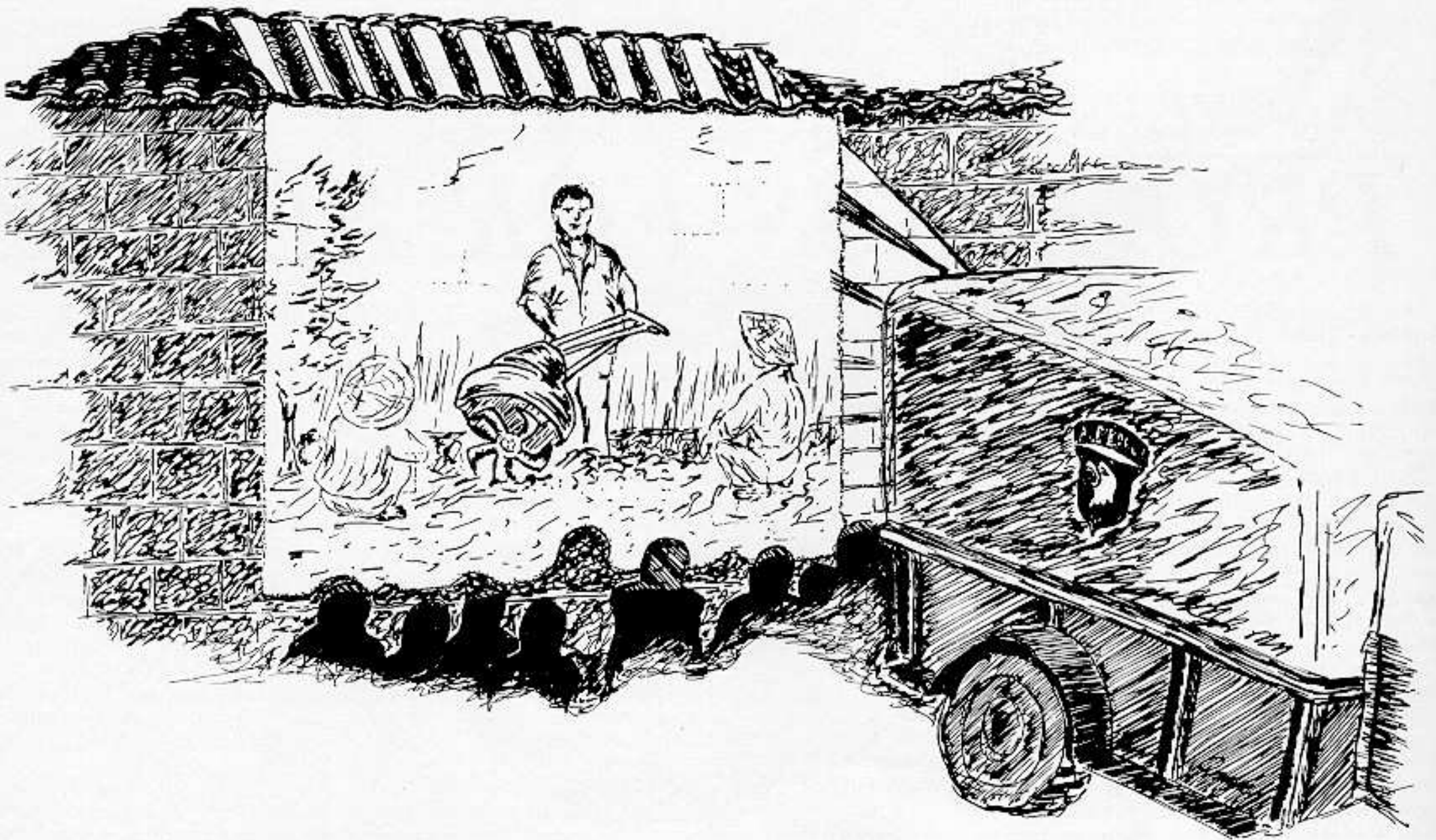
Projects are initiated at the

hamlet/village level and processed through the district to the province officials where they are screened and consolidated. After all GVN channels have been exhausted, assistance is requested from the 101st. Materials, if available, are provided and technical advice is given to supplement the GVN resources. All labor is provided by the South Vietnamese people.

During the past year, over 300 civic action projects were completed with the assistance of the Screaming Eagles. The projects covered a wide spectrum--schools, markets, dispensaries, wells, police headquarters, and village/hamlet headquarters. Participation by the people has been instrumental in the successful completion of the projects.

An integral part of Vietnamization is the Medical Civic Assistance Program (MEDCAP). The primary objective of the program is that of instructional and







technical advice directed toward training the South Vietnamese healthworkers to be self-sufficient and better prepared to meet the local health requirements in their respective areas. During the past year, over 59,000 persons were treated during more than 1,000 MEDCAPs. Significant results have been achieved utilizing MEDCAPs as teaching vehicles. South Vietnamese healthworkers are now executing the majority of duties and performing their own MEDCAPs with Screaming Eagle personnel assuming the role of technical advisors.

However, civic action has not been limited to upgrading the standards of living. The division has taken preventive measures to react against natural disasters and emergencies with the establishment of a Disaster Coordination Center (DCC). The DCC acts as a nerve center and coordinates available 101st resources to assist the local government in saving the lives and property of people threatened. Once the DCC is activated, assistance is provided upon request from

GVN officials. The division activated its DCC on four occasions within the past year, during which aircraft and boats evacuated thousands of civilians and delivered more than 150 tons of medical supplies to the disaster victims. These operations have been instrumental in not only saving lives but also in demonstrating the close relationships that have developed between US and GVN officials and the effectiveness of that relationship in supporting the local population.

Another main function of the G-5 is psychological operations. This includes the use of aerial broadcasts and leaflet drops directed at both the civilian populace and the enemy. Some messages offer a better life to North Vietnamese Army (NVA) soldiers and Viet Cong who rally to the government under the Chieu Hoi program, while others are directed at building the Vietnamese confidence in their government and armed forces. Leaflets, handbills, posters and broadcasts are designed to help uproot the Viet Cong

either by taking away his will to fight or by making him the target of local criticism.

Pacification's aim is to help the people stand together as a nation, united against a common communist enemy. Progress is often not obvious. However, the number of Hoi Chanh (enemy soldiers who have rallied to the Government of Vietnam) over the past year—about 60 in Thua Thien Province—is tangible evidence that the VC and NVA are getting the word.

All the ralliers are screened at the Chieu Hoi center in Hue before their futures are decided. Former communist soldiers who spent time as infantrymen may volunteer and be chosen as Luc Luong 66 Scouts and become an integral part of the American effort. Others may work in the PSYOPS program itself by making live broadcasts telling their former comrades "exactly like it is."

Community relations has been instrumental in winning the hearts and minds of the people and has significantly contributed to the success now being

*Above left: The division's band brings music to the ears and laughter to the hearts of these children during a concert visit to a Hue orphanage.*

*Right: MEDCAPs are now conducted with the goal of training South Vietnamese healthworkers to function independently of US help.*

*Left: PSYOPS personnel travel throughout the province making aerial leaflet drops, showing movies and broadcasting important messages designed to inform the people about the workings of the GVN and/or encouraging the enemy soldiers to rally to the Government of Vietnam.*







*During the November 1970 floods Screaming Eagle aviators and crews evacuated thousands of refugees and distributed tons of food and medical supplies, flying in extremely adverse weather conditions.*



*Screaming Eagles from all division units participate in many activities to further enhance US-South Vietnamese relations.*

enjoyed in what can be considered a relatively pacified province. Much of this success can be attributed to the recognition of history, culture and tradition between our soldiers and the South Vietnamese people. Noteworthy community relations projects include donor deposit funds established by the division in support of the Mid-Autumn Festival and Tet. Screaming Eagles donated over \$7,400 in support of the local populace during these two important holidays.

It is not unusual to find the division band presenting concerts in the city of Hue. Members also provide musical instruction on a weekly basis at Hue University and have recently begun classes on the maintenance and upkeep of the various instruments. During their off-duty hours, division personnel voluntarily teach weekly classes in English in conjunction with the Hue Cultural Center.

The South Vietnamese have reciprocated by presenting gifts and well wishes to our soldiers during the Christmas period, and a traditional South Vietnamese variety show was presented by the Hue Cultural Center on all the major division basecamps as a gesture of good will.

The G-5 activities are as large as the entire division area of operations (AO) and as important as the well-being and welfare of each individual, civilian and military, in the AO. The progress made in civil affairs programs and psychological operations indicates, once again, that the Screaming Eagles are able to complete any job, anywhere, anytime.





**MEN**

**FOR**

**ALL**

**MEN**

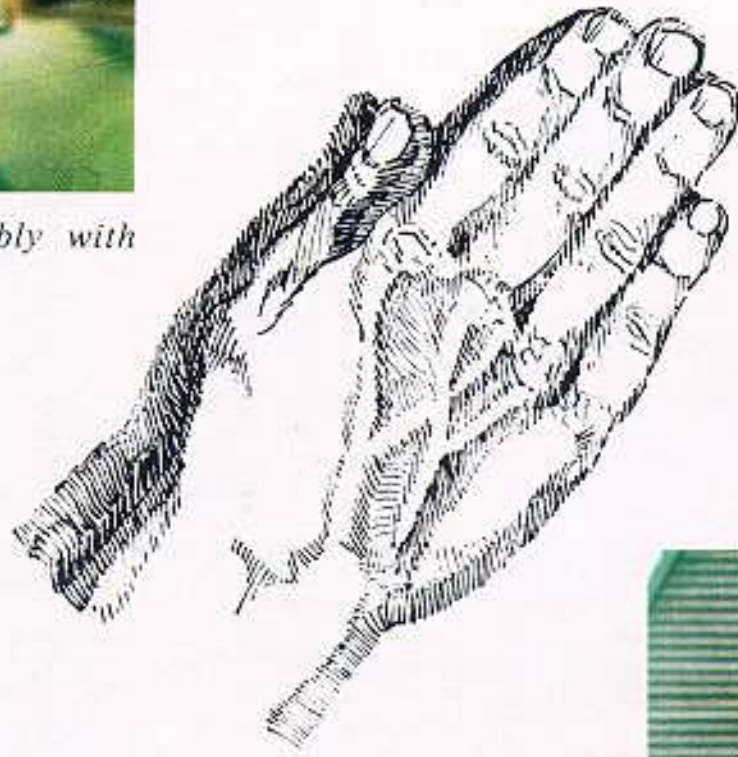






"And they continued steadfastly in...fellowship." Acts 2:42

"...do justice...love kindness...walk humbly with your God..." Micah 6:8



"This is my body which is for you." I Corinthians 11:24

"...you are all brothers..." Matthew 23:8





*"For God so loved the world that he gave..."* John 3:16



*"Let the little children come unto me...  
to such belongs the kingdom of God."* Mark 10:14



*"Man shall not live by bread alone but by every word...of  
God"* Matthew 4:4





*"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God...be with you..."*

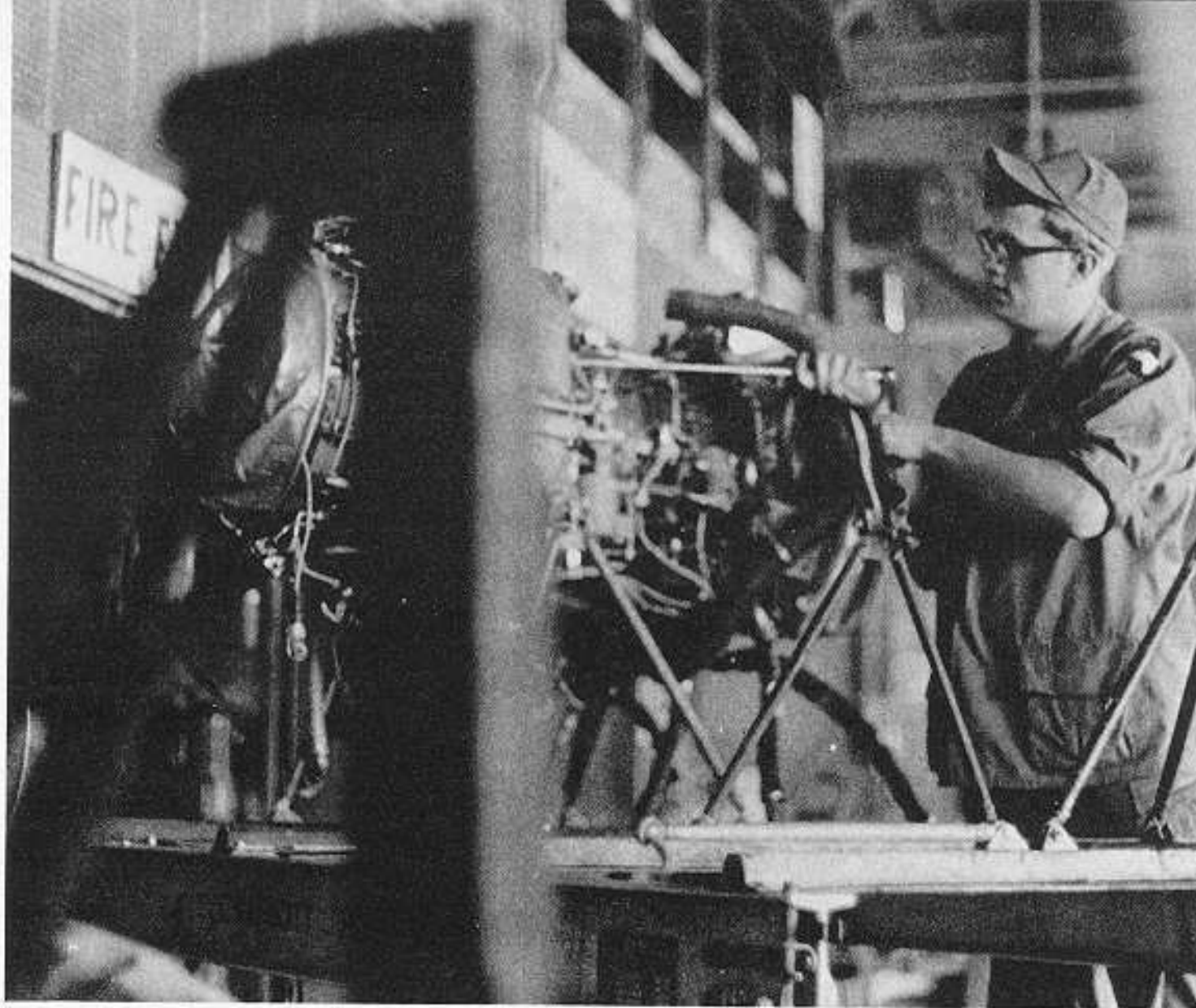
*II Corinthians 13:14*



*"Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."*

*Matthew 11:28*





*5th Trans Bn...some of the Army's most skilled aircraft technicians.*

# *SUPPORT IS STRENGTH*

"Support is Strength" is the motto of the 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) Support Command (DISCOM). A record of timely and dependable service to troops throughout the division area of operations (AO) distinguishes the work of the four DISCOM battalions.

No division functions efficiently without a responsive supply unit. DISCOM's 426th Supply and Service Battalion (Airmobile) operates four stockyards at the battalion's Camp Eagle headquarters, where everything from milk and turkey dinners for the mess halls, to nails and 12" x 12" logs for bunker construction are stored for distribution

throughout the 101st.

Maintaining division ammunition supply and refueling points are additional tasks for the three companies of the battalion. When Operation Dewey Canyon II kicked off in January, massive amounts of men and machinery were transported to the Khe Sanh area. The 426th played a vital role in the initial operation by running the rearm and refuel points in northern Military Region 1, and later the rearm/refuel points for the 101st aviation units supporting Operation Lam Son 719, the Republic of Vietnam's Armed Forces (RVNAF) drive into Laos.





*426th S&S Bn...computerized files on handling and distribution of everything from milk to nails.*

Aircraft maintenance and supply is the specialty of the 5th Transportation Battalion, where some of the Army's most skilled technicians are assigned. The strength of the 101st lies in its airmobility and it's the job of the 5th Trans to keep the division flying. Whether it be replacing a spark plug in an AH-1 Cobra gunship or a complete engine overhaul for a CH-47 Chinook, the men of the battalion work long hours servicing and repairing the helicopters of the division.

Whether a 101st trooper needs a tooth pulled or other minor surgery, he can go to the 326th Medical Battalion. For men in the field, the 326th comes to them. Three companies serve each of the three 101st infantry brigades providing dispensary services and clinical testing.

When a man in the field requires more assistance than the field medic can provide, the Air Ambulance Platoon of the 326th is called. Performing the fifth life-saving step, medical evacuation, the platoon is on 24-hour call. In less than 30 minutes, the men of the platoon can have an injured Screaming Eagle on his way to a hospital from anywhere in the division area of operation. In each medical evacuation helicopter (Medevac) there is a qualified medic who has spent at least six

*326th Med Bn...Medevac when needed, 24 hours a day.*





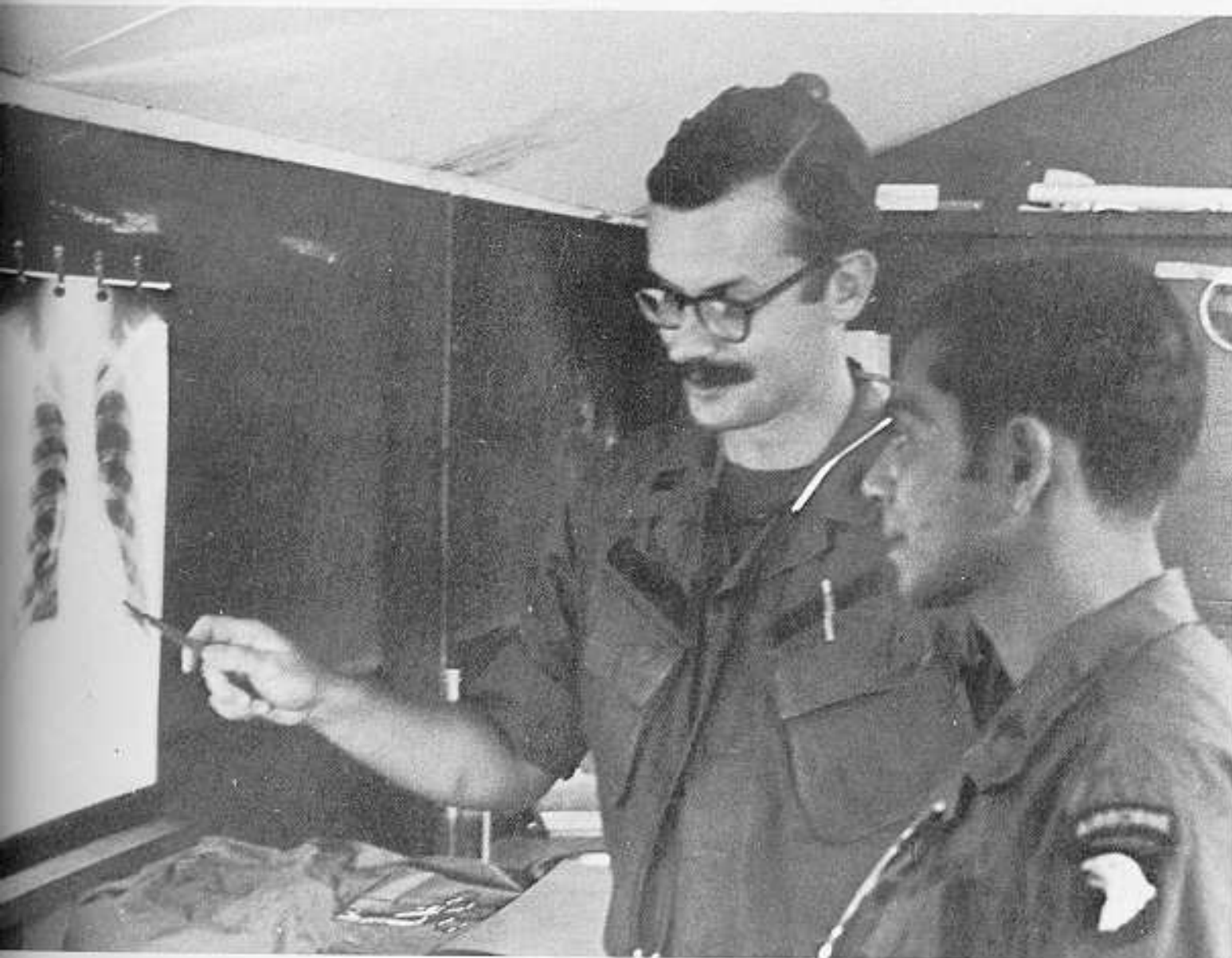
months in the field with a line company. Through the use of the knowledge they have gained in the field, these medics are able to make a quick estimation of the situation and radio ahead to the hospital. By knowing what type of casualty is being brought in, doctors are ready and waiting with the proper equipment when the chopper arrives.

The Screaming Eagles who fly the "Dustoff" ships are pilots of another breed. Before they ever fly a "Medevac" mission in Vietnam, they attend a school in the United States on the techniques of medical evacuation by helicopter. Once in the Republic of Vietnam, very little will ever keep them from getting through to rescue an injured trooper.

The workshops of the 801st Maintenance Battalion are stocked with mechanical, armor and electronic parts to meet the 801st's responsibility of insuring that all items of equipment used by the division are working. Companies of the 801st, working out of Camp Eagle, Phu Bai and Camp Evans, regularly visit the field and firebases, repairing equipment on the spot and transporting the bigger jobs to their brigade-located facilities. Although the 801st is probably thought of in terms of the major repairs it performs on trucks, jeeps and radar sets,



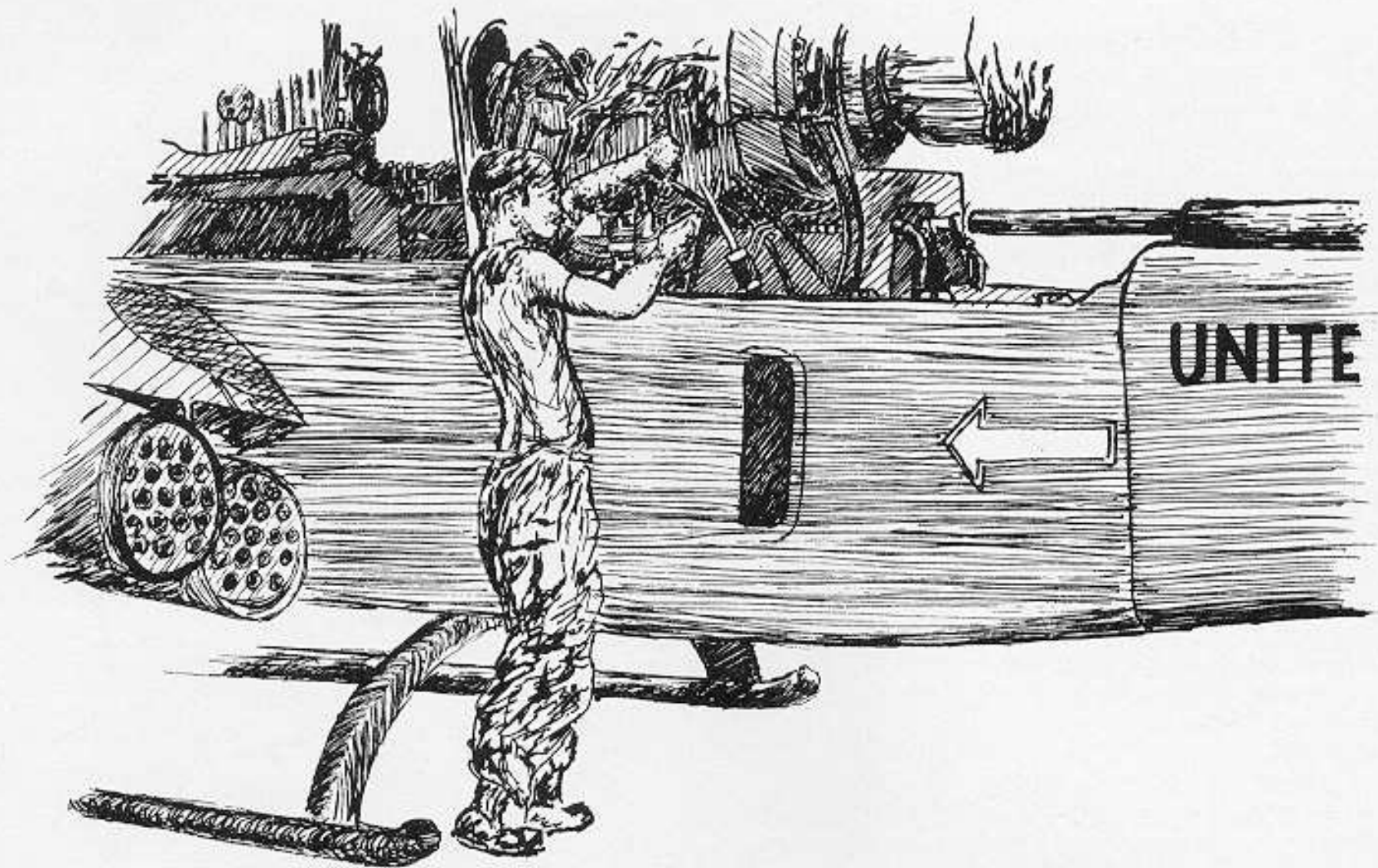
*801st Maint Bn...perfect repairs are ground out daily.*



*326th Med Bn...preventive maintenance on the body.*







*5th Trans Bn...keeps the 101st airmobile.*

the division would have a difficult time functioning properly without the everyday minor maintenance these Screaming Eagles pull on such items as typewriters, cameras, and lenses.

DISCOM would not be complete without mention of the 101st Administration Company, which handles an astronomical amount of paper work in the numerous sections that fall under the control of the division's adjutant general. These include the various personnel branches, awards branch, casualty branch, postal branch, and the administrative machine branch (computers). In addition, all the special staff sections of the division headquarters, such as Finance, the Inspector General, Chaplain and the Staff Judge Advocate, are also part of the 101st Admin Company.

The 101st is a strong, fighting division and owes much of the life-line of its strength to the supplies and services of its Support Command. For, it is DISCOM's men who keep the Eagle nourished, healthy and armed for fighting, and airworthy for flying.



*801st Maint Bn...fixes everything that doesn't fly.*





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## BOB HOPE CHRISTMAS SHOW 1970

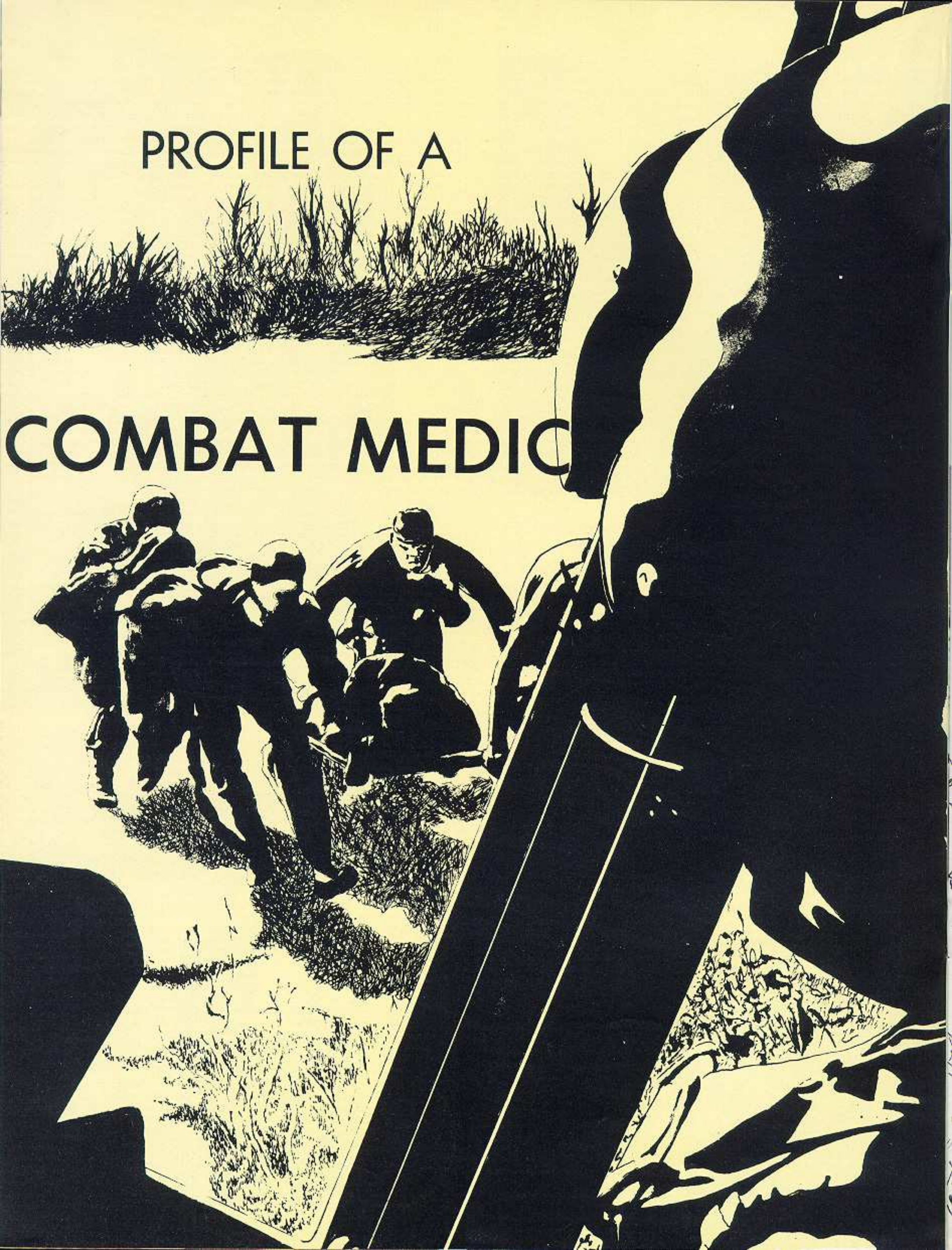
Bob Hope celebrated an early Christmas with the Screaming Eagles of the 101st on December 22, 1970. More than 19,000 troopers, representing commands throughout northern Military Region I, jammed into Eagle Entertainment Bowl at Camp Eagle, headquarters of the famed Screaming Eagles, to get their "Christmas Hope". Along with Bob Hope on the tour were Cincinnati Red's catcher Johnny Bench; singers Lola Falana, Bobbi Martin and Gloria Loring; the Ding-A-Lings; the Goldiggers of 1971; Miss World -- Jennifer Josephine Hosten and Les Brown and his Band of Renown.





PROFILE OF A

COMBAT MEDIC





The sharp crack of an enemy rifle and the groan of a wounded Screaming Eagle break the jungle's silence. In one simultaneous movement everyone in the platoon hits the dirt to look for the enemy. All remain motionless except for one man. He crawls through the low vines and shrubbery to the wounded trooper.

While the two forces exchange fire, the medic quickly throws off his rucksack and begins treating the bullet wound in the trooper's lower leg. After cutting away the man's pant leg up to his knee, the medic reaches into his aid bag and pulls out a pressure bandage, places it on the wound and winds and ties the two straps around the man's leg.

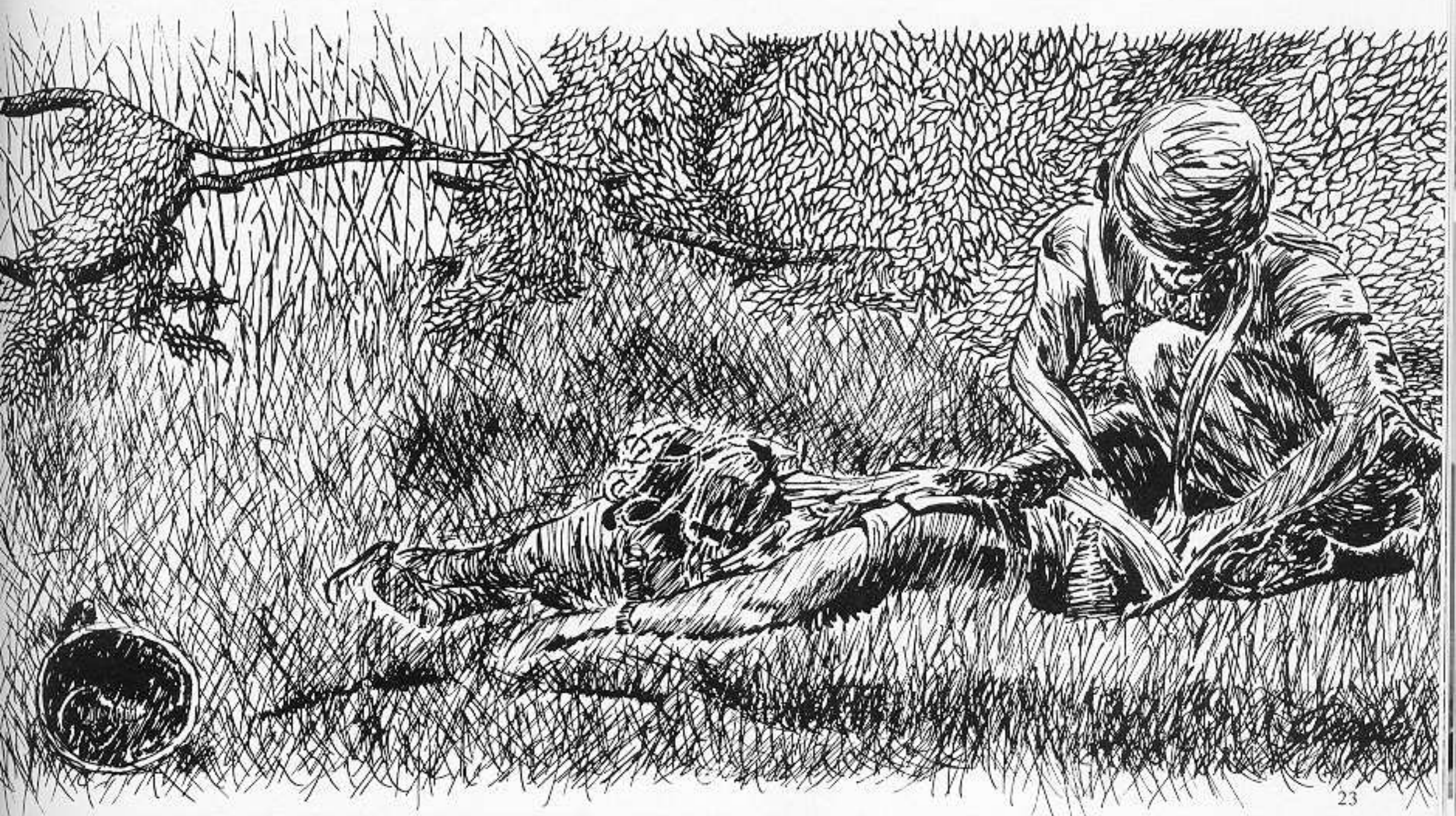
He reaches into his green bag a second time, pulling out an intravenous set and a pint bottle of clear saline solution. Ripping apart the sterile plastic bag that houses the set, he takes out the needle and tube, connects the tube to the bottle of solution, then to the needle. After rolling up the wounded man's sleeve, a tourniquet is placed around his upper arm. Then the medic inserts the needle into the soldier's forearm. The bottle of vital, blood-replacing liquid will flow into the man's veins for 25 minutes, enough time to sustain the soldier until a "Medevac" helicopter flies in to take him to the hospital.

With three pieces of equipment — pressure dressings, a bottle of saline solution, and an intravenous set — Screaming Eagle medics have saved the lives of countless comrades. That's their job — "to conserve the fighting strength".

There is one combat medic in every



*Malaria pills to help protect against the disease and cold tablets, especially helpful during the monsoon rains, are part of the medics "stay well" bag.*







*A medic inserts the needle from a bottle of life preserving saline solution into a wounded soldier's arm.*



*Morning sick call in the field means anything from checking a minor infection to dispensing some friendly advice.*

infantry platoon. Almost without exception, the medic is called "Doc" by his friends, a title which he earns. He is the infantryman's family doctor, helping the sick and injured, soothing the distraught and befriending all.

A soldier can become a combat medic in two ways: either he volunteers, or he has an aptitude which makes it imperative that he be trained to become a medic.

The combat medic arrives in Vietnam after 10 weeks of training at Ft. Sam Houston, Tex. Half of his training is devoted to hospital work. The other half is spent on tourniquets, intravenous injections, pressure dressings and splints. A large amount of his time is spent practicing the life-saving steps on another trainee. The last week is spent on a field training exercise, climaxed by a life-saving trek. The class is divided into four-man litter teams which have to carry a wounded man one quarter mile in the dark through thick foliage, barbed wire, and streams, keeping the patient protected at all times.

"You don't have much need for a litter team in the 101st with the Medevac helicopters," said one medic, "but the exercise enforces the importance of doing your job in spite of all obstacles."

"You get a short familiarization course in medications and minor ailments," said another medic, "but when you get to Vietnam, you have to become skillful at treating the ailments peculiar to this country. You have to learn which medication works best on a particular fungus on a particular man. Some men will even tell you what medication to use



because it has worked for them in the past. You also pick up other bits of experience from other medics who have been in the field for awhile.

A green, zippered aid bag, one-and-a-half feet long by a foot wide by six inches deep, strapped to the medic's rucksack contains everything he needs to treat anything from a combat casualty to an infected boil. Fully-loaded the aid bag weighs 25-30 pounds, and not an ounce is wasted. The medic has to work with what he carries on his back. And to be sure he has all he can carry, he uses his rucksack to hold extra bottles of saline or dextran solution, giving up space that would normally be used for some of his personal items. Strapped to his rucksack he also carries extra canteens of water for heat casualties in the summer and for fever or chills during the winter monsoon.

A normal day for a combat medic begins at dawn with sick call. Several troops gather around his rucksack. The "Doc" quickly washes the dirt from a cut on the first man's arm with hydrogen peroxide, dries it with gauze, and bandages it.

"Let me dress it again tonight," he tells the man as he leaves, then turns to the next patient.

"How's the hand?"

"Still swollen."



*Medics "do their thing" where they are needed the most—with the infantry in the jungle.*



The medic pulls out his scissors and cuts the wrapped gauze from the soldier's hand, swollen from a bacterial infection.

"Have you been taking the penicillin pills every six hours?"

"Yes."

"Okay. I'll dress it again today. If it doesn't get better by tomorrow we'll get you to the aid station and get it cleaned up."

Five or six patients later sick call ends and "Doc" makes his rounds, passing out the daily malaria pills. Then the platoon "rucks up" to move out on patrol.

He stays with the patrol wherever it goes; walking, slipping, and sweating along with every other member of the unit. As they move, he is as alert for danger as the rest but, at the same time, he is keenly aware that only he has the life-saving skills which may be needed at any moment. His only wish is that that time will never come.

Whatever the role — "Doc", friend or both — the medic serves with a sense of devotion and responsibility that marks him as a "man with a mission". Often that mission involves a life or death battle; usually the medic and life win.







*eagle* *b*  
*beach*







Eagle Beach celebrated its second anniversary May 1, 1971. Here, six miles from Hue, the weary trooper can trade the burdens of his physically and mentally demanding job for the cool tropical waters and white sandy beach of the South China Sea. Complete recreational facilities include miniature golf, movies, USO shows, a massage parlor, pool tables and basketball courts. He can also relax in the comfort of modern clubs and enjoy his choice of refreshments.

Since its opening over two years ago, thousands of Screaming Eagles have used the facilities, and in the days ahead that number will increase. Eagle Beach will continue to grow and improve also and continue to provide only the best for the best--the 101st trooper.





*DEWEY CANYON II/LAM SON 719*





A page from the past was rewritten in bolder script as the breaking of the winter monsoon saw the Screaming Eagles participating in Operation Dewey Canyon II to reopen the battle-shrouded former Marine airstrip at Khe Sanh in the northwest section of Military Region 1.

The operation began on January 30 and included a combat assault (CA) into the Khe Sanh area by the 3rd Battalion (Airmobile), 187th Infantry, making the "Rakkasans" among the first Allied units in that area of western Quang Tri Province since before the monsoon rains of 1970.

The mission of the "Rakkasans" was to secure all the vital bridges in the vicinity of Firebase Shepherd, four miles southeast of Khe Sanh on Highway 9. Within an hour after the CA, all objectives, including the securing of Firebase Shepherd and the surrounding hilltops and ridges, were accomplished.

Under the watchful eye of 3/187th troopers, engineers from the 326th Engineer Battalion (Airmobile) readied 12 miles of Highway 9 winding back to Khe Sanh for convoy traffic by minesweeping the road, making necessary repairs and constructing bridges.

For nearly two and one half years the airstrip had been a desolate tract of dust and aluminum plank dotted with numerous shell craters. These remnants of Khe Sanh's famous siege greeted the Screaming Eagle engineers who had been assigned the task of building another airstrip, capable of handling C-130 aircraft, adjacent to the existing aluminum mat field and minesweeping the area to render it safe for the arrival of men and supplies yet to come.

Though the giant repair job presented several major problems, the men of the 326th worked through the night using artillery illumination and torches made of 55-gallon drums cut in half and filled with fuel to get the job done in six days, with the first Air Force C-130 transport landing on the new strip on February 4.

The minesweep mission was hampered by the vast array of scrap metal and destroyed equipment which remained from the siege in 1968. Many times the engineers had to cut elephant grass by hand or by bulldozer before being able to cover the area with minesweeping equipment. However, the job was once again swiftly and thoroughly completed by the engineer battalion.

Now Khe Sanh was ready as a staging area for Operation Lam Son 719 -- the subsequent Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces (RVNAF) thrust into the southern panhandle of Laos to cut the communist supply and infiltration network along the

Ho Chi Minh Trail and destroy enemy caches in Laos.

Involving nearly 30,000 troops, the Allied operation was highlighted by the teamwork of South Vietnamese and American units operating with close coordination but with each force under its own command structure.

The 101st and the aviation units under its operational control were now given the mission of providing all helicopter air support for the RVNAF drive. In order to accomplish this monumental task, fuel was needed to run the equipment and aircraft and ammunition was needed by all units.

At Khe Sanh, Screaming Eagle Pathfinders and riggers from the 101st Aviation Group and Division Support Command (DISCOM) were among the first to touchdown amid the twisted sections of shrapnel-shredded runway. They immediately set up to direct incoming helicopters into the shell-pocked perimeter. Acting as air controllers, the Pathfinders guided in an average of 175 sorties per day during the first four days of the operation. The riggers directed delivery of blivots of fuel and water, Conex containers, vehicles, ammunition and other resupply items brought in by helicopter to support the

men of the 101st, and the 1st Brigade, 5th Infantry Division (Mechanized); 18th Engineer Brigade, 45th Engineer Group; and elements of the 23rd Infantry Division, operating at Khe Sanh.

Meanwhile, the men of DISCOM's 426th Supply and Service Battalion (Airmobile) were setting up and manning rear and refuel points to feed the hungry gas tanks and weapons systems of the Aviation Group's UH-1 Huey, CH-47 Chinook and CH-54 Skycrane helicopters; the Cobra gunships and light observation helicopters (LOH) of the 2nd Squadron (Airmobile), 17th Cavalry and the aerial rocket artillery (ARA) Cobras of the 4th Battalion (Airmobile), 77th ARA.

The men and supplies were now in position and Operation Lam Son 719 commenced on February 8.

With the 3/187th Infantry and elements of other non-divisional units providing security patrols in the areas surrounding Khe Sanh and west to the Laotian border, pilots from the Cav and ARA flew armed aerial reconnaissance and screening missions in support of the 101st Aviation Group's helicopters carrying ARVN troops, equipment and supplies into Laos.

In the ensuing days of early February, the North Vietnamese Army (NVA)



*Throughout the early days of Dewey Canyon II, "Skycranes" airlifted tons of equipment and supplies to Khe Sanh.*



began to feel the pressure of the ARVN ground forces in Laos. Destroying caches and inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy, the ARVN thrust deeper into Laos with the aid of US air support. A major portion of this support continued to be from the division's Aviation Group, with Huey slicks carrying fresh ARVN fighting units into enemy territory, and with Chinooks and Skyranes hauling artillery pieces, bulldozers and various supplies to the South Vietnamese forces on dozens of missions daily.

In retaliation, the NVA committed more troops to the battle, and the 4/77th ARA and 2/17th Cav continued to pound suspected enemy locations and cache sites.

With heavy contact taking place in Laos, more ARVN troops were needed there. To free these forces, additional 101st soldiers were committed to assume responsibility for some of the ARVN areas of operation in northern Military Region 1. As a result, the 2nd Battalion (Airmobile), 327th Infantry and the 2nd Battalion (Airmobile), 502nd Infantry, moved to begin operations in areas northeast and southwest of Khe Sanh, and the "Geronimo" troopers of the 1st Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, commenced operations from Strongpoint Alpha-2 in the northeast area of Military



*Aerial rocket artillery helicopters provided much of the close air support for ARVN troops operating in Laos.*

#### Region 1.

It was a short stay at Alpha-2 for the 1/501st as the battalion was replaced by elements of the 23rd Infantry Division and the "Geronimo" troopers moved to conduct operations east of Khe Sanh.

With the initial task of airlifting and supplying US forces into the Khe Sanh area completed, the following days saw combined US airmobility devoted to the

airlifting of additional South Vietnamese troops and equipment to strategic locations inside Laos.

These same days saw valor become almost commonplace among the gunship, ARA, Huey and medical evacuation pilots and crews of the division. Braving some of the war's most intense enemy fire, airmen often dared where others less courageous would not have dared.



*Working day and night, under illumination, engineers carved out a new airstrip at Khe Sanh in record time and made the area safe of old mines.*







*With the bustling activity of the newly reopened Khe Sanh combat base in the background, ARVN soldiers move out on a patrol of the surrounding area.*

During the first week in March the 101st's AO increased by a considerable size as the division assumed operational control (OPCON) of all American units operating in northern MR1. In addition, all of the Army utility and cargo helicopters flying in support of the RVNAF drive were placed under the operational control of the division's 101st Aviation Group.

The 3rd Brigade of the Screaming Eagles with its OPCON infantry battalions and supporting elements, including an armored task force, conducted offensive operations in roughly one-third of Quang Tri Province and denied the enemy access to the lowlands. The brigade also provided security for Highway 9 and Allied logistics bases in its AO.

The 11th Brigade, 23rd Infantry Division (Americal), conducted operations along the DMZ, from the coast to the 3rd Brigade's AO. The brigade also provided security for Allied logistics facilities in the Dong Ha area which were



vital to Operation Lam Son 719.

The 1st Brigade, 5th Infantry Division (Mechanized), with its organic combat units and one Screaming Eagle battalion, operated in western Quang Tri Province. The brigade's mission was to destroy NVA forces in the area, to provide security for Lang Vei, Khe Sanh and US artillery firebases along the Laotian border and to keep Highway 9 open to the border.

From the beginning of the operation until the RVNAF forces had withdrawn from Laos, the 101st Aviation Group's helicopters and those of the group's OPCON units transported over 20,000 tons of supplies and equipment, airlifted more than 22,000 RVNAF troops and flew more than 102,000 sorties.

History will record the 101st's part in the operation and battles as another Screaming Eagle "Rendezvous With Destiny."







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# Screaming Eagle Vietnam Diary



by Spec. 4 Thomas Rutledge

October 4 - "No Slack" troopers of Co. B, 2nd Bn. (Ambl.), 327th Inf., while on a search and clear operation near FB Arsenal, engaged an unknown size enemy force killing three enemy soldiers, capturing three AK-47 rifles, and a quantity of explosive charges.

October 5 - "Drive On" soldiers of Co. B, 2nd Bn. (Ambl.), 501st Inf., discovered an enemy cache in an old artillery crater south of FB Brick. Included in the cache were nine AK-47 rifles, 28 RPG rounds, 24 RPG booster charges, 1000 rounds of .30 caliber machine gun ammunition, 10 82mm mortar rounds, over 380 pull-type fuses for satchel charges, and an assortment of personal supplies.

In other action today, A Trp., 2nd Sqdn. (Ambl.), 17th Cav., killed six NVA soldiers and captured two 60mm mortar tubes in Quang Tri Province.

October 7 - Troopers of Co. E, 2nd Bn (Ambl.), 501st Inf., observed an enemy force southwest of FB Brick. The Screaming Eagles killed three enemy with small arms fire. Artillery fire called into the area killed an additional 11 enemy soldiers.

October 9 - B Trp., 2nd Sqdn. (Ambl.), 17th Cav., observed an enemy machine gun position while flying armed aerial reconnaissance missions in the

mountains west of FB Birmingham. The aircraft attacked the position, killing six NVA soldiers and destroying the 12.7mm machine gun.

October 15 - C Btry., 4th Bn. (Ambl.), 77th Aerial Rocket Artillery, flying in support of the 1st Inf. Regt. (ARVN), killed seven NVA soldiers in the mountainous jungles near FB O'Reilly. The "Griffins" were flying aerial reconnaissance of a suspected enemy supply trail.

October 22 - Helicopter gunships of C Trp., 2nd Sqdn. (Ambl.), 17th Cav., engaged an enemy force in the open terrain west of FB Birmingham killing 15 enemy soldiers.

November 1 - COL Donald Siebert, Hempstead, N.Y., assumed duties as chief of staff of the 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) in ceremonies at division headquarters.

In November, five days of torrential rains and high winds from Typhoon Joan caused extreme flooding in the lowlands of the Republic of Vietnam's two northern provinces. Flying continuous emergency evacuation and supply missions, helicopters of the 101st evacuated 6,800 refugees and distributed over 140 tons of food and supplies to the flood victims. In all, Screaming Eagle aviators flew 482 missions totaling more

than 215 hours in extremely adverse weather conditions.

November 12 - "Currahees" of Co. B, 1st Bn. (Ambl.), 506th Inf., discovered a bunker complex and arms cache northwest of FB Rakkasan. The Screaming Eagle troopers uncovered 825 pounds of TNT, 18 automatic rifles, eight telescopic sights, two .45 caliber pistols, two 9mm automatic pistols, 23 bolt action rifles, 41 CHICOM anti-personnel mines, 271 82mm mortar rounds, one 60mm mortar round, two 81mm mortar rounds, over 14,600 AK-47 rounds and a large quantity of fuses in the triple canopy mountains. The "Currahees" destroyed the bunker after evacuating the cache.

November 14 - Cobras from C Btry., 4th Bn. (Ambl.), 77th Aerial Rocket Artillery, engaged an enemy force travelling on a high-speed trail near the Laotian border with high explosive rockets and fleshette rounds killing 10 NVA soldiers. The "Griffins" were flying in support of the 1st Inf. Regt. (ARVN) near FB O'Reilly.

November 22 - The division's 3rd Brigade received the Valorous Unit Award in a ceremony at Camp Evans. LTG James W. Sutherland, XXIV Corps commander, presented the award to the "Triple Threat" brigade for extraordinary heroism in the A Shau Valley during combat operations in 1969.

December 8 - "Rakkasans" of Co. B, 3rd Bn. (Ambl.), 187th Inf., discovered five enemy bunkers while on a search and clear mission in the foothills northwest of FB Jack. The Screaming Eagles found seven submachine guns of unknown type and one RPG launcher inside the bunkers. The "Triple Threat" soldiers evacuated the weapons and destroyed the bunker site.

December 17 - Cobra gunships from C Trp., 2nd Sqdn. (Ambl.), 17th Cav., flying extensive aerial reconnaissance missions in the A Shau Valley engaged an enemy force with high-explosive rockets and minigun fire killing 16 NVA soldiers.

December 18 - Aircraft from the 2nd Sqdn. (Ambl.), 17th Cav., in separate encounters throughout northern MR 1, killed eight enemy soldiers and destroyed three 12.7mm machine guns.

December 19 - In continued extensive aerial reconnaissance throughout northern MR 1, Cobra gunships of the 2nd Sqdn. (Ambl.), 17th Cav., killed 21 NVA soldiers and destroyed two 12.7mm machine guns and two 60mm mortar tubes.





December 22 - More than 19,000 Screaming Eagles and personnel representing commands throughout northern MR 1 were treated to two hours and 15 minutes of laughter, song and beautiful women in the 20th Annual Bob Hope Christmas Show held at Camp Eagle. Featured in Hope's seventh consecutive Southeast Asian Christmas present were singer-dancer Lola Falana, country-western singer Bobbi Martin, Cincinnati Red's catcher Johnny Bench, the Goldiggers, Miss World - Jennifer Josephine Hosten, singer Gloria Loring, the Ding-A-Lings and Les Brown and his "Band of Renown."

January 13 - Cobra helicopters of the 2nd Sqdn. (Ambl.), 17th Cav., flying reconnaissance missions throughout the 101st AO and Quang Tri Province killed 13 enemy soldiers and destroyed one crew-served weapon.

In other activity today, "Rakkasans" of 3rd. Bn. (Ambl.), 187th Inf., discovered a large enemy grave site northwest of FB Jack containing 14 NVA bodies. The enemy soldiers were believed to have been killed in a recent artillery strike in the area.

January 14 - A "pink team" from A Trp., 2nd Sqdn. (Ambl.), 17th Cav., while on an aerial reconnaissance mission in Quang Tri Province, observed five enemy soldiers walking along a supply trail. The team killed all five soldiers.

January 15 - MG John J. Hennessey, Chicago, departed the division to become Commandant of the Command and General Staff College and Commanding General of Ft. Leavenworth, Kan.

Continuing its extensive aerial reconnaissance, A Trp., 2nd Sqdn., (Ambl.), 17th Cav., engaged two enemy machine gun positions, killing four NVA soldiers and destroying two 12.7mm machine guns in Quang Tri Province.

January 16 - In aerial combat operations, A Trp., 2nd Sqdn. (Ambl.), 17th Cav., continued to seek the enemy and destroy machine gun positions near the Laotian border. Gunships from the Quang Tri skywarriors destroyed three 12.7mm machine guns and killed nine enemy soldiers in encounters throughout the day.

January 17 - Pilots of A Trp., 2nd Sqdn. (Ambl.), 17th Cav., observed two enemy machine gun positions in the mountains of Quang Tri Province. In the ensuing action, eight NVA soldiers were killed and the 12.7mm machine guns were destroyed.

Also today, "Rakkasans" of Co. C, 3rd Bn. (Ambl.), 187th Inf., were joined by Cobras of the 4th Bn. (Ambl.), 77th Aerial Rocket Artillery, to destroy an enemy bunker complex. The Screaming Eagles discovered the complex on a search and clear operation in the mountains northwest of FB Jack. Nine NVA soldiers were killed and the complex was destroyed through a combined effort of the "Triple Threat" infantrymen and the "Griffin" pilots.

January 18 - A Trp., 2nd Sqdn. (Ambl.), 17th Cav., ended its sixth consecutive day of contact in Quang Tri Province by killing five NVA soldiers and destroying two 12.7mm machine guns. Cav gunships killed 41 enemy soldiers and destroyed 10 crew-served weapons in the six-day period.

January 24 - Screaming Eagles of Co. A, 1st Bn. (Ambl.), 501st Inf., discovered a large weapons cache west of Hue consisting of 39 SKS rifles, 12 AK-47 rifles, two carbines, and three submachine guns. The weapons were evacuated by the "Geronimo" troopers.

February 1 - MG Thomas M. Tarpley, Quincy, Ill., became commanding general of the 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) in ceremonies at the division's Camp Eagle headquarters.

February 2 - The chill of the monsoon rains could not dampen the spirits of







4,500 Screaming Eagles as they endured adverse weather conditions to enjoy a soul-filled show featuring Miss Black America, black beauty queens from three other states, and an entourage of talented rock musicians. Miss Black America, 19 year-old Stefanie Clark of Washington, D.C., was assisted by her "Royal Court" comprised of Miss Black Alabama, Brenda Duff; Miss Black North Carolina, Sylvia Smith; and Miss Black Utah, Inas Slade.

February 10 - "No Slack" troopers of 2nd Bn. (Ambl.), 327th Inf., reopened FB Rendezvous near the A Shau Valley, marking the first time any battalion size unit has been there since September 1969.

Also today, Screaming Eagles from 1st Bn. (Ambl.), 327th Inf. and 2nd Bn. (Ambl.), 502nd Inf., provided road security for the engineers of 326th Engr. Bn. (Ambl.) as they began work on the 13 mile stretch of Route 547 from FB Bastogne to the A Shau Valley.

In other action, "Griffins" from B Btry., 4th Bn. (Ambl.), 77th Aerial Rocket Artillery, engaged an enemy position near FB Barnett killing three NVA soldiers and destroying one 12.7mm machine gun.

February 11 - 105mm Howitzers from A Btry., 2nd Bn. (Ambl.), 320th Arty., were airlifted to FB Rendezvous to provide support for 101st forces in the area.

February 12 - Screaming Eagles from 326th Engr. Bn. (Ambl.) began four days of work on Route 547 between FB Veghel and FB Rendezvous.

February 15 - 326th Engr. Bn. (Ambl.) completed work on Route 547. This was the first time that the road was passable since the summer of 1969.

February 18 - "No Slack" troopers from Co. E, 2nd Bn. (Ambl.), 327th Inf., employed anti-personnel mines against an unknown size enemy force killing four enemy soldiers. Captured in the encounter were three AK-47 rifles, one RPG launcher, miscellaneous demolitions, and a quantity of medical supplies.

February 21-"Rakkasans" of Co. E, 3rd Bn. (Ambl.), 187th Inf., repelled an enemy sapper attack on their night defensive position at Firebase Scotch, northwest of Quang Tri. The action resulted in seven NVA soldiers being killed, four AK-47 rifles, one AK-50 machine gun, one RPG launcher, and 40 grenades being captured, and numerous blood trails leading back into the dense elephant grass surrounding their position.

February 24 - Flying in support of the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces (RVNAF) thrust into Laos (Operation Lam Son 719), "Griffins" from 4th Bn. (Ambl.), 77th Aerial Rocket Artillery, killed 37 NVA, destroyed a 14.5mm anti-aircraft gun and four 12.7mm machine guns.

In other action today the CP of the 3rd Brigade established headquarters at Camp Carroll.

February 25 - Screaming Eagles from 2nd Bn. (Ambl.), 502nd Inf. and 1st Bn. (Ambl.), 501st Inf., moved north to take over AOs previously the responsibility of ARVN units to enable the RVNAF to bolster their forces in Laos.

February 25-In extensive search and clear operations northwest of Quang Tri, Co. A, 3rd Bn. (Ambl.), 187th Inf., discovered a large enemy cache and bunker complex containing 30 60mm mortar rounds, 65 82mm mortar rounds, 10,000 7.62mm small arms rounds, 20

RPG rounds, one RPG launcher, five Light Anti-tank Weapons, six cases of grenades, 50 anti-personnel mines, blasting caps, and 10 cases of TNT. Utilizing the enemy's own explosives, the "Rakkasans" destroyed the cache and the bunker complex.

February 27 - Pilots from 4th Bn. (Ambl.), 77th Aerial Rocket Artillery, killed 20 NVA near the Laotian border while flying in support of Operation Lam Son 719.

Also today, 2nd Sqdn. (Ambl.), 17th Cav., helicopter gunships were credited with killing 11 NVA soldiers in northern Military Region 1.

February 28 -- Troopers from Co. B, 1st Bn. (Ambl.), 502nd Inf., engaged an enemy force while on patrol near FB Barracuda. The ensuing action resulted in two enemy killed, two AK-47 rifles captured, and 20 pounds of rice destroyed.

March 1 - "No Slack" soldiers from 2nd Bn. (Ambl.), 327th Inf., took up new positions in the northern sector of MR 1 to assist 101st forces already operating in the area.

March 3 - The 101st assumed tactical responsibility for all of northern Military Region 1 as the 1st Bde., 5th Inf. Div. (Mech.) and all units under its operational control (OPCON) passed OPCON to the Screaming Eagles.

March 8-"Geronimos" of Co. D, 1st Bn. (Ambl.), 501st Inf., engaged four enemy soldiers in the rolling hills north of Quang Tri, killing all four and capturing three weapons. The Screaming Eagle element was operating just south of the DMZ in support of Operation Lam Son 719.

March 9-In continued operations north of Quang Tri, "Geronimos" of Cos. A and D, 1st Bn. (Ambl.), 501st Inf., uncovered two enemy caches totaling 329 60mm mortar rounds, one 82mm mortar round, seven RPG rounds, and 500 rounds of .30 caliber small arms ammunition.

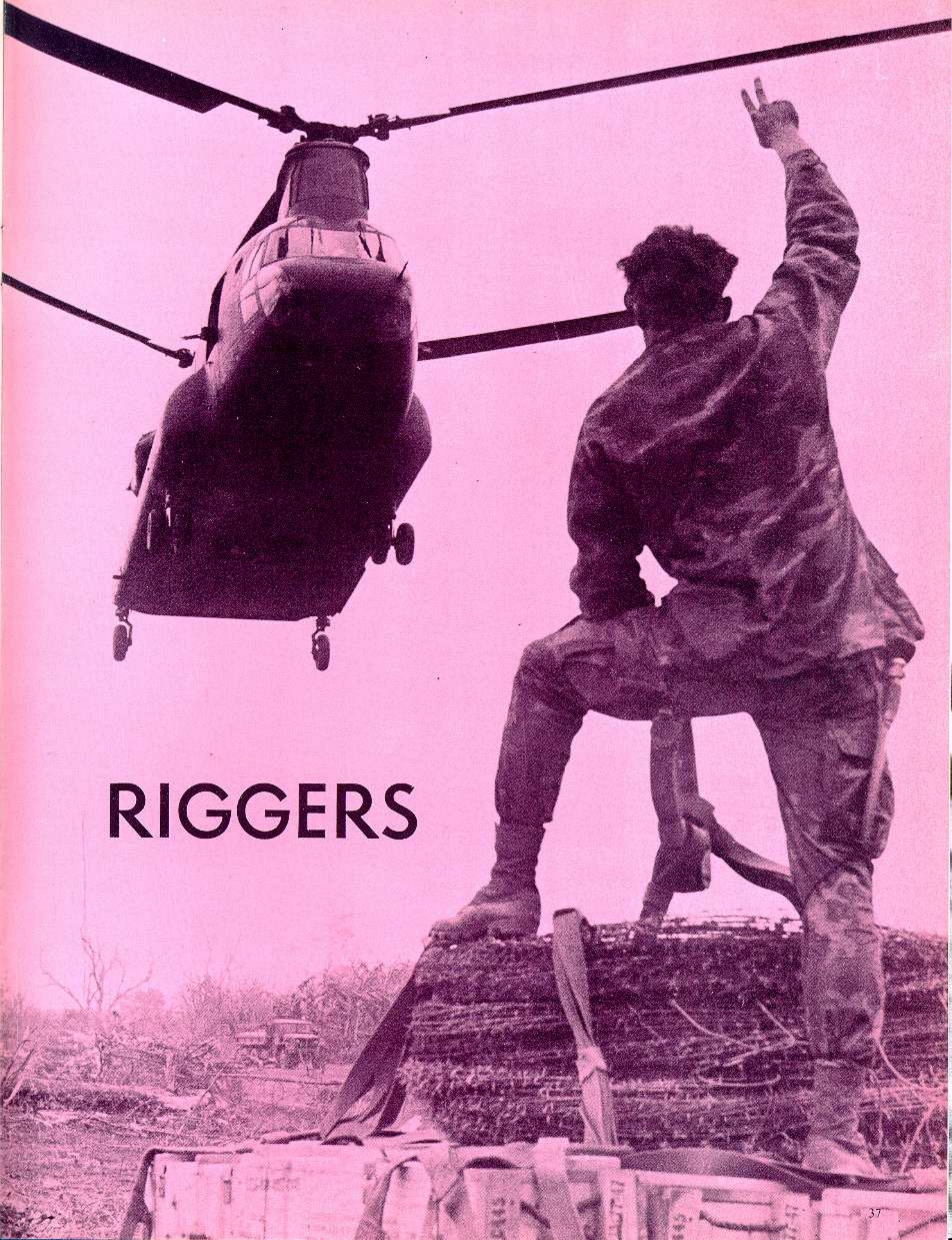
March 14-Shortly after being inserted into the Rockpile area northwest of Quang Tri, "Geronimos" of Co. C, 1st Bn. (Ambl.), 501st Inf., discovered an enemy supply trail. Employing mechanical ambushes and small arms fire, the Screaming Eagle element killed nine NVA soldiers, captured 18 rucksacks of rice, and seven rifles.

March 24- "Currahees" of Co. B, 2nd Bn. (Ambl.), 506th Inf., killed nine enemy soldiers in separate actions during the day. Five AK-47 rifles and one RPG launcher were captured as a result of encounters north of Firebase Vandergrift.

March 29-"Geronimos" of Co. D, 1st Bn. (Ambl.), 501st Inf., discovered two enemy caves while on search and clear operations northwest of Quang Tri in support of Operation Lam Son 719. The caves contained 35 82mm mortar rounds, 82 82mm mortar fuses, 60 60mm mortar rounds, nine 75mm recoilless rifle rounds, a quantity of pull-type fuses, and various other enemy equipment.







# RIGGERS

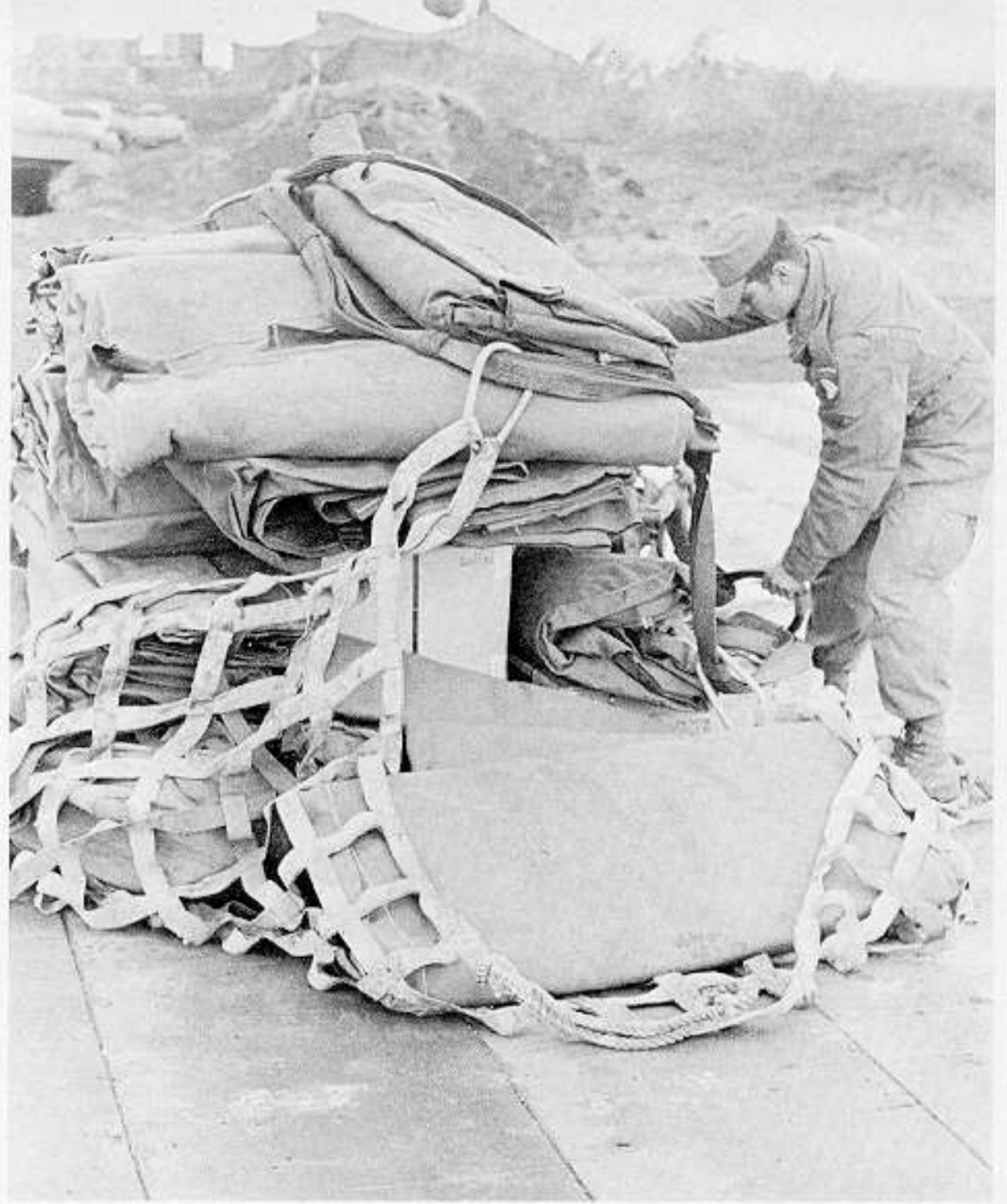


Throughout the Army there are several distinctive insignia and pieces of uniform which are designed to identify certain job specialties and units. One is a red cap. The 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) has its red caps -- the riggers of Company B, 426th Supply and Service (S & S) Battalion.

The riggers are the technical experts of the Screaming Eagles in rigging all classes of supplies for airlifting wherever they are needed. They also provide an "air items inspection team" to inspect, classify, and control all materiel to be air transported within the division. Everytime a CH-47 Chinook or CH-54 Skycrane is seen with a sling load, it was either packed or inspected by a rigger, as they are responsible for the load. They are also responsible for any parachute dropping of supplies and, upon request, dispatching a team to recover downed aircraft.

Originally created during World War II for duty in airborne units, yesterday's "red caps" were mainly concerned with parachute packing. At that time they were under the control of the Infantry School at Fort Benning, Ga., and belonged to all branches of the Army. In 1949, they were transferred to the Quartermaster School at Fort Lee, Va.

All riggers are airborne qualified, and they undergo intensive training for their role in the Republic of Vietnam. According to Captain Robert Lutz, Western Springs, Ill., Company B



*Riggers are responsible for preparing all classes of supplies for aerial delivery.*



*Riggers assist members of the 1st Infantry Division (ARVN) in learning the proper techniques of rigging.*



commander, "A rigger's training begins after he has completed airborne training. Potential riggers are sent to Fort Lee where they receive 12 weeks of training. Their time is equally divided among three broad areas: techniques of aerial delivery of logistical items, maintenance and repair of the equipment they use, and parachute packing. What really makes a would-be rigger take interest," added CPT Lutz, "is that he has to jump with a parachute that he has packed himself."

Under the airmobile concept of operation in the 101st, the only parachutes a rigger sees are those used for airdropping supplies to units which cannot be resupplied by airlanded means or road. This technique, known as a heavy air drop, recently proved vital to Ranger battalions of the Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) when they were in heavy contact with the enemy in the extreme northwest corner of Military Region I (MRI) during Operation Lam Son 719. But airdropping supplies was not the only role the "red caps" played in this operation and the US drive to Khe Sanh, called Operation Dewey Canyon II. Riggers played a significant part in the reopening of firebases and

the manning of resupply and refuel points in northern MRI. During the initial phase of these operations "red caps" were responsible for airlifting over 550 tons of equipment and supplies in one morning from Firebase Vandergrift, 21 miles west of Quang Tri, to various ARVN and U.S. units.

Name it and the riggers will airlift it. "Every load is different," explained Specialist Four Vernon Cardwell, Washington, D.C. "Blivots of liquid supplies, artillery pieces, 2½ ton trucks, radar -- we've handled all of these and each must be rigged its own way. Items like ammunition and C-rations can be airlifted in nylon nets," continued SP4 Cardwell, "while larger loads like artillery pieces and helicopters must be sling loaded."

The riggers not only send cargo on its way, they are at all 101st firebases to receive it. "Cargo loads have to be positioned when they come in. It is often a tricky operation," explained Sergeant First Class James Johnson, Miami, Fla., operations sergeant for Bravo Company. "When a firebase is under construction we have to maneuver the huge prefabricated

bunkers into position, and it calls for pretty close work."

Another precarious task that riggers often find themselves involved with is the job of helicopter recovery. "Red caps" always have two teams on alert for this task. One team is on a 15 minute standby, while the second team is on a 30 minute standby. Both teams are capable of recovering any downed helicopter. "When a bird is downed, we are the ones who go in and prepare it to be lifted out of the jungle," stated Specialist Four Ricky Fishback, New Albany, Ind., a member of a helicopter recovery team. "There are times when the only way to get down to the bird is by rappelling. But no matter how we have to get in, we do."

From the battlefields of World War II to the firebases of the Republic of Vietnam, "red caps" have made themselves known for their bravery and accomplishments. Be it packing parachutes or sling-loading an artillery piece; airdropping supplies or simply supervising the rigging of logistic items at a resupply point, riggers are the men who make the Screaming Eagles' equipment as airmobile as the men.



*Whether it's hooking up a load of supplies...*





*...or a 105mm Howitzer...*



*.. the riggers quickly and efficiently send whatever is needed to wherever it is needed.*







