

Routine Mission Turns Into Hairy Experience

CAMP ENARI — What began as a routine surveillance mission on abandoned Firebase 28 near Dak To turned into a most harrowing experience for four men from the 4th Division's Company E, 58th Infantry, commanded by Captain Reuben H. Siverling of Derby, Kansas.

Following two days of uneventful watching, at about 8:00 p.m. Christmas, two hours after the end of the Christmas truce, Private First Class Ora O. Bartrum of Cambridge, Md., spotted lights 200 meters north of their position.

Suddenly, enemy movement began closing in on three sides.

Sergeant Richard A. Davis of Gulf Breeze, Fla. quickly coordinated with Sergeant Paul T. March of Charleston, S.C. and Sergeant Thomas J. Burkhart of Pittsburgh, and began to call artillery.

Adjust Artillery

By 8:30 the enemy was again closing. The men moved into a bunker and began to adjust rounds on the force which was now within 20 meters of their position.

The men halted the big guns at 11:00 p.m. The sounds of the wounded followed the enemy's retreat.

In the morning, blood trails were found leading northeast, east and west.

The four men were presented with impact awards. For intrepid courage and the skill they displayed in the face of the enemy, they were awarded the Army Commendation Medal with "V" device for valor by Major General Donn R. Pepke, division commander.

The largest number killed during the week was reported Dec. 23 when a CSF company, north of Ben Het, observed 20 NVA soldiers. Ivy artillery and mortars were called in on the position, killing eight.



FOR VALOR—Major General Donn R. Pepke, division commanding general poses with Long Range Patrol Team (LRP) members after they were awarded the Army Commendation

Medal with "V" Device. From left to right, PFC Ora O. Bartrum, SGT Paul T. March, SGT Thomas J. Burkhart and SGT Paul T. March. (USA Photo by PFC John Warwick)

Ivy Forces Put 115 Foe Out Of Action...

(Continued From Page 1)
Highway 14 between Kontum and Dak To.

In a series of skirmishes along Highway 508, 30 kilometers west of Pleiku, a scout platoon of the 1st Battalion, 69th Armor, killed one VC.

The largest number killed during the week was reported Dec. 23 when a CSF company, north of Ben Het, observed 20 NVA soldiers. Ivy artillery and mortars were called in on the position, killing eight.

sion's base camp. The cavmen returned fire and killed one enemy soldier. Later in the afternoon the troop's area-rifle platoon was inserted to sweep the area. The mission netted 15 enemy detainees.

59 More Detained

The largest number of detainees, 59, were recorded later in the afternoon. A cordon and search mission involving the National Police and Companies B, C, and D and a recon pla-

NVA was wounded, but died while being evacuated.

In the other incident, west of Dak To, one NVA was killed in a brief encounter with a LRP team. A sweep of the area

was conducted by 1st Squadron 18th Cavalry and 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry.

Friendly casualties were termed as light throughout the week.

A LIVING MEMORIAL IVY DIVISION SCHOLARSHIP FUND DRIVE							TOTAL: \$147,791.89
							AS OF: 27 DEC 68
40,000	1ST BDE	2ND BDE	3RD BDE	4TH BDE	5TH BDE	6TH BDE	
35,000							