



CAPITAL MILITARY
ASSISTANCE
COMMAND

CMAC

HARPOON

APO 96243
SAN FRANCISCO



Volume 2 No. 2

SAIGON, RVN

15 January 1969

CMD Advisor Receives Hero's Award

'The Wake-Up Man'

By Sp4 Brian Wickham

CMAC IO—"Go-o-o-o-od Morning, Vietnam!" Anyone who's been in country for a while knows that the AFVN "Dawnbuster" greeting has been around for some time. Captain Edward Steward of CMAC Signal Section knows exactly how long - he was the first "Dawnbuster."

"I was an EM at the time and stationed in Laos," he recalled, "when I came down with Dengue Fever. They shipped me to Saigon for treatment and then didn't know what to do with me." The year was 1962 and Sp4 Steward was at loose ends. "Someone noticed that I had a secondary MOS as a Broadcast Specialist; so they sent me over to AFRS (now AFVN) for an audition."

"I passed, but the audition was so bad that they wouldn't let me read written copy on the air for quite a while." The young Sp4 eventually got his own show, and started the first "Dawnbuster."

"The operation was a little different then," Cpt. Steward says. "Our studio was on top of the Rex Hotel and we had an old French two-kilowatt transmitter out on (Continued on Page 9, Column 2)

CMAC IO—The Soldier's Medal is a unique award in the U.S. Army. It is presented to men for heroism displayed off the battlefield. Sergeant First Class Charles N. Brown, CMD Advisory Team #100, is such a man.

The light weapons-infantry advisor to the 30th ARVN Ranger Battalion was in the Cholon district of Saigon when, as he stated, "I heard a loud explosion and felt the ground tremble." Sgt. Brown sprinted towards a large cloud of smoke that he spotted two blocks away. "Terrorists had blown up a Vietnamese Information Office" related Brown. "It was a masonry building and had collapsed on the people inside."

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EDITORIAL

The Intangibles

All enduring structures are built on firm and lasting foundations comprised of many elements. Our American military establishment is such a structure - built of strong material, remodeled and modernized when necessary, and resting solidly on a foundation of honor and integrity.

These words represent standards of conduct and performance of duty spanning the history of our nation as well as the history of each branch of the armed forces.

Unfortunately the ideals represented by these two words - honor and integrity - are too often overlooked, sometimes misunderstood and frequently ridiculed. Far too many people look upon these ideals as outmoded--useless carry-overs from a past era.

Too many Americans have adopted the "hooray for me, the devil with you" outlook. They are more interested in feathering their own nests at the expense of others than in performing honorable service in their particular jobs or professions.

Fortunately, the hallmark of the military man is his honor and integrity. If there is any doubt, leaf through the pages of history and recall such places as Valley Forge, Gettysburg, Belleau Wood, Midway, Bastogne, Iwo Jima, Chosin Reservoir, Hill 881 and Khe Sanh.

It is not in the makeup of a military man to gain personal advantage at the expense of his comrades, to shirk his duty or to seek the easy way out at the expense of his assigned mission.

The greatness and success of America's armed forces do not lie solely in our superior weapons, logistic capability or masses of men. The greatness and success have come from the individuals who have served with honor and integrity.

For as long as we have men wearing the uniform of our country to whom honor and integrity are a way of life rather than mere words, our military structure will remain strong and secure.

Your honor and your integrity are your most cherished possessions - the mark of a true man. Guard them well and never let them be compromised. (AFPS)



Fatigues a Must

Effective 0001 hours, 15 January 1969, all enlisted personnel up to and including the grade of First Sergeant will be required to wear the combat tropical uniform while travelling in a PCS status to and from CONUS on military and MAC charter flights.

Wear of the combat tropical uniform will be optional for Sergeants Major, Warrant Officers and Officers.

In no way does this constitute authority for wear of the combat tropical uniform while travelling outside of RVN on R&R, TDY, leave, or during individual travel after arrival in CONUS.

The only authorized headgear to be worn while travelling in this uniform is the utility cap (baseball) or the green beret for Special Forces personnel. Boots, combat or jungle, will be worn.

Prior to the date and time specified, the Army Khaki is the only uniform authorized for personnel departing RVN for CONUS.

In the event Sergeants Major, Warrant Officers and Officers returning from RVN elect to wear the tropical combat uniform, they will be required to report to Oakland, Ft. Lewis or Ft. Dix Personnel Center for turn-in of uniform.

Personnel will report in-country out-processing centers with one clean, serviceable tropical uniform for wear between RVN and CONUS. (From DA Message 891484, dtd 23 Dec 68)

Gypsy Lee---ds The Way

"Show me a man with his feet on the ground, and I'll show you a man who can't get his pants off!" With those words from one of her fortune cookies, Gypsy Rose Lee took CMAC by storm, leaving most observers here shaking their heads after the whirlwind.

The famous stripper ended her first day of touring Vietnam by greeting and chatting with as many CMAC soldiers as she could find. Miss Lee's escort, Command Sergeant Major Salvatore Cherry, gasped, "I've never seen anything like it. She escorted me!" CSM Cherry continued, "I just pointed her in the right direction and she took off."

The former Burlesque Queen was at her best when she swept into the G-3 section. She produced a can labelled "Gypsy Rose Lee's Fortune Cookies" and had the place in stitches, reading fortunes for everyone in sight.

Someone said, "Let's go into the TOC," but before he could finish Miss Lee asked "What's that?" and was there before everyone else.

"You never really know how the boys liked it until



the tour is over," she said. "On my last tour (Pacific area hospitals last autumn) I didn't know how well I was received until I started getting letters from servicemen and their parents and wives."

If her CMAC reception is any indication of Gypsy Rose Lee's success during the rest of her Vietnam tour, she will be swamped with letters of gratitude. After her audience recovers.

Fly the Friendly Skies

CMAC IO--Keeping airborne artillery rounds and aircraft from smashing into each other is the job of the Air Warning Control Center (AWCC) of the Capital Military Assistance Command's Artillery Section.

Twenty-four hours a day the men from AWCC handle an average of 1,400 daily radio calls from aircraft flying over and artillery units firing into the Capital Military District (CMD).

"We've had times here when we had so many artillery missions firing it was almost impossible to get any aircraft around, over or under the fire," SSG Irving B. Champlin, Assistant AWCC NCO, recalled. "But we got them through... We've had some close ones, but not close enough to lose any aircraft."

A radio call from a battery wanting air clearance to fire comes to the center. The caller gives pertinent details of the fire mission.

In seconds AWCC has the Combat Reporting Center (CRC) at Tan Son Nhut AFB on the phone with the firing request; then the artillery unit is radioed back that, "You are cleared on your firing data..."

At night when allied artillery is most active in the CMD, the center "pre-clears an amount of air space from point to point and to a certain height," according to SP5 William Brierley, fire direction

computer. "Then if a battery wants to fire there, we don't need to clear it."

AWCC's never-ending tasks sometimes expand enormously. When an aircraft's engines go dead, making it impossible to fly it around the firing, the center will call for an artillery cease-fire. Maximum efforts are made to get the most direct route when dust-off choppers carrying wounded soldiers are in the AWCC area. "And in all enemy rocket and mortar attacks," SSG Champlin emphasized, "we move everybody out of the way so any unit can shoot on the position."



199th LIB IO--A Christmas check for \$6,700 from the Mississippi National Guard and the people of Mississippi was given to the 199th Light Infantry Brigade in appreciation for the work of the "Redcatchers" in Vietnam.

The "Redcatchers" feel special ties with Mississippi and particularly with the townspeople of Hattiesburg, since the brigade trained at Camp Shelby near Hattiesburg in preparation for Vietnam.

