



# COL B. Greene Takes Helm Of Cav's Blackhorse Brigade

By CPT Peter Zastrow

LAI KHE — In a colorful ceremony at Lai Khe, base camp of the 1st Air Cavalry Division's Second Brigade, the colors of the Blackhorse Brigade passed from Colonel Conrad L. Stansberry to Colonel Byron D. Greene, Jr.

COL Stansberry, who served as brigade commander since November 27, 1968, had previously been the commander of the division support command and division chief of staff. He leaves Vietnam to assume a position as executive officer to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Research and Development.

In remarks made upon leaving the brigade, COL Stansberry said: "For the professional soldier there is nothing quite like leading a brigade in combat, but when the brigade is the Black-

horse Brigade and the division is the 1st Air Cavalry Division, it has to be the high point of any military career."

COL Greene, the new brigade commander, is a 1946 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy. He comes to Vietnam from the Infantry School at Fort Benning, Ga., where he served as its secretary (a position corresponding to chief of staff).

When he learned of his assignment to Vietnam, COL Greene immediately wrote to the Cav's commanding general requesting a job with the 1st Air Cavalry Division. "If I am going to be in Vietnam," said COL Greene, "there just isn't any other division to be with."

In part, the desire to serve with the Cav came from the reputation the division has acquired during its years in Vietnam, but

for COL Greene there was also a personal incentive. From 1963 to 1964 he served as commander of the 1st Battalion, 7th Cavalry, and later as G-1 while the Cav was in Korea.

After graduating from West Point, COL Greene attended the Airborne School, and later, the Infantry Advanced Course at Fort Benning. He is a graduate of the Command and General Staff College and he attended the Navy War College at Newport, R.I. His combat experience includes a tour with the 2nd Division during the Korean War.

COL Greene's wife and their three children reside in Hartsville, S.C. COL Greene has one son who is studying at Wofford College in South Carolina a daughter who will graduate from high school this year, and another son in nursery school.



(U.S. Army Photo By CPT Peter Zastrow)

## New CO

Colonel Byron D. Greene, Jr., new 2nd Brigade commander, presents the "Blackhorse" colors to the brigade command sergeant major, J.B. Christianson. Brigadier General Frank Meszar (center), assistant division commander and Colonel Conrad L. Stansberry (left), outgoing brigade commander, look on.

# Mortar Plt. Using Riflemen Proves Its Value In LZ Battle

By SP4 RICHARD CRAIG  
TAY NINH — The enemy force peppered the 1st Air Cavalry Division's landing zone (LZ) with everything from B-40 rockets to 107mm rockets. To the men on the LZ, a massive ground attack seemed only minutes away.

Suddenly, the enemy heard a "thump, thump," a sound he has heard time and again, and as the 81mm mortars came slamming into his positions he fled, leaving behind a small cache of 107mm rockets and numerous blood trails.

A first light sweep of the area

confirmed what was already quite clear — the enemy had fled in terror from the deadly, accurate mortar fire dispensed liberally by the mortar platoon of Company E, 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry.

Company E's mortar platoon is a highly effective, well-trained unit, much like any mortar platoon. But that's where the similarity ends. The mortarmen of most platoons are all school-trained. Not so with Company E. For the most part, its mortarmen are light weapons infantrymen who have been cross-trained for the mortar.

Sergeant First Class Thomas H. Cook, platoon leader, was given the task of creating the platoon with a core of eight mortarmen and 19 infantrymen.

"I was lucky," said SFC Cook, a former instructor on the Fort Benning mortar committee. "We had a group of extraordinary 'grunts' to work with. They learn fast, and they're all good soldiers. In 19 years in the Army, I've never worked with a quicker, more responsive team."

After two weeks of intensive training, the mortar platoon was ready for action, which they got shortly after their arrival at LZ Rita. "That's when the platoon proved it's got what it takes," said Platoon Sergeant George E. Boothe.

It looked as though the enemy was planning a ground assault against LZ Rita as they threw in 107mm rockets and B-40 rockets at point-blank range. Without regard to their own safety, the mortar platoon instinctively ran to their tubes and commenced counter-firing on the enemy positions.

"Those men," said PSG Boothe, "had rockets hit ten feet from their parapets. The enemy may as well have thrown those rockets outside the greenline, because our crews didn't even notice them. Or, if they did, they kept up their fire anyway."

During the early morning  
(Continued on Pg. 8)

# 2/5 Finds Huge Cache, Hospital From Clue Given By Bde. Scouts

TAY NINH — The company cut and hacked its way through the thick tropical vegetation, drawing ever closer to the enemy rice cache discovered by scouts earlier in the morning.

Toward the end of the day, the troops of Company B, 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry finally arrived at the cache site. The Skytroopers counted the enemy's rice bags, make a quick survey of the area which revealed more NVA supplies, and then withdrew to a night forward operations base.

As the sun rose and the heavy morning mist dissipated from the clearing, the men returned to destroy the large enemy cache.

"As soon as we went in," said Lieutenant John N. Stewart, "we secured a large bomb crater for a PZ (pickup zone)."

As several men were checking out the treeline, the enemy set off a command-detonated claymore mine.

"That's when we called in the air strikes," said the young lieutenant. "They were pretty effective, but they did not do the job completely. As soon as we moved towards the treeline again, the enemy blew another claymore, and we had to hit the dirt again."

The company then withdrew for the night and re-entered the area the following morning, carefully exercising noise discipline to reduce their chances of detection by the enemy.

Moving through the thick bamboo, they entered from the south and stumbled into what the enemy had been trying to conceal all along — a bunker complex.

The first thing confronting them as they entered the bunker complex was an enemy field hospital. It contained penicillin, intravenous equipment, an operating table, and countless bottles of drugs.

Further on, they found elaborate living quarters for the enemy troops who had hastily departed prior to the Cav's arrival.

"They must have taken water and smoothed down the walls," said Sergeant Joseph W. Dufort, a squad leader. "The walls looked just like cement. They were cool and spacious, and they had brand new hammocks hanging inside."

The sweep continued until snipers fired at the troops. A quick call to the aerial gun-platforms of the 1st Sqdrn, 9th Cav, as well as massive firepower from the ground troops brought the enemy fire to an abrupt halt.

Soon the friendly company was removed from the complex, but not until they had discovered 200 two-hundred-pound bags of rice and numerous other equipment, and destroyed most of the bunkers.



(U.S. Army Photo By SP4 Eric White)

## Super Snooper

This portable radar unit used by mortar platoons detects enemy movement in both day and night.

READ THIS!

## ...For God And Country

Peace and Charity are two words which are uppermost in the minds of most people. They especially are words whose meaning are of great impact on people here in Vietnam.

What is peace? What is charity? Peace, I suppose, could be defined as the cessation of hostilities. You were in hostility with God until you were called by the glorious message of the Gospel. You are a recipient of charity when God offered his son as the supreme sacrifice for sin.

So now you have peace with God through faith in Christ Jesus our Lord. You can now offer the charity of the message of forgiveness of sin to all who know not God. The Gospel message is a message of peace with God and charity extended. We have used both words peace and charity in a way you perhaps have never seen or heard; yet the affiliation of these terms in this sense is very appropriate. It also ties into the Peace and Charity which should be found among all men.

Peace among men can only come from the Peace of God in Christ. Charity to men flows from the "Kapis" of God for charity comes from a word that in English is grace—unearned, undeserved love. We do what we have to as citizens of our nation. This all must be predicated on the ideal of peace and charity as exemplified by the love of God in Christ.

Do your duty in the light of faith in the Blessed Message of the Gospel. Peace and charity will manifest themselves in your life even if you are a soldier in Vietnam. And the peace of God which passeth all understanding will help your heart and minds in Christ Jesus.

Chaplain (MAJ) Kenneth K. Wittenburg

## Keep In Touch..... .....Join Cav Ass'n

Now that you're part of THE FIRST TEAM, you're eligible for membership in the 1st Cavalry Division Association. And if you're scheduled to DEROS before the last week in August, you may want to attend its 22nd annual reunion, to be held August 22-24 at Ft. Benning, Ga.

In addition to encouraging its members to get together in local and regional chapters and publishing SABER NEWS, a quarterly newsletter, the Association provides scholarships to dependents of men killed or disabled while serving with THE FIRST TEAM.

A lifetime membership in the 1st Cavalry Division Association costs only eleven dollars (a single membership fee with no subsequent dues) and includes a lifetime subscription to SABER NEWS, a volume of the division's history and a membership directory, plus Cav decals, insignia cards and pins.

If you're interested in keeping in touch with the guys you've met in 'Nam, you'll definitely want to join the Association and participate in its activities, beginning with the August reunion.

Under the able leadership of BG Oscar E. Davis, commanding general of the Training Center at Ft. Benning, this year's reunion committee has scheduled a series of meetings and social gatherings for cavalrymen and their families.

Much of the program will be held on post. Cavalrymen and their families will be able to tour its famous Infantry Museum. Many parties are scheduled this year, including one for teenagers August 22. Briefings are also on the agenda, including one on the Cav's performance in Vietnam.

Interested individuals will also be able to go on tours of Columbus, Ga., Callaway Gardens, and Warm Springs, President Franklin D. Roosevelt's "Little White House."

The main social event of this year's reunion will be an outdoor barbecue-picnic-dance at Victory Lodge, a retreat on the Ft. Benning reservation. In addition, the reunion committee has assured the CAVALAIR that it has arranged for ideal weather.



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Opinions expressed in the CAVALAIR are those of its editorial staff and not necessarily those of the Department of the Army.

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## Awards

The following awards were presented to Skytroopers of the 1st Air Cavalry Division:

### SILVER STAR

BURCHAM, LTC Jerry J.  
HHC, 2nd Bn, 5th Cav  
CAIN, CPT James R. JR.  
Co C, 1st Bn, 5th Cav  
DAUBERT, SP4 William J.  
HHC, 1st Bn, 7th Cav  
JINES, SP5 Robert A.  
HHC, 1st Bn, 7th Cav.  
KERR, SP4 Wesley  
HHC, 1st Bn, 8th Cav  
LITTLE, MAJ John A.  
Co C, 227th Avn Bn  
MACY, 1LT Steven D.  
Co A, 2nd Bn, 5th Cav  
MROS, SP4 Stephen R.  
Co B, 2nd Bn, 7th Cav  
MORGAN, SP4 Michael A.  
Co B, 2nd Bn, 5th Cav  
RACCA, 1LT William  
Co B, 5th Bn, 7th Cav  
PAVLICK, SGT John III  
Co B, 2nd Bn, 5th Cav.

### DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

ELLIOTT, 1LT Jerry L.  
Troop B, 1st Sqdn, 9th Cav  
JAMES, WO-1 Kenneth R.  
Troop B, 1st Sqdn, 9th Cav  
PERRINE, 1LT James L.  
HHC, 15th Med Bn

### BRONZE STAR MEDAL FOR HEROISM

ALEXANDER, SGT Vintise  
Co D, 5th Bn, 7th Cav  
BANNART, SP4 Eldon  
Co C, 1st Bn, 5th Cav  
DELAROSA, PFC Jack M.  
Co E, 2nd Bn, 7th Cav  
EGGERT, SP4 John M. III  
Co D, 1st Bn, 7th Cav  
HOLTZ, SGT Edward  
Co B, 2nd Bn, 7th Cav  
JASMIN, SP4 Alfred W.  
Co E, 1st Bn, 7th Cav  
MORRIS, SP4 George S.  
Co B, 5th Bn, 7th Cav  
PHILLIPS, PFC Issac  
Co B, 5th Bn, 7th Cav

## New Award, MS Medal

WASHINGTON (ANF) — Design and criteria for the newly established Meritorious Service Medal (MSM) has been approved by the Department of Defense.

The MSM was authorized by executive order of former President Lyndon B. Johnson to provide recognition for commendable achievement falling just below the requirements for the Legion of Merit.

The decoration is to rank with but worn after the Bronze Star. As it is a non-combat award, the 'V' device denoting valor is not authorized for the decoration.

All lieutenant generals and above are authorized to award the MSM. Authority is retroactive to Jan. 19, 1969, though recipients must have served part of the cited period after that date.



SGT RE-UP  
S2  
"DID YOU  
KNOW???"



Many times in the not too distant past, we have all heard the phrase, "It just isn't right, the 'First Termers' get all the options, and the 'Old Timers' get nothing!" The words may vary, but the theme remains the same. Now, this is no longer true!

Under the new concept, anyone in the pay grade of E-6 and below, regardless of status, may reenlist for the overseas area of their choice, providing a vacancy exists for their present MOS and grade in the area requested.

How do you go about getting this option? First, when you are within six months of your rotation date, visit your nearest career counselor and inform him you wish to apply for an overseas area of choice. He will then fill out the necessary forms, listing the three overseas areas in which you wish to serve. Your career counselor will then make sure the request is sent through proper channels to Department of the Army for approval.

When the assignment comes back approved, you may then reenlist for that area regardless of the time you have remaining on your current enlistment.

Upon completion of your current tour in Vietnam you will be reassigned to the area for which you reenlisted.

This is the option a lot of us have been waiting for, so why not look into it? Visit your nearest career counselor today for all fine points. It may be well worth your while!

## Civilian Health Care With Gov't Payment

(Editor's Note: This is the first in a series of Army News Features articles on the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS). Questions and answers were prepared by the Office of the Surgeon, U.S. Army, Denver, Colo. 80240.)

Question: — What is the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS)?

Answer: This is a program under which the beneficiaries may receive a wide range of civilian health care services with a significant share of the cost paid by the government.

Q: — Who is eligible for CHAMPUS benefits?

A: —The following categories of persons are eligible:

- 1) Spouses and children of members serving on active duty under orders which do not specify a period of less than 31 days.
- 2) Retired members (and former members) entitled to retired, retainer or equivalent pay and their spouses and children.
- 3) Spouses and children of members who die while serving on active duty or while entitled to retired, retainer or equivalent pay.

Q: — Are all health care services payable under CHAMPUS?

A: — No. While the range of benefits is very great, not every health care service is payable. Some examples of health care services not payable under the program are domiciliary or custodial care, dental care (except as a necessary part of medical treatment), glasses, hearing aids and well-baby care.

Q: — Does the government pay the entire cost for authorized health service?

A: —No CHAMPUS is a cost-sharing plan. The government pays a significant share of the charges determined to be reasonable. The patient pays the remainder. A charge is allowable under the program if it has been determined to be reasonable.

## Combat Artist's Program To Record Army Activity

WASHINGTON (ANF) — The soldier phase of the Army Combat Artist Program initiated in 1966 will be expanded and continued during fiscal year 1970 under the designation "Army Artist Program."

This program is sponsored jointly by The Adjutant General, Chief of Military History and Chief of Information. Under the new designation, authorized by the Secretary of the Army, soldier artists will document military activities throughout the Army. Complete details on the program appear in DA Circular 28-40, dated April 17, 1969.

The original Combat Artist Program was limited to recording military activities in the Republic of Vietnam.

During fiscal year 1970, the program will sponsor two teams of soldier artists, one in the Republic of Vietnam and the second in the Republic of Korea. Each team will spend 60 days on location making sketches, then transfer to Hawaii for 75 days to prepare finished paintings from

their sketches. All work by the soldier artists will become a part of the U.S. Army Art Collection in the Office, Chief of Military History.

All applicants for the FY 1970 program must have a written appraisal of their qualifications as an artist from an Army Crafts Director and an authorization for release from duty for 135 days signed by their commanding officer.

Applications must be prepared on DA Form 2496 and forwarded through official military command channels to: The Adjutant General, ATTN: AGMS-C, Department of the Army, Washington, D.C. 20315. The application deadline is Dec. 1, 1969.

