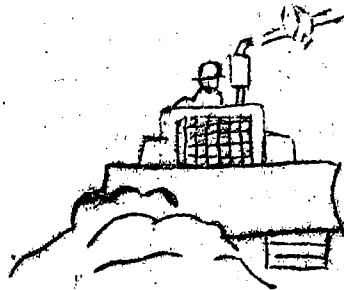
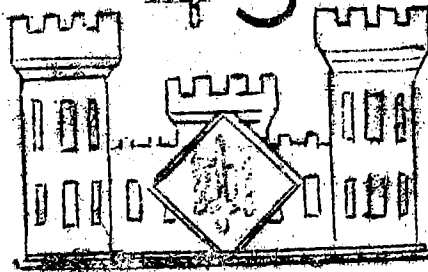


COLT

45

NEWS



VOL. 1, NO. 4

QUI NHON VIETNAM

DECEMBER 14, 1966

REPLACEMENT DEPOT COMPLETED BY 45TH

Dedication ceremonies were held recently at the 22d Replacement Depot, a facility constructed by the 45th Engineer Group at Cam Ranh Bay.

The bulk of construction was handled by Company D of the 577th Engineer Battalion (Construction). Aid on the project was provided by Company A of the 14th Engineer Battalion (Combat), then assigned to the 45th Group, and a detachment from the 22d Replacement Depot Headquarters.

Dignitaries present for the ribbon-cutting ceremony included Brig Gen Mahlon E. Gates, Commanding General, Cam Ranh Bay Support Command, and LTC James I. Kelly, Commanding Officer of the 577th.

CPT Edward Starbird, commander of Company D, was awarded the Bronze Star by Major General Robert R. Ploger, Commanding General, U. S. Army Engineer Command, Vietnam for his efforts in the project.

Company D was assigned to build six two-story billets, one section of a 1,500-man mess hall, one shower and one latrine. Besides this vertical construction, major earthmoving work had to be completed and concrete slabs poured for all buildings. A total of 16,500 cubic yards of earth was moved.

19TH AND 84TH REBUILD FIELD

The 19th Engineer Battalion (Combat) and the 84th Engineer Battalion (Construction) have expanded a light aircraft strip into a forward-area medium-lift airfield north of Bong Son.

The project was part of Operation Thayer, under the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), and Operation Duke, an adjunct of Thayer originally directed by the 937th Engineer Group, which formerly commanded the battalions.

English Field, as it is called, was rebuilt from a 2,000-foot light aircraft strip to a 3,600-foot airfield capable of handling C-130 aircraft. It includes a helipad, materials handling ramp and road net built by the 84th. The 19th is finishing a parking apron and laying down M8A1 matting on the field.

35TH ARRIVES IN VIETNAM

The newest member of the 45th Engineer Group is the 35th Engineer Battalion (Combat), commanded by LTC Wesley E. Peel.

The main body of the 35th arrived in Vietnam at Qui Nhon Nov. 20 and was greeted by its advance party and Tropical Storm Nancy. The advance party had arrived Nov. 8 and the storm Nov. 20; it prevented off-loading the ship until Nov. 24, Thanksgiving Day.

Finding a temporary home on Route 19 west of Qui Nhon, the 35th unpacked enough of its equipment to become operational in two days.

Since then, the 35th has begun a logistical depot expansion project and taken over the Cha Rang Maintenance Area construction responsibility. Company A, commanded by CPT John Hillmer, is doing construction and road maintenance work at Hammond Airfield. Company C, commanded by CPT Marshall Ponko, has been committed to support a 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) operation near An Khe pass.

Company B, commanded by CPT Douglas Hirte, is working on the logistical depot expansion project.

COMMANDER'S COLUMN

By COL George M. Bush

The greatest challenge faced by a military leader is how to "Take care of his men." A soldier is not one to be babied--yet his needs are just as great.

Unlike soldiers of many other countries, the U.S. soldier is self-reliant and is accustomed to more freedom and latitude both in the execution of his job and in his pursuit of off-duty recreation. Yet the U.S. soldier is part of a highly mechanized and complex system that requires attention to detail on the part of the leader. In the infinitely complex war situation in Vietnam, it is even more true.

The challenge to the leader is the judgment required to take advantage of the U.S. soldier's self-reliance, initiative, and energy while remaining responsive to the demands of complex centralized direction of the war effort. The key to "taking care of our men" is long hours of careful, centralized planning and detailed checking by every leader and every staff officer, followed by decentralized execution, encouragement of initiative and acceptance of change. This key applies to job execution, supply of rations, R & R, promotions, dissemination of intelligence, bivouac security, personal hygiene, character guidance and every other military activity.

The soldier is a total man and his needs demand total attention.

Murphy's Law: If something can go wrong, it will.

45th Group Law: Beat Murphy.

39TH REOPENS HIGHWAY

Company A of the 39th Engineer Battalion (Combat) has reopened a portion of Highway 7 between Tuy Hoa and Cung Son as part of Operation Geronimo I, a large-scale effort to provide support to combat units in the area.

The job included mine detection and the rebuilding of two bridges destroyed by the Viet Cong. The engineers encountered VC at several stages of the project and captured two enemy mine-planters.

CHINAMAN WORKS IN ROK HOSPITAL

The "Chinaman" in a Korean Army hospital complex north of Nha Trang is not a patient, but a useful structure that provides a rapid means of filling dump trucks with fill material.

The Chinaman was built by the 2d Platoon of Company B, 577th Engineer Battalion (Construction), during construction of the hospital complex by the 577th.

Patterned after another Chinaman designed and built by the 577th near its former headquarters at Dong Ba Thin, the structure was built under the supervision of SFC Howard Nix and SP5 Dudley F. Hutchinson.

The Chinaman is technically known as a single-end trap truck drive-through. It was built by placing concrete footings for the 16 pilings--that are vertical supports, then constructing a retaining wall, wing walls and an overhead chute. In operation, a dump truck is driven between the pilings and retaining wall. A tractor pushes fill material onto a deck where it falls through the chute onto the truck bed.

The engineer project will enable supply convoys to keep rolling to the 101st Infantry Division (Airborne), a necessary phase of Operation Geronimo I.

Company A, commanded by CPT George P. Johnson, built a bypass around the first destroyed bridge. The 2d Platoon, led by 2LT Roger L. Abel, secured the area and swept the heavily-mined road with the aid of the 3d Platoon.

Soon the 1st Platoon, led by 1LT Steven K. Whitfield, was recalled from another mission to reinforce the other platoons. Engineers assembled an M4T6 (aluminum decking) raft and completed a float bridge across the flooded waters. They also bridged the river with a 66-foot, M4T6 dry span with timber pier bent supports.

The 2d Platoon replaced another damaged bridge by laying a 140-foot M4T6 bridge on an adjacent aqueduct waterway and tying on both ends of the previous roadway with 45-foot dry spans, forming shallow curves at both ends of the bridge.

* * *

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* * *

COL GEORGE M. BUSH
Commanding
LTC MICHAEL J. MCCARTHY
Executive Officer

* * *

Editor...
2LT Woodrow B. Haskins
Ass't. PFC David A. Hurst
Mimeo. SPl Jesse H. Carney
PFC Gary D. Tucker

577TH AIDS REFUGEES

Refugees from communist-controlled areas in South Vietnam often need help in getting established in a new location. The 577th Engineer Battalion (Construction) is doing its part with a continuous "Lend a Helping Hand" project that benefits refugees.

The 577th has been involved in the project since its arrival in Viet Nam four months ago. The battalion's work has ranged from providing clothing for children at a refugee center in Cam Ranh City, to a medical aid program in the hamlet of Tan Thanh.

"Lend a Helping Hand" began when the mayor of Cam Ranh City asked to use the battalion's heavy equipment to clear land for incoming refugees. Soon the 577th's aid expanded to include delivery of six large boxes of clothing, pencils, paper, toothpaste, toothbrushes, band aids and toys to the refugee center. Members of the battalion's civic action committee also helped fit many of the small children with clothing. Bob Gordon, a civilian worker, coordinated the battalion's activities with the refugee center.

Benches, tables and desks for a school at Tan Thanh were constructed by the 577th after a request by the hamlet chief. The engineers also built a flag pole in the school yard.

Over 400 persons have been treated during twice weekly sick call periods held by the battalion medical section at Tan Thanh. Medics work as a team under the MEDCAP program. Civilian personnel are trained in first aid, thus enabling them to help the medics with local residents.

39TH MEDICS SAVE BABY GIRL'S LIFE

Medics assigned to the 39th Engineer Battalion (Combat) recently saved the life of a month-old Vietnamese girl by building a device to aid her breathing.

The baby was brought from the Loc-Thien Orphanage in Tuy Hoa to the 39th's medical section. She had a respiratory infection that made breathing very difficult. Medics feared she might suffocate if something were not done quickly to help her.

Medics hit upon a solution: a "Croupette Vaporizer" that was built in 30 minutes from materials on hand. Simple but effective, the vaporizer was credited with saving the baby's life.

Constructed of plywood, the "croupette" sat on 18-inch legs. A small opening was made in the floor of the device to allow medicated steam to flow through. Then a sheet of clear plastic was laid over the top to hold the steam in while the baby inhaled it. The steam was produced by the

dispensary's instrument sterilizer.

Before long, the little girl was well enough to let medics know she was hungry. How were they going to feed the baby?

SP5 Willie Delano and SP4 Douglas Barnes solved the problem by punching a hole in the finger of a rubber glove; this made a perfect nipple. Heated milk was obtained from the mess hall, and the baby was nourished. Medics then cut another finger of the rubber glove, stuffed it with cotton and made a pacifier to satisfy the baby when she wasn't feeding -- which wasn't very often.

19TH OPENS NIGHT CLUB

The enlisted men's club of the 19th Engineer Battalion (Combat) has become a "night club" in the true American sense of the word.

Besides providing recorded music and the usual refreshments, the spacious EM club has begun featuring live entertainment. The shows, which club managers hope to present on a once-a-week basis, are open to all officers and enlisted men in the Qui Nhon area.

The first show of the series starred Nick DeMarco, a New York City comedian who kept the audience of 500 men in stitches with his fresh, quick-witted humor. Brightening the scene was Ann Quinn, a lovely brunette dancer from Australia, whose attractiveness was appreciated every bit as much as her considerable dancing ability. Miss Quinn danced with several eager volunteers from the audience during her final routine.



UNUSUAL TREE—Pat Finch stretches her pretty arms as if holding up the tree, but it's just a pose. Pat is a dancer at Las Vegas, Nev., night spot.

COL BUSH PROMOTED

Colonel George M. Bush, Commanding Officer, 45th Engineer Group, was promoted to his present rank Dec. 7 by Major General Robert R. Ploger, Commanding General, U. S. Army Engineer Command, Vietnam in a ceremony at 45th Group Headquarters.

Col Bush also was awarded the Air Medal for distinguished service in Vietnam.

Col Bush assumed command of the 45th in March 1966 at Ft Bragg, N.C. He had been G-3 Officer at the 8th Infantry Division in Germany prior to his present assignment.

The 45th departed for Vietnam May 14 and arrived in country June 8, becoming operational two days later. Group Headquarters was located at Cam Ranh Bay, Dong Ba Thin, and Tuy Hoa before moving to Qui Nhon in November.

Col Bush was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the U. S. Army on graduation from the U. S. Military Academy at West Point, N. Y. in 1945. He obtained a master of science degree in civil engineering from Harvard University in 1953.

84TH HITS 100%

IN SAVINGS BONDS

The 84th Engineer Battalion (Construction) has achieved 100 percent participation in the U. S. Army Savings Bond program with every member of its Headquarters Company and four line companies purchasing a monthly bond.

The achievement culminated a six-month program to arouse interest in the "good sense" of saving for the future, and in strengthening the United States' ability to combat aggression by cutting down the gold outflow.

EDUCATION CENTER OFFERS OPPORTUNITIES FOR 84TH

The pursuit of knowledge may seem an impractical undertaking for members of a U. S. Army Engineer Construction battalion in Vietnam. But men of the 84th Engineer Battalion (Construction) are taking advantage of learning opportunities provided by their unit's education program.

The battalion's Education Center, established in July of this year, is capable of administering high school and college level General Education Development (GED) test batteries, which lead to high school equivalency diplomas and one-year college credit certificates. It also processes applications for correspondence courses offered by the U. S. Armed Forces Institute (USAFI).

Response to the education program has been vigorous -- so great, in fact, that Education Center personnel have to work overtime to handle all the applications. Thus far, over 100 men with less than a high school education have applied for high school GED testing. This is about 25 percent of all men in the battalion who qualify for such testing, an impressive degree of participation.

Including those taking correspondence courses, a total of 130 men are taking part in the program. They represent 14 percent of the entire battalion.

About 20 percent of those participating in the testing are non-commissioned officers, indicating a strong desire on the part of career soldiers to improve their education.

The 84th's education program is slated for still further expansion. Day rooms are being planned to include "education corners," and unit commanders have expressed a strong desire to set up group classes and instructional sessions.

'NOW YOU SEE IT..'

"The chameleon is disappearing!"

This cry of alarm, heard often nowadays around the 84th Engineer Battalion (Construction), is not entirely justified, but it's true that the adaptable little lizard is becoming much less prominent around the 84th.

The chameleon is part of the unit's old crest, which features the reptile on a red and white background. It symbolizes the 84th's former function as a "camouflage battalion" during World War II.

Officers of the 84th decided it was high time for a change several months ago when a young second lieutenant, seeing the crest for the first

time, asked how Army Engineers employed chameleons in their construction effort.

An urgent message requesting assistance was sent to the Institute of Heraldry in Washington, D. C. Help finally came in the form of a proposed new crest, depicting the battalion's achievements in engineer construction during the Korean and Vietnam conflicts.

What happened to the chameleon? He refused to pull a complete "disappearing" act. He's on the new crest, but smaller than before and seemingly with a new outlook in life.

The chameleon seems to be saying "Essayons".

PERSONAL

GLIMPSSES

PSG James A. Bates of Company C, 39th Engineer Battalion (Combat), recently added an unusual trophy to his collection of souvenirs from Vietnam.

PSG Bates was working on construction of the access road to the recently-completed Port Lane facilities when he noticed something moving through the rocks along the side of the road.

Investigating he found a king cobra staring him in the face. Picking up the nearest available weapon -- a five-gallon water can -- he made full use of his 6-foot 5-inch, 270-pound physique and brought the can crashing down on the nine-foot reptile. It died instantly.

* * *

Officers became cook's helpers at the Than's giving Day feast at 45th Engineer Group Headquarters. LTC Michael J. McCarthy, Group XO, served turkey and CPT Charles E. Williams, CO of Headquarters Company, served mashed potatoes to the hungry enlisted men. SFC Robert E. McCarthy, first sergeant, passed out free packages of cigarettes.

SP4 Terence Stoneking of the 73d Engineer Company (Construction Support) recently lost a chance for a Soldier of the Month award by taking action that showed he was a prime candidate for the honor. Stranded on the highway when his 10-ton tractor-trailer broke down, he stayed with the vehicle overnight rather than leave it unguarded to look for help. When found the next morning, he'd been without sleep for 30 hours and without food for 22 hours, and was in no condition to go before a Soldier of the Month board in two hours.

TAKE FIVE

NEED FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS

By Chaplain (Maj) William L. Jobson
45th Engineer Group

In the early days of our republic, Patrick Henry inserted this closing paragraph in his will:

"I have now disposed of all my property to my family; there is one thing more I wish I could give them and that is my religious faith. If they had this, and I had not given them one shilling, they would be rich; but if they had not that, and I had given them all the world, they would be poor."

We Americans are proud of many aspects of our heritage: our love of liberty, our limitless natural resources, our eagerness for learning, our military supremacy, our inherent spirit of good will. There is another aspect of our philosophy that we sometimes overlook. That is the deep conviction that was held by our forefathers that "Righteousness exalteth a nation."

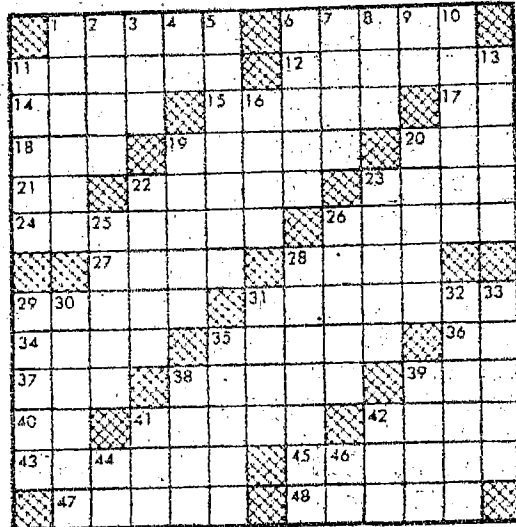
If America had no other role to play in the world of our day than to keep alive the conviction that righteousness gives worth to the life of any people, this would be a sufficient destiny to require the

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Answer to Previous Puzzle

S	P	A	T	E	D	S	L	I	R	E
H	E	R	O	L	I	O	A	N	E	T
A	N	I	L	E	S	L	O	W	P	A
N	E	E	S	P	E	D	P	E	N	
P	A	L	S	E	E	S	G	A	L	A
A	N	F	E	E	L	P	E	R		
S	T	A	R	E	D	H	O	R	T	L
P	O	P	F	A	R	M	O	F		
I	T	E	M	L	O	L	L	M	O	T
R	E	D	T	E	L	L	H	A	S	
A	A	G	R	A	L	B	A	R	E	S
T	S	A	R	S	O	R	A	I	S	T
S	E	L	S	E	W	E	R	E	T	A

- ACROSS
- 1-Entreaties
- 6-Compress
- 11-Most exact
- 12-Part of ship
- 14-Cast
- 15-River in Germany
- 17-A state (abbr.)
- 18-Poem
- 19-Athletic groups
- 20-Proposition
- 21-French article
- 22-Walk wearily
- 23-Century plant
- 24-Holds in high regard
- 26-Urges on
- 27-War god
- 28-Blackbird
- 29-Mountain lakes
- 31-Crucifixes
- 34-Native metal (pl.)
- 35-Glistened
- 36-Note of scale
- 37-It is (contr.)
- 38-The ones there
- 39-Large tub
- 40-Plural ending
- 41-Encloses in paper
- 42-Doom
- 43-One's profession
- 45-Wipes out
- 47-Famed
- 48-Challenged
- DOWN
- 1-Punctilious persons
- 2-Entice
- 3-Lamprey
- 4-Conjunction
- 5-Brooks
- 6-Give wavy appearance to
- 7-Hurries
- 8-Fruit drink
- 9-Physician (abbr.)
- 10-Punctuation mark
- 11-Wooden pin
- 13-Is borne
- 16-Cuts of meat
- 19-Corners
- 20-Sudden calamities
- 22-Gull-like birds
- 23-Stood up
- 25-Biblical weeds
- 26-Lying face down
- 28-Spanned
- 29-Indian memorial post
- 30-Gotten up
- 31-Cut up
- 32-Puffed up
- 33-Satiates
- 35-Fragment
- 38-Woody plant
- 39-Urn
- 41-Humor
- 42-Distant
- 44-Preposition
- 46-Sun god



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PROMOTIONS

COL George M. Bush, CO, 45th Engr Gp
 CPT David G. Nevers, HHC, 45th Engr Gp
 LLT Raymond R. Seaman, 572d Engr Co
 LLT Theodorus C. Veenhuis, Co D, 577th Engr Bn
 LLT Thomas F. Basgen, Co B, 577th Engr Bn
 LLT Edward A. Brown, Co B, 577th Engr Bn
 LLT James H. Howard, Co B, 577th Engr Bn
 SFC Joseph B. Potvine, HHC, 20th Engr Bn
 SSG Paul A. Estep, 584th Engr Co
 SSG Clarence V. Jackson, 572d Engr Co
 SSG George E. Murray, 572d Engr Co
 SSG Russell O. Hendry Jr., HHC, 45th Engr Gp
 SSG Franklin D. Wood, HHC, 577th Engr Bn
 SSG Pete P. Perez, 553d Engr Co
 SSG Everette L. Stroud, Co A, 39th Engr Bn
 SSG William F. Johnson, 553d Engr Co
 SSG Walter L. Saltkill, HHC, 39th Engr Bn
 SGT Amando Garcia, HHC, 45th Engr Gp
 SGT James R. Booth, HHC, 45th Engr Gp
 SGT James W. Drummond, HHC, 45th Engr Gp
 SGT Charles Latham, Co A, 39th Engr Bn
 SP5 Albert A. Shamitis, HHC, 45th Engr Gp
 SP5 Charles H. Hinman, Co A, 20th Engr Bn
 SP5 William L. Smith, 572d Engr Co
 SP5 Robert M. Lucas, 572d Engr Co
 SP5 Ernest N. Hall, 572d Engr Co
 SP5 Charles W. Alston, 572d Engr Co
 SP5 Richard S. Mooney, 572d Engr Co
 SP5 James W. Jones, 572d Engr Co
 SP5 Charles L. Doughty, 553d Engr Co
 SP4 Verlin G. Roberts, 572d Engr Co
 SP4 Edward P. Pokorski Jr., 572d Engr Co
 SP4 McGlohon Westberry Jr., 572d Engr Co
 SP4 Edwin E. Jones, 572d Engr Co
 SP4 Richard W. Wisniewski, Co C, 39th Engr Bn
 SP4 David L. Eaves, Co C, 39th Engr Bn
 SP4 Gregory B. Feiler, Co C, 39th Engr Bn
 SP4 Thomas E. Newcomb, HHC, 45th Engr Gp
 SP4 Charles W. Thurman, HHC, 45th Engr Gp
 SP4 Paul D. Allen, HHC, 45th Engr Gp
 SP4 Larry C. Lindsay, HHC, 45th Engr Gp
 SP4 Herbert J. Oberc, HHC, 45th Engr Gp
 SP4 Wallace K. Nakandakari, HHC, 45th Engr Gp
 SP4 Lewis E. Ray, Co A, 577th Engr Bn
 SP4 Charles Hull, Co A, 577th Engr Bn
 SP4 Rodriguez Oswaldo, Co A, 577th Engr Bn
 SP4 David A. Schneider, Co A, 577th Engr Bn
 SP4 John W. Walters, Co A, 577th Engr Bn
 SP4 Gilbert Trinidad, Co A, 577th Engr Bn
 SP4 Lawrence L. Beyer, Co A, 577th Engr Bn
 SP4 Morris C. Fryer, Co A, 577th Engr Bn
 SP4 Julian W. Gates, Co B, 577th Engr Bn
 SP4 Eugene L. Hummel, Co B, 577th Engr Bn
 SP4 Maynard R. Elj, Co B, 577th Engr Bn
 SP4 William L. Elm, HHC, 577th Engr Bn
 SP4 Joseph R. Turner, HHC, 577th Engr Bn
 SP4 Alan B. Cholminsky, HHC, 577th Engr Bn
 SP4 Paul G. Bastarache, Co B, 577th Engr Bn
 SP4 Larry J. Weidner, Co B, 577th Engr Bn
 SP4 Cornell Jennings, Co B, 577th Engr Bn
 SP4 Frank W. Klaszky, Co B, 577th Engr Bn

SP4 Henry A. Tanner, Co B, 577th Engr Bn
 SP4 James S. Micco Jr., Co B, 577th Engr Bn
 SP4 James R. Weatherman, Co B, 577th Engr Bn
 SP4 James B. Osterman, Co B, 577th Engr Bn

AWARDS

Air Medal

COL George M. Bush, CO, 45th Engr Gp

Bronze Star

CPT Edward Starbird, Co D, 577th Engr Bn
 SPT Joseph W. Magruder, HHC, 39th Engr Bn
 CPT Frank G. Goldenberg, HHC, 45th Engr Gp
 CPT James W. Tritz, HHC, 39th Engr Bn
 LLT Johnny C. Joyle, HHC, 39th Engr Bn
 LLT Leonce F. Castagnos, Co C, 39th Engr Bn
 LLT Andrew A. Dykes, 513th Engr Co
 LLT Lawrence C. Underwood, HHC, 45th Engr Gp
 CWO W-4 Jack Ross, HHC, 577th Engr Bn
 LSG Joe E. Cannington, HHC, 39th Engr Bn
 LSG Charles J. Geiss, HHC, 39th Engr Bn
 MSG Billy E. Mann, HHC, 39th Engr Bn
 PSG Edward L. Hollandsworth, Co A, 39th Engr Bn
 PSG Willis E. Jackson, Co A, 20th Engr Bn
 SFC Arthur A. Wood, 572d Engr Co
 SSG John W. Sipp Jr., HHC, 84th Engr Bn

Army Commendation Medal

LLT Richard K. Patterson, HHC, 39th Engr Bn
 SSG Carter G. Bryant, Co A, 39th Engr Bn
 SSG Richard L. Heiges, Co A, 39th Engr Bn
 SGT Frank Given, Co A, 39th Engr Bn

18th Engr Bde Certificate Of Achievement

LSG Charles J. Geiss, HHC, 39th Engr Bn

* * *

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!