



MILITARY TERMS, ABBREVIATIONS, AND ACRONYMS

Improved conventional munitions: munitions characterized by the delivery of two or more anti-personnel or anti-materiel and/or anti-armor sub-munitions by a warhead or projectile

inactive aircraft inventory (IAI): aircraft in storage or bailment and/or government-furnished equipment on loan or lease outside of the Defense establishment or otherwise not available to the Military Services



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Words to Ponder:

"No one starts a war...without first being clear in his mind what he intends to achieve by that war and how he intends to conduct it."

~ Lt Gen (Ret) Hal Moore



Pray for our Deployed Members:

Chaplain Brian Palmer and Family: US Army, serving the Lord in Fort McCoy, Wisconsin
Andrew Folz: US Air Force, deployed overseas

Together in Scripture Reading:

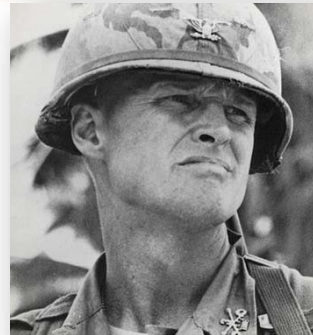
This month:
the book of Second Timothy



Leave No Man Behind

Colonel Steve Martin

"When we go into combat, I will be the first man on the ground, and the last man out, and I will leave no man behind." Standing in front of his new command for the first time in 1965, Lieutenant Colonel (LTC) Hal Moore (pictured at right, circa 1965) left a stark impression on both the newest troops as well as the grizzled veterans. Moore was already a decorated combat veteran of the Korean War and well prepared for the battles his men would face in the future. He did not lack the courage or resolve required to take his men into battle and face the enemy in his own territory. As commander of the 1st Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), his troops would be the first to use a new concept of warfare that would involve flying helicopters to landing zones far behind enemy lines. Little did LTC Moore know at the time, but his courage and resolve would be tested to the limit in much the same way as one of his 7th Cavalry predecessors did less than a century before. That predecessor was Lieutenant Colonel George Armstrong Custer and the location of his fight was Little Bighorn.



As American involvement in Vietnam increased in the early 1960s, the People's Army of Vietnam (PAVN) actively looked for areas of engagement to kill Americans and thus demonstrate its ability to turn back a larger and better equipped army as they had done in the 1950s with the French. The PAVN knew that they did not have the resources or capability to launch attacks directly against fortified bases. Their mode of operations centered on drawing American forces away from the bases into the jungles where the PAVN would have the advantage. LTC Moore and the 7th Cavalry were assigned the task of going into enemy territory and performing a "seek and destroy" mission against the PAVN forces.

On November 14, 1965, the 7th Cavalry Regiment was flown deep into North Vietnamese territory to the Ia Drang Valley. Intelligence reports indicated that there was a PAVN presence in this area and that there was a "football field sized" opening that could be used for a landing zone (LZ) for helicopters to bring in the troops and supplies. What intelligence sources had not been able to determine was where the PAVN was basing its operations. No one

knew at the time that the Chu Pong Mountain, overlooking the Ia Drang Valley, was the basecamp for at least two NVA regiments. The ambush was almost immediate as Moore and his men began receiving gunfire and mortar rounds. One recon platoon captured a PAVN deserter who told them that Chu Pong Mountain was the base camp for the 33rd and 66th PAVN Regiments and "they want very much to kill Americans but have not been able to find any." LTC Moore's total force numbered about 450 soldiers. When the 7th Cavalry landed and began offloading soldiers, they had landed right in the middle of over 4,000 PAVN troops. Once again history had repeated itself and the 7th Cavalry was in a very hostile environment. They were surrounded, outnumbered and outgunned.

The LZ was of vital importance to the Air Mobility battalion. Troops were to be delivered, supplied and extracted by UH-1 helicopters (Hueys). LTC Moore knew that his only source of help and reinforcement would come through that LZ and he had to keep it open at all costs. Rather than gathering his men into a centralized position, Moore ordered his four companies into defensive positions set up to establish a perimeter around the LZ.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

"When we go into combat, I will be the first man on the ground, and the last man out, and I will leave no man behind."

DID YOU KNOW: ORIGIN AND TYPES OF GRENADES (Pt. 2)

Editor's Note: In the conclusion, we will look at the American use of hand grenades and the six major types of grenades.

U.S. forces use colored smoke, white smoke, riot-control, special purpose, fragmentation, offensive, and practice hand grenades. Each grenade has a different capability that provides the soldier with a variety of options to successfully complete any given mission. Hand grenades give the soldier the ability to kill enemy soldiers and destroy enemy equipment. Historically, the most important hand grenade has been the fragmentation grenade, which is the soldier's personal indirect weapon system. Offensive grenades are much less lethal than fragmentation grenades on an enemy in the open, but they are very effective against an enemy within a confined space. Smoke and special purpose grenades can be used to signal, screen, control crowds or riots, start fires, or destroy equipment. Because the hand grenade is thrown by hand, the range is short and the casualty radius is small. The 4- to 5-second delay on the fuse allows the soldier to safely employ the grenade.

The six types of hand grenades are:

- **Fragmentation.** These grenades are used to produce casualties by high-velocity projection of fragments



- **Illuminating.** This grenade is used to provide illumination of terrain and targets.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

John Vandiver

Purple Heart for Traumatic Brain Injury

Editor's Note: The following was adapted from an article by John Vandiver, published in the *Stars and Stripes* on 14 September 2016.

For nearly 10 years, Tech. Sgt. David Nafe was largely in the dark as he fought memory loss, migraines, mood swings and stigma.

Nothing was the same after a 2005 blast of incoming mortars at a base in Balad, Iraq, that left no outward injuries. For eight years until his head injury was diagnosed, birthdays were inexplicably forgotten, anniversaries missed and Nafe's job performance suffered.

Now, 11 years later, Nafe's war

wound has finally been acknowledged with the Purple Heart, the result of a push from a Stuttgart special operations headquarters that has made the recognition and treatment of traumatic brain injuries among those in its ranks a centerpiece of the command's culture.

"TBI shows how someone can look completely normal on the outside but have injuries that aren't visible," said Nafe, who serves as a communications specialist assigned to Special Operations Command Africa headquarters in Stuttgart. "It's not feeling like yourself all the time anymore, but you can't really point to what it is."

'The insidious part of this injury is that you look perfectly normal to everybody else, and they wonder what the heck is wrong with that guy?'



Nafe, 32, was pinned with the Purple Heart during a ceremony in September 2016 by Brig. Gen. Donald Bolduc, head of Africa Command's special operations forces, who summoned his Stuttgart staff to mark the occasion.

Nafe's difficulties, Bolduc said, match his own battle with a TBI. "I know the struggle you have been through personally," said Bolduc, turning to face Nafe. "The insidious part of this injury is that you look perfectly normal to everybody else, and they wonder what the heck is wrong with that guy?"

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

Leave No Man Behind

(continued from page 1)

The 7th Cavalry was composed of three rifle companies (Alpha, Bravo, and Charlie) and one heavy weapons company (Delta). Each Huey could bring in about 10-12 fully equipped soldiers and the LZ could safely accommodate up to eight Hueys at a time. There were sixteen Huey helicopters assigned to the 7th Cavalry, so the battalion would be delivered to the LZ in several "lifts" carrying just less than one complete company each time. As the flights were landing, soldiers were moving to their assigned defensive positions across open terrain and under enemy gunfire and mortars.

Maintaining that perimeter under heavy enemy fire and constant assaults was a continuous maneuver of reinforcements arriving on helicopters to shore up defensive positions. Combat medics worked feverishly to assist the injured and dying. Casualties were heavy. During the waning daylight hours, soldiers of the 7th Cavalry held doggedly to their defensive positions and were able to turn back several assaults using pin-point artillery support to keep the PAVN at bay. Moore's troops remained on full alert throughout the night and maintained excellent weapons discipline to keep the PAVN from determining

their positions. Artillery, grenades and rifle fire kept the enemy from advancing even though at times the two forces were less than 30 yards apart.

On the morning of November 15, the PAVN launched an all-out attack against the American forces from three different directions. American artillery was cutting the PAVN to pieces, but the sheer numbers of troops was overwhelming. The desperate battle kept pushing and closing the American perimeter to the point that there were PAVN and American troops fighting hand-to-hand. Moore and his commanders continued to maneuver his squads and platoons from one sector of the perimeter to another shoring up defensive positions. The PAVN eventually broke C Company's line and began killing wounded soldiers. With dense fire coming at his forces from three different sides, Moore knew that his men were in danger of being overrun and the LZ was "severely threatened." He told his Forward Air Controller to send a coded message to be broadcast over all channels - "Broken Arrow, Broken Arrow!"

The coded message - "Broken Arrow" signified that an American

combat unit was in danger of being overrun and called for all available aircraft in South Vietnam to come to the unit's aid. LTC Moore instructed his company commanders to throw smoke grenades over the lines to identify the battalion's perimeter. The coming close air support broke the PAVN attack, but not before exposing several members C Company to "friendly fire" when an F-100 Super Sabre dropped napalm in dangerously close proximity to American troops killing several soldiers along with a large number of PAVN. Subsequent napalm drops were quickly averted so as to not endanger additional American forces.

The NVA was decimated during the fight on November 15. As they fell back to regroup, the exhausted 7th Cavalry continued to entrench and fortify their defensive positions. So heavy had been the fighting that trees were stripped of their foliage and the landscape was almost barren. When the PAVN launched their last assault on the morning of November 16, the fields of fire were now clear and American artillery was zeroed in. When the PAVN launched a series of 100-to-200-man assaults in rapid succession, they were obliterated by the American forces.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



Snowball's Chance (part 2)

Editor's Note: Last month, we started relaying this humorous account of a snowball fight between Confederate soldiers near Rappahannock Academy in February 1863.

Understandably, the Georgians were taken by surprise when the barrage of friendly fire hit them in the form of a metric ton of snow. It was looking like a quick victory for Hoke's boys, until everyone at the nearby camps noticed what was going on and decided to help. The influx of reinforcements joined in on the ruckus and pushed Hoke's soldiers back.

With North Carolina on the retreat, Colonel Stiles quickly convened a Council of Snowball War for counterattack measures. He decided to employ a variation of the most

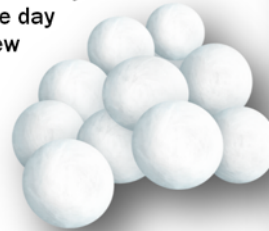


basic of military strategies: organize his troops, put a snowball in the hand of each man and march straight into the heart of "enemy" territory.

Sadly, Stiles had never learned the "build a big snow wall and park yourself behind it" gambit as a kid, while Hoke clearly had plenty of experience. Stiles' men stormed the North Carolinians' camp in a neat formation – only to find Hoke's troops standing steadfast against them, each one of them holding the middle schooler's equivalent of a Gatling gun: a sack filled to the brim with snowballs.

R. Jason Benson

What followed was nothing less than a snowbath, where hundreds of Georgians were captured and "whitewashed." It was later described by a participant as "one of the most memorable combats of the war." Even though the Georgians and their allies eventually succumbed to the superior firepower of the North Carolinians, everyone went back to their camps happy – they'd all had jolly good fun, and the worst injuries of the day were a few bumps and scrapes here and there.



Did You Know: ORIGIN AND TYPES OF GRENADES PART 2

(Continued from page 2)

- **Chemical.** These grenades are used for incendiary, screening, signaling, training, or riot-control.



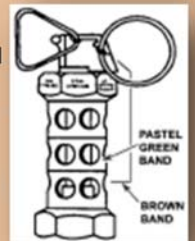
- **Offensive.** This grenade is used for blast effect.



- **Practice and Training.** These grenades are for training personnel in use, care and handling of service grenades



- **Nonlethal.** This grenade is used for diversionary purposes or when lethal force is not desired.



Traumatic Brain Injury

In 2001, Bolduc was a young Green Beret major, part of the first wave of forces into Afghanistan, where he would serve several combat tours. During one of those tours, Bolduc suffered a brain injury in a 2005 helicopter crash.

He also suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder and has chronic pain from a blast injury that required hip replacement, receiving treatment for both, Bolduc said.

Bolduc's TBI – a 9-millimeter injury to his brain – was diagnosed years later in 2013.

"When he (Nafe) talks about memory loss, trouble communicating, mood swings, nausea; I had it all," Bolduc said in an interview. "Until you seek treatment for those types of issues, you aren't going to be able to deal with them effectively."

Pictured at right: Tech Sgt David Nafe receiving Purple Heart from Brig. Gen. Donald Bolduc.

For more information, visit www.stripes.com

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Swimming Pool or Horse Trough?

(author unknown)

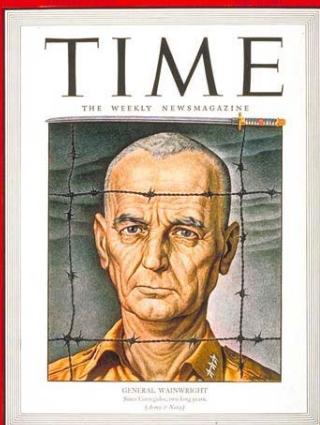
While commanding at Ft. Clark, a small cavalry post in Texas about 125 miles west of San Antonio, during the Great Depression, then Col. Jonathan Wainwright decided that the post needed a swimming pool. So he put in a request to the War Department. Quite naturally, given the strained economy, the War Department nixed the idea. Wainwright tried again, only to be rebuffed once more.

Figuring there was no chance he'd get lucky the third time, Wainwright changed his request. Rather than a swimming pool, he requested the construction of a watering point for horses be built.

Believe it or not, the War Department of the United States concurred, and soon, the appropriate funds were made available.

The "watering point" was built by partially damming Las Moras Creek, a spring that flows through the post at a constant 68-degrees, year 'round. It's still there, reportedly the third largest outdoor swimming pool in Texas, just a few steps from the old officers' club.

Pictured at left: then Lt. Gen. Jonathan Wainwright on the cover of Time Magazine, 8 May, 1944.



Most hand grenades can be thrown 125 feet or so by average soldiers and have an effective casualty radius of up to 50 feet, lethal to 15 feet. The effective casualty radius can be greatly increased by the use of a grenade launcher. Grenade launchers are typically man-portable, shoulder-fired weapons issued on a squad level, though larger launchers are sometimes mounted on armored vehicles. They can be muzzle-fired, shoulder-fired, attached (to a standard-issue rifle), or automatic.

Sources: the Army Study Guide, inventors.about.com, grenade web page on olive-drab.com, and USMC ordnance web page

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- Jeanne Hayden - 2
- Chris Harris - 3
- Avery Stewart - 5
- Natalia Carver - 15
- Gene Mesley - 20
- Todd Huskey - 23
- Bill Blake - 29

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES:

- NONE

MAILBAG FOR ANDREW FOLZ

For those who would like to drop Andrew Folz a note of encouragement, his deployed address is:

Andrew Folz
1 ECEG
Unit 61239
APO AE 09309-1239

Author's Note: Lieutenant General Harold (Hal) G. Moore, Jr. died on February 10, 2017, three days before his 95th birthday. He is buried at Fort Benning, Georgia.

Prayer Notes, Event Announcements

Please continue to pray for Ashley Huskey as she is being treated for vasculitis. Please keep Phil Wagher in your prayers for continued health and strength. Andrew Folz, son of Ken and Cheryl Folz, is deployed overseas with the Air Force.

Please keep Andrew and his family in your prayers during this period of separation. Please continue to keep Brian and Ivey Palmer in your prayers as they minister to soldiers and families at Ft. McCoy,

Wisconsin. I talked with Brian a couple of weeks ago and he greatly appreciates all of the prayers from our ministry and ask for our prayers for God's will in his next assignment. Please continue to keep our new President, Donald Trump, and his administration in your prayers!

~ Colonel Martin

Coming up next month:

- The surprising origin of shrapnel

THIS MONTH IN MILITARY HISTORY

01 Mar 1954 - Ted Williams fractures collarbone in first game of spring training with the Boston Red Sox after flying 39 combat missions without injury in Korean War.

02 Mar 1825 - Roberto Cofresí, one of the last successful Caribbean pirates, is defeated in combat and captured by authorities. The Capture of the El Mosquito refers to the

defeat of Roberto Cofresí and his pirate ship off the port town of Boca Del Infierno, Puerto Rico by American and Spanish forces in March 1825.

No Man Left Behind

The PAVN losses at this point were so high that they retreated from Chu Pong Mountain, unable to continue the fight.

UH-1 Helicopter pilots flew through extremely dangerous conditions to keep the 7th Cavalry supplied with ammunition, medical supplies, and reinforcement troops to assist the beleaguered battalion. They airlifted many wounded soldiers from the battlefield. These brave crews flew mission after mission throughout the battle, in the most dangerous combat conditions possible, and were continually the focal point of PAVN fire while landing at the LZ. Major Bruce Crandall and Captain Ed "Too Tall" Freeman volunteered to fly their unarmed and lightly armored UH-1 Hueys into the fray after the LZ had been closed to medical evacuation helicopters. Both Crandall and Freeman were awarded our country's highest decoration for courage, The Congressional Medal of Honor, for their actions in the Battle of the Ia Drang Valley. Without the bravery of Bruce Crandall, Ed Freeman and the other members of Company A, 229th Assault Helicopter Battalion, the 7th Cavalry would never have survived the battle.

The Battle of the Ia Drang Valley was the first major engagement between the American forces and the People's Army of Vietnam and as such, marked a major escalation in the war. Both armies declared victory. The American forces had defeated a numerically superior army in their own territory. The PAVN claimed to

have stood toe-to-toe with the mighty American military and claimed a moral victory in their cause. It was a pattern that was to be oft repeated in the years to follow. LTC Moore's battalion had 96 men killed and 121 wounded during the battle. It is estimated that the PAVN had as many as 2,000 casualties.

Lieutenant General Hal Moore (pictured below in 2004) retired from the U.S. Army in 1977. His command of the 1st Battalion, 7th Cavalry is the stuff of legend in military circles. The combat tactics he used are still being taught at West Point and to infantrymen at Fort Benning, Georgia. In 1992, he and Joe Galloway co-authored the book "We Were Soldiers Once...and Young" telling the story of the Battle of the Ia Drang Valley. The book was made into a motion picture of the same name.

More importantly, Moore escaped the legacy of the 7th Cavalry at Little Bighorn and kept his promise to his men - he WAS the first member of the 7th Cavalry in; he WAS the last member to leave the battlefield; and he left no man behind.

The Bible is God's Word to us, and in it we have many great promises that we can rely on during the most difficult of times. When Jesus told us that He would never leave us or forsake us, we are given a guarantee

as strong as the foundations of the earth that He will be with us even in our darkest and most difficult days. The battles of this life can often be vicious and at times leave us overwhelmed. The Apostle Paul understood these difficult battles when he penned the words in 2 Corinthians chapter 4; "We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed." Later in that same chapter he says "for our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight in glory."

The battles we face and the afflictions we endure in this life are a testing for a season which are meant to help us spiritually prosper and for our lives to grow in Christ. Just as Jesus has told us that He will not leave us or forsake us, He additionally tells us that we can boldly proclaim that "the Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me." We can boldly fight the faithful fight and know that when our battles are through, Jesus has promised that He will not leave us on the field of battle. He will "receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." It is a wonderful knowledge that we have through the promises of Christ, a faithful Commander, who will never leave us behind!



The Brian Palmer Family

