

The Screaming



Eagle

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Christmas Brings Hope and Girls To Camp Eagle



CAMP EAGLE – Christmas Day dawned wet and foggy in northern I Corps, but there was Hope.

There was also Neil Armstrong, a Chinook-full of great-looking girls, and 18,500 soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines who thoroughly appreciated it all.

Bob Hope came to Camp Eagle for his sixth successive Christmas Day show in Vietnam, and it marked the point farthest north in Vietnam that he has taken his troupe.

The 101st had long wanted to host the Bob Hope show, and a visit by the show's production team in the autumn resulted in approval, jubilation, and the beginning of a lot of hard work.

An 18,000-seat field-expedient amphitheater was constructed between Eagle International Helipad and the Support Command, a plan to move enough men to fill it – on short notice –

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Gen. Wright and Div. CSM Rescue Bn. CO and Co-Pilot

CAMP EVANS — A battalion commander and the pilot of a Light Observation Helicopter (LOH) were rescued recently by Maj. Gen. John M. Wright, Jr., commanding general of the 101st, following a forced helicopter landing in rugged terrain, about 25 miles northwest of Hue.

Unable to land his UH-1 Huey helicopter, Gen. Wright hovered the craft inches above the underbrush while Division Command Sgt. Maj. William T. Mixon pulled the pilot and Lt. Col. Howard G. Crowell into the ship.

Crowell, commander of the 2nd Bn. (Ambl.), 506th Inf., and the pilot of his command and control LOH were stranded when their helicopter was forced to land after being disabled by an enemy booby trap.

The incident began in mid-afternoon when the battalion commander, from Alexandria, Va., had his LOH land near his reconnaissance platoon. The pilot dropped the commander off and returned to the air while Crowell discussed the situation with the platoon leader.

As the LOH landed to pick up Crowell, a soldier who was acting as flank security for the craft, noticed a booby trap concealed under a tuft of grass. The helicopter was about 15 meters from the device when it exploded, spraying the LOH with fragments.

The pilot received minor

fragmentation injuries, but was able to fly away from the position. A few hundred meters from the scene of the blast, the LOH was forced to land in rough terrain.

Crowell and the pilot evacuated the LOH, taking their weapons with them. Another helicopter arrived, but was unable to land or hover close enough to the ground for an evacuation.

Gen. Wright, who was flying in the immediate area, and CSM Mixon, Columbus, Ga., motioned the stranded pair toward a less hazardous area. There, Gen. Wright hovered as close to the ground as possible while CSM Mixon pulled the men aboard.

Both the pilot and Crowell were taken to the 326th Medical Battalion at Camp Evans, north of Hue, where they were treated for minor injuries.



THE HOPE SHOW -- Bob Hope (above top) brought a star-studded show to Camp Eagle Christmas Day. Among the celebrities were Teresa Graves of "Laugh-In" (upper left) and Miss World (above.) At left is the crowd in the Eagle Entertainment Bowl.

(U.S. Army Photos by Spec. 4 Scott Evans and Pfc. Jack Kaaua)

Scholars Given Aid

CAMP EAGLE — Thanks to the "General Walt Scholarship Fund" and the S5 (civil affairs) office of the 2nd Bn.(Ambl.), 502nd Inf., 36 school children in Phu Loc District, south of Hue, will be able to continue their education.

The 36 scholarships, which are sponsored by the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, were made available to the civil affairs office of the 1st Brigade, who in turn made them available to their battalion S5 offices.

According to Capt. Bruce Meier, S5 officer of 2/502, "The need for these grants is due to the fact that many Vietnamese schools are private. Money is required not only for books and proper clothing, but for tuition

as well. The scholarship provides 400 piasters a month for six months to the parents of the child to relieve the burden of these costs."

The recipients of the awards are children between the ages of 8 and 12 years who were chosen on the basis of need, after meeting certain academic standards.

Aerial broadcasts have been informing the people in the district of the scholarships and explaining their benefits.

Concludes Meier, "The Vietnamese are very education-conscious, and these scholarships will help eliminate at least one of the roadblocks to a good education for their children."