You Meet the Nicest People
On the Trails of War Zone C

TAY NINH—Like Hell’s Angeles, the Rat Patrol, and the Wild Ones all rolled into one, the Reconnaissance Patrol of the 3d Battalion, 22d Infantry Regulars prowls War Zone C with 175-cc motorcycles leading the rest of the patrol.

The four motorcycles were introduced into the patrol by the Regulars’ battalion commander, Lieutenant Colonel Robert Cornish, who wanted a fast and efficient way of getting around war zone and staying close to the enemy.

In addition to the motorcycles, the reconnaissance unit includes Rat Patrol-type vehicles equipped with machine guns.

Patrol leader First Lieutenant Stephen Campbell, Falls Church, Va., takes his men out at dawn every morning, with the flak jacket, crash helmet-clad cyclists leading the way. The unit has already uncovered several enemy positions.
On the Trails of War

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The four motorcycles were introduced into the patrol by the Regulars' battalion commander, Lieutenant Colonel Robert Carmichael, who wanted a fast and efficient way for his reconnaissance element to investigate the swarms of trails that twist through the marshes and jungles of what used to be a reliable sanctuary for enemy troops.

"Knowing where the enemy is not as good as knowing where he is," Carmichael says. "This mobile unit can cover a great deal of territory in a very short time, which enables us to gain information on the whereabouts of the enemy.

In addition to the patrols include Rat Patrol - four motorcycles.

Patrol leader Sergeant Brady Rosemeyer of Bath, Maine, is convinced of the value of the motorcycles.

"At first I was skeptical. I am confident it will provide us with information we would not have."
First Lieutenant Stephen Campbell, Patrol leader First Lieutenant Stephen Campbell, Falls Church, Va., takes his men out at dawn every morning, with the flak jacket, crash helmet-clad cyclists leading the way. The unit has already uncovered several mortar and rocket sites used by enemy forces.

Major Joseph Hacia, the Regulars' executive officer, is convinced of the value of using the motorcycles.

"At first I was very leery of the whole idea, but now I am confident it was a good one," Hacia says. "Recon has provided us with valuable information which normally we would not have."

By SP4 David DeMauro

Photo Feature

FIRING SITE—The night before the flick above was taken, North Vietnamese or Viet Cong soldiers sent rockets toward a 25th Division camp from this site. Looking over the charge cans are Regulars Specialist 4 Cruz Lozano (left) of Wheeler, Mich., and First Lieutenant Stephen Campbell of Falls Church, Va.

BRINGING SMOKE—Specialist 4 Paul DeShazer of Kansas City, Mo., tests his .50 caliber machine gun mounted on a 3/4 ton. Looking on, but trying not to listen, is Specialist 4 Dennis Leaf of Champion, Mich.
GETTING INTO those hard to reach places is the task of Dennis Verbrigghie and Scott Anderson (background).

People in Zone C

A squad of the reconnaissance unit, on Tyre vehicles equipped with machine guns, patrols the area early morning; helmet-clad cyclists, leading their convey, are often ahead of their motorized comrades.
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TAY, NINH—Like Hell's Angeles, the Rat Patrol, and the Wild Ones all rolled into one, the Reconnaissance Patrol of the 3d Battalion, 29th Infantry Regulars prowls War Zone C with 175-cc motorcycles leading the rest of the patrol.

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