Memorial Day holds special meaning for Americans as a time set aside to commemorate our dead. For soldiers in Vietnam, this day has added meaning because of the loss of close friends and comrades in arms. As we honor these dead and those who have lost their lives in past wars, it is well to remember that our solemn obligation to them springs from the simple truth that they gave their lives for our freedom and for the liberty of our fellow man.

Memorial Day, 1968, finds the American soldier fighting and dying in the same selfless way he has fought and died in other wars on other battlefields. To those men, the Free World owes a deep debt of gratitude and a hymn of praises. For our part, we must make certain that the liberty for which they died survives and flourishes.

Memorial Day Message from General Bruce Palmer Jr., Deputy Commanding General USAV

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AMERICAN DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAN 20) — Action remained sporadic in the American Division's area of southern I Corps yesterday as American Forces killed 21 VC and captured five individual weapons.

Artillery fire from a battery of the 6th Battalion, 11th Artillery accounted for four of the seven enemy killed yesterday in the 11th Brigade's Duc Pho and Operation Muscatine area. Among scattered incidents was a heavy mortar attack on the 11th Brigade's Duc Pho complex which resulted in moderate damage and light casualties.

Units of America's 196th Infantry Brigade killed seven VC and captured five weapons yesterday in scattered contact throughout their Operation Wheel操纵Mallawa area.

17th Cavalry killed four VC yesterday in three incidents in an area seven miles north of Thang Binh.

Scattered enemy activity was reported by the 196th Infantry Brigade elements yesterday as the Brigade's artillery accounted for three VC killed.

A Division Long Range Patrol observed a group of VC five miles southeast of Duc Pho yesterday. The patrol called for artillery from LZ Thunder and reported three enemy killed by the TOT barrage. A second mission requested by a unit of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry late yesterday resulted in one VC killed five miles south of Duc Pho.

"Always First" soldiers from the 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry commanded by Capt. Federico Garcia (Union City, N.J.) killed a VC yesterday seven miles northwest of Duc Pho.

In Operation Muscatine, "Aero Scout" helicopters of the 123rd Aviation Battalion killed two VC and apprehended one suspect seven miles northeast of Quang Ngai.

In the 196th Brigade's area a unit of the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry engaged and killed three VC and captured some equipment in action 12 miles west of Tam Ky. Another unit of the same battalion ambushed a group of VC late yesterday killing one VC 12 miles northwest of Tam Ky.

A 196th Infantry Brigade company of the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry, "Gimlets," led by Capt. Cecil Oxford (Corpus Christi, Texas) engaged a group of VC and killed two of the enemy in two incidents 12 miles west of Tam Ky. Another unit of the same battalion found two individual weapons.

A 196th Infantry Brigade company from the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry working in the 196th Infantry Brigade area of operation, commanded by Capt. John Bierden (Minneapolis, Minnesota) received small arms fire from a group of VC while on a sweep eight miles west of Hoa An. The company returned the fire killing one VC and capturing one carbine and one M-72 LAW.

A unit of the 196th Infantry Brigade's 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry found an AS-47 with ammunition, documents and supplies 14 miles west of Tam Ky.

A Vietnamese civilian aid team called in 198th Infantry Brigade artillery on a group of VC yesterday seven miles northwest of Chu Lai resulting in three VC killed.

Civic action soldiers of the 198th "Brave and Bold" Brigade treated 219 Vietnamese during five MEDCADs yesterday.

Division forces suffered three soldiers killed and 15 wounded and evacuated for treatment.

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