

## HISTORY

### B COMPANY, 4TH MEDICAL BATTALION

BRAVO COMPANY, 4TH MEDICAL BATTALION, TRACES ITS HISTORY BACK TO THE FIFTH SANITARY TRAIN, FIFTH INFANTRY DIVISION, WHICH WAS FORMED AT CAMP LOGAN, TEXAS, IN DECEMBER 1917. BY 1940, THE FIFTH SANITARY TRAIN HAD EVOLVED INTO THE FOURTH MEDICAL BATTALION AND WAS ASSIGNED TO THE FOURTH INFANTRY DIVISION WITH ITS CLEARING UNIT, BRAVO COMPANY.

GOING ASHORE WITH THE DIVISION IN WORLD WAR II AT UTAH BEACH, BRAVO COMPANY GAVE MEDICAL SUPPORT TO IVYMEN THROUGH ST. LO, PARIS, THE SEIGFRIED LINE, AND THE BREAKTHROUGH IN THE ARDENNES. IN ELEVEN MONTHS OF CONTINUOUS ACTION, BRAVO COMPANY SHARED WITH ITS PARENT BATTALION THE TREATMENT AND EVACUATION OF OVER 38,000 CASUALTIES. ALONG WITH THE MEDICAL BATTALION, B COMPANY WAS AWARDED TWO MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATIONS FOR ITS VALOROUS SUPPORT OF THE FOURTH INFANTRY DIVISION IN WORLD WAR II.

BRAVO COMPANY SHARED THE FORTUNES OF THE FOURTH INFANTRY DIVISION IN THE POST-WAR YEARS: INACTIVATION IN 1946, REACTIVATION THE NEXT YEAR AS A TRAINING UNIT, DEPLOYMENT TO EUROPE IN 1950 AS A PART OF THE NATO DEFENSE FORCES AND RETURN TO FORT LEWIS, WASHINGTON IN 1956.

IN 1966, WHEN THE DIVISION DEPLOYED TO SOUTH VIETNAM, BRAVO COMPANY WAS PLACED IN DIRECT SUPPORT OF THE FIRST BRIGADE. SINCE THAT TIME, BRAVO COMPANY HAS RENDERED TIMELY AND EFFECTIVE MEDICAL SUPPORT TO THE FIRST BRIGADE AND THE FOURTH INFANTRY DIVISION. ACCOMPANYING THE MANEUVER ELEMENTS WHEREVER THEY WENT, THE MEN OF BRAVO COMPANY HAVE SHARED THE RIGORS OF WAR IN THE CENTRAL HIGHLANDS. AS AN EXAMPLE OF THEIR SERVICES, IN 1970 ALONE, THE MEDICS AND DOCTORS OF THE UNIT TREATED OVER 14,000 PATIENTS. IN COOPERATION WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM, THE COMPANY

HAS PROVIDED ABLE SUPPORT, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND SUPERVISION TO THE  
AN TUC DISPENSARY.

THE MEN OF BRAVO COMPANY, 4TH MEDICAL BATTALION, HAVE HELPED WRITE  
A GLOWING CHAPTER IN THE HISTORIES OF THE FOURTH MEDICAL BATTALION AND  
THE FOURTH INFANTRY DIVISION.

OFFICERS AND MEN OF COMPANY B, 4TH MEDICAL BATTALION--

THE U.S. ARMY MEDICAL CORPS WAS FOUNDED ON 27 JULY 1775. THROUGHOUT ITS HISTORY, THE AIM OF THE CORPS HAS ALWAYS BEEN TO LIVE UP TO ITS MOTTO-- TO CONSERVE THE FIGHTING STRENGTH. INITIALLY, THE MEDICINES AVAILABLE WERE INADEQUATE AND IN SHORT SUPPLY, EVACUATION WAS BY FOOT OR BY HORSE-DRAWN AMBULANCES, AND THE MEANS OF TREATMENT WERE OFTEN CRUDE. HOWEVER, AS THE YEARS PROGRESSED, DEDICATED AND ABLE MEN WORKED HARD TO UPGRADE THE MEDICAL SUPPORT FROM THE BATTLEFIELD BACK TO THE GENERAL MEDICAL FACILITY. THE RESULT IS THE U.S. ARMY MEDICAL CORPS OF TODAY--ONE WHICH PROVIDES THE MOST PROFESSIONAL, TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED, AND MOBILE MEDICAL SUPPORT AVAILABLE TO ANY ARMY IN THE ENTIRE WORLD.

YOU MEN OF BRAVO COMPANY HAVE PROVED YOURSELVES TO BE THE EPITOME OF THIS FINE ORGANIZATION IN THE FORWARD COMBAT ZONE. PROVIDING CONSTANT, TIRELESS CARE TO THE PERSONNEL OF THE 4TH INFANTRY DIVISION FROM 1966 TO THE PRESENT, YOUR EXPERTISE, DETERMINATION AND DEVOTION TO DUTY HAVE MARKED YOU AS THE PROFESSIONALS TO WHOM I HAVE REFERRED. WORKING PRIMARILY WITH THE 1ST BRIGADE, B COMPANY MOVED THROUGHOUT THE FOURTH DIVISION'S AREA OF OPERATIONS. WHEREVER THE TROOPS MANEUVERED, YOU FURNISHED THE CLEARING STATIONS, THE EMERGENCY TREATMENT FACILITIES, AND THE PERSONNEL PREPARED FOR ANY NECESSITY.

EACH OF YOU HAS EXPERIENCED MANY HARDSHIPS--MONSOON RAINS, HOT, THROAT-SCRATCHING DUST, THE DISCOMFORTS OF REMOTE FIREBASES. NONE OF THESE DETERRED YOU FROM THE EFFICIENT AND TIMELY ACCOMPLISHMENT OF YOUR MISSION-- "TO CONSERVE THE FIGHTING STRENGTH"--AND FOR THIS I AND THE OTHER MEN OF THIS DIVISION ARE ETERNALLY GRATEFUL. THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE OF THIS AREA WILL NOT FORGET YOU EITHER. FOR MANY YEARS TO COME, THEY WILL REMEMBER

THE HELP YOU PROVIDED IN THEIR TIME OF NEED. EACH OF YOU CAN LOOK BACK WITH PRIDE ON YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS HERE IN VIETNAM. YOU HAVE HAD A TOUGH JOB TO DO, AND YOU HAVE DONE IT WELL.

NOW YOU ARE PREPARING TO LEAVE THE 4TH INFANTRY DIVISION. MOST OF YOU WILL BE REASSIGNED TO OTHER UNITS IN-COUNTRY. TO YOU I SAY, SERVE THEM AS WELL AS YOU HAVE SERVED US, AND REMEMBER THAT OUR PRAYERS GO WITH YOU. THE REMAINDER OF YOU WILL BE RETURNING TO THE UNITED STATES. TO YOU I SAY CONGRATULATIONS ON SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETING YOUR TOUR IN VIETNAM. YOU HAVE RENDERED A GREAT SERVICE TO YOUR COUNTRY. TO ALL OF YOU I SAY THAT IT IS AN HONOR FOR ME TO HAVE SERVED WITH YOU--GOOD LUCK AND GODSPEED.