

## Airlift Bolsters 2 Camps

**BU KRAK, Vietnam**— Air Force C130s aided two U.S. Army Special Forces camps near the Cambodian border about 100 miles north of Saigon when they answered an urgent call for defense supplies.

When the camps at Bu Krak and Bu Prang were threatened with attack, 216 tons of barbed concertina wire were dropped. The wire provided a protective shield for the camp.

Aircraft from the 315th Air Div. Hercules fleets at Tan Son Nhut and Cam Ranh Bay made the drops. The wire was loaded at Cam Ranh Bay and rigged by the Army's 109th Aerial Delivery Co.

The first plane over the tiny drop zone was a C130 of the 773<sup>rd</sup> Tactical Airlift Sq. piloted by Capt. Edmund H. Carpenter Jr. The navigator, whose job was even more vital than usual on this "no room for error" mission, was Capt. John S. Embree. Other crew members were: 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. William H. Diggins, copilot; S. Sgt. Anthony G. Jones, flight engineer; S. Sgt. James Lopez, instructor loadmaster; and SSgt. William L. Fugatt and Sgt. Ralph H. Jacob, loadmasters. Also on board was Maj. Albert A. Doskey Jr., 315th Air Div. liaison officer to 7th Air Force.

Four drops were made at 800 feet which barely gave the chutes time to open before the loads hit the ground. All were on target and the plane returned to Cam Ranh Bay for another load.

While the first plane was reloading, another was over the camp making four more drops. The operation continued for four days with two aircraft flying two sorties each day.

An 8th Aerial Port Sq. Combat Control Team directed operations from the drop zone.

*Sent by Patrick Aguilar*