



Tropic Lightning Combat Art

VOLUME IV
VILLARD 88



To the men of the 25th Infantry Division—Volume IV

July-December 1968



SSG DIAZ



SP4 ISCARO



SP4 MCDOWELL



PFC MILLARD

THE ARTISTS

Success has its roots in skill and ability, and the success of the 25th Infantry Division Combat Art Program since its inception in June 1966 rests upon the talents of the many soldier-artists who have actively participated in the program.

Volume IV of the 25th Infantry Division Combat Art is principally the work of seven such men. They are:

SSG JULIO C. DIAZ—SSG Diaz studied art of the University of Puerto Rico before entering the Army. He was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry (Mech) before joining the Combat Artist Program.

SP4 RICHARD L. ISCARO—SP4 Iscaro was a member of the 725th Maintenance Battalion before lending his talents to the Combat Artist Team. He is a graduate of the School of Visual Arts in New York City.

SP4 RICHARD W. MCDOWELL—SP4 McDowell developed his artist skills at El Camino Junior College in California and as a designer for Douglas Aircraft Corporation and Delta Sonics' Corporation.

PFC STEPHEN E. MILLARD—PFC Millard is a "free time" Combat Artist. His contributions represent works produced when not busy at his regular job with the 25th Administration Company. Millard studied art at East Carolina University before entering the Army.

SP4 JIM D. NELSON, SP4 HARRY R. CADDICK and SP4 WILLIAM FLAHERTY JR.—Nelson, Caddick and Flaherty left the Combat Artist Team during the period this volume was under preparation. Nelson and Caddick returned to their pursuits in civilian life and Flaherty joined the Department of the Army Combat Art Program. Their pictures and biographical sketches appear in Volume III.

MAJOR GENERAL ELLIS W. WILLIAMSON, Commanding General of the 25th Infantry Division. Oil by Nelson.





MILADGE



"NUI BA DEN"—Earth and clouds mesh on this rocky summit.—McDowell



"SNIPER"—GI marksman in the long tradition of the American soldier.—Nelson



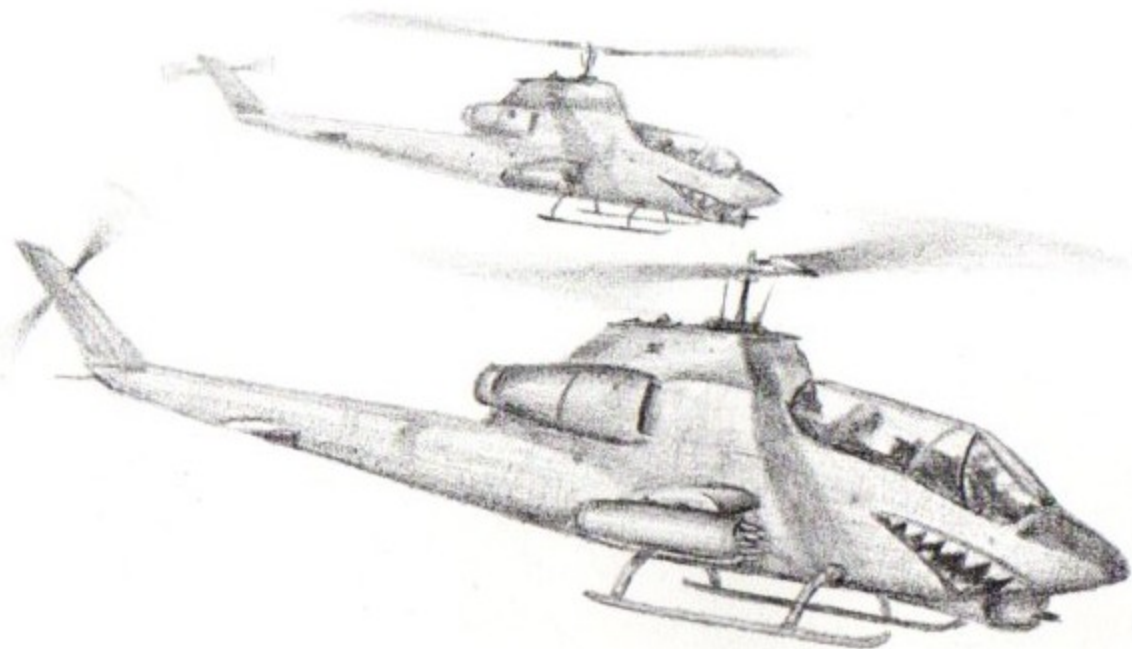
"MORTAR CREW"—The infantry's own artillery lays it on.—Iscaro



"DIGGING IN"—The infantryman's favorite pastime.—Nelson



"DISAPPEARING TRAIL"—Daily frustration in tracking an illusive enemy.—Nelson



"LIGHT FIRE TEAM"—Charlie wonders why we call it light!—Millard



"RIO BRAVO BOUND"—What foot soldier would turn down a ride?—Coddick



"RESUPPLY"—Smoke's out for the hook.—Caddick



"VIETNAMESE FACES"—Ask any Viet-vet if these ring a bell?—McDowell



"OUTGOING"—The big stuff is on the way.—Millard



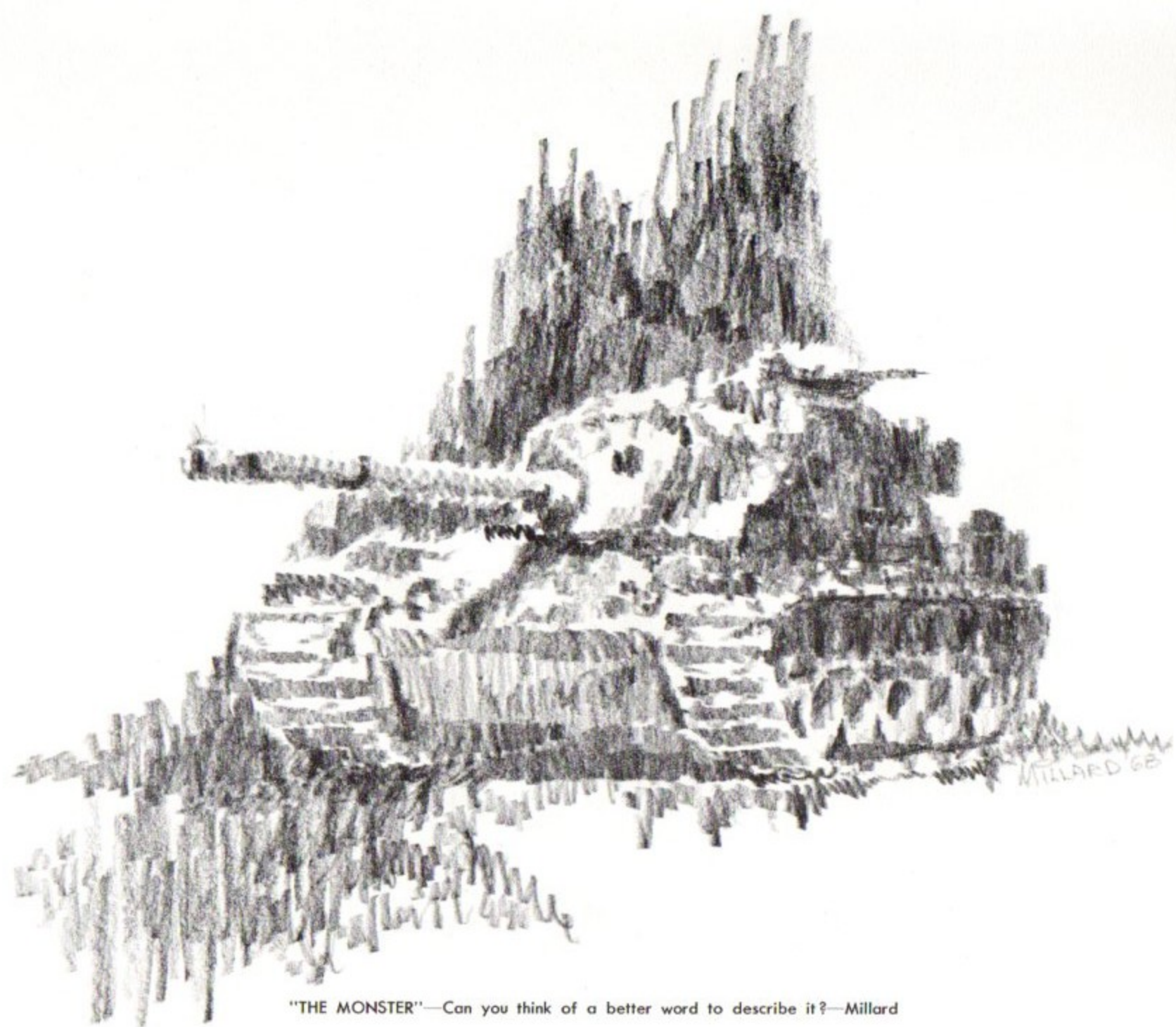
"FIRE MISSION"—Someone out there needs help, and the artillery answers the call.—Nelson



"EAGLE FLIGHT"—We're sure Charlie has a less subtle name for this formation.—Diaz



"MONSOON"—The rains are unkind to the tracks in Vietnam.—Diaz



"THE MONSTER"—Can you think of a better word to describe it?—Millard



"FIRE FIGHT IN THE MICHELIN"—Rubber trees provide the backdrop for war.—Nelson



"FIRE BALL"—Artillery hustles into a new position.—Nelson



"DUST OFF"—The GI knows if he's hit, he'll be out in a hurry.—Diaz



"SHOCK ACTION"—A 3/4 horse tank hits 'em hard.—Nelson



"BIRD DOG"—Its orbit tells Charlie he's in for a hard time.—Iscaro



"RTO"—A unit's link to the outside world.—McDowell



"FLANK SECURITY"—A must in this fighting.—Nelson



"BREAKING JUNGLE"—An APC leads the way through the green.—Iscaro



"COBRA STRIKE"—This weapon strikes quickly like its namesake.—Diaz



"Dawn" - A welcome sight to the infantrymen under fire - McDowell



"HOT LZ"—Helicopter and soldier receive a rude welcome.—Nelson

VOLUME IV

This is the fourth in a series of volumes depicting the Combat Art of the 25th Infantry Division. Through free distribution to all the men of the Tropic Lightning Division, it seeks to provide the widest possible dissemination to those whose exploits have inspired its contents.

The combat artists whose works appear in this volume wish to thank the many officers and men of the 25th Infantry Division who provided invaluable assistance as the artists compiled reference material and gathered ideas for their work. Without this support, the volume and the Combat Art Program it represents would not be possible. Space alone precludes reference to these many individuals.

Volume IV has been prepared under the supervision of the Commanding Officer, 18th Military History Detachment. Cover design is by SSG Julio Diaz and PFC Steve Millard. Layout and editorial copy is by Major Richard A. Baun. The book was printed in Tokyo, Japan by Dai Nippon Printing Company, Limited.

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DIVISION HISTORIAN—Major Richard A. Baun