

Saturday Dec. 30, 1967

# Christmas Came

This article was in  
Stars + Stripes

# Too Late for Dog



Spec. 4 Daniel W. Scott, member of a scout dog team of the 25th Inf. Div. in Vietnam, and his dog Shadow were an inseparable pair until Shadow was killed recently when a mortar round exploded in the kennels.

(USA)

HQ., 2D LOG COMMAND, Okinawa (IO)—A Christmas package arrived in Vietnam addressed to Dan and Shad, but it arrived too late for Shad.

For the past 8 months Spec. 4 Daniel W. Scott and a large shepherd dog by the name of Shadow, were members of a scout dog team with the 25th Inf. Div., in Vietnam.

In July, 1966, Gary L. Burnside of Lancaster, Ohio, now with Hq. and Hq. Co., 2nd Log. Command, donated Shadow to the Army for use in Vietnam. After training, Shad was shipped to Vietnam and assigned to Scott as a scout dog.

Although they have never met, Scott and Burnside have corresponded regularly since Shadow was assigned to Scott.

Among the cards and letters in his Christmas mail, Burnside received this letter from Scott:

"I wish this letter didn't have to be written, but I knew you'd want to be the first to know.

"Last night we got mortared pretty bad. Shad was hit here in Dau Tiang when two enemy mortar rounds came through the roof of the kennel. When I got to him he was dead.

"This morning I buried him beneath the trees. I'm going to make a headstone and put a little white fence around his grave. I feel like part of me is gone.

"I received a Christmas package in the mail, it was addressed to Shad and me from your Mom and Dad. It brought tears to my eyes to think that Shad can't share what little Christmas there is over here with me.

"I would have given anything to have been able to go out to the kennels, to his run and say

Merry Christmas Boy. They are thinking about us back home.

so dig in . . . But, I couldn't, all I could do was go out to Shad's grave. . . .

"I'll always remember him as he was on the day when we set up camp in a big field. I took his collar off and let him run through the grass chasing butterflies and always looking back to see if I was coming.

"I wrote a poem about it. It's not much, but I had to express myself somehow. I thought you'd like to hear it.

*"Somewhere boy, there are fields of green,  
And bright clear skies of blue.  
And somewhere birds and flowers,*

*Are beckoning to you.*

*"Come romp with us," they seem to say,*

*"For finally you've been freed.  
From a war you did not understand,*

*And a race you did not need."  
But as you take your final leave,  
I want you, Shad, to know.*

*You'll never be alone boy,  
For my thoughts go where you go."*

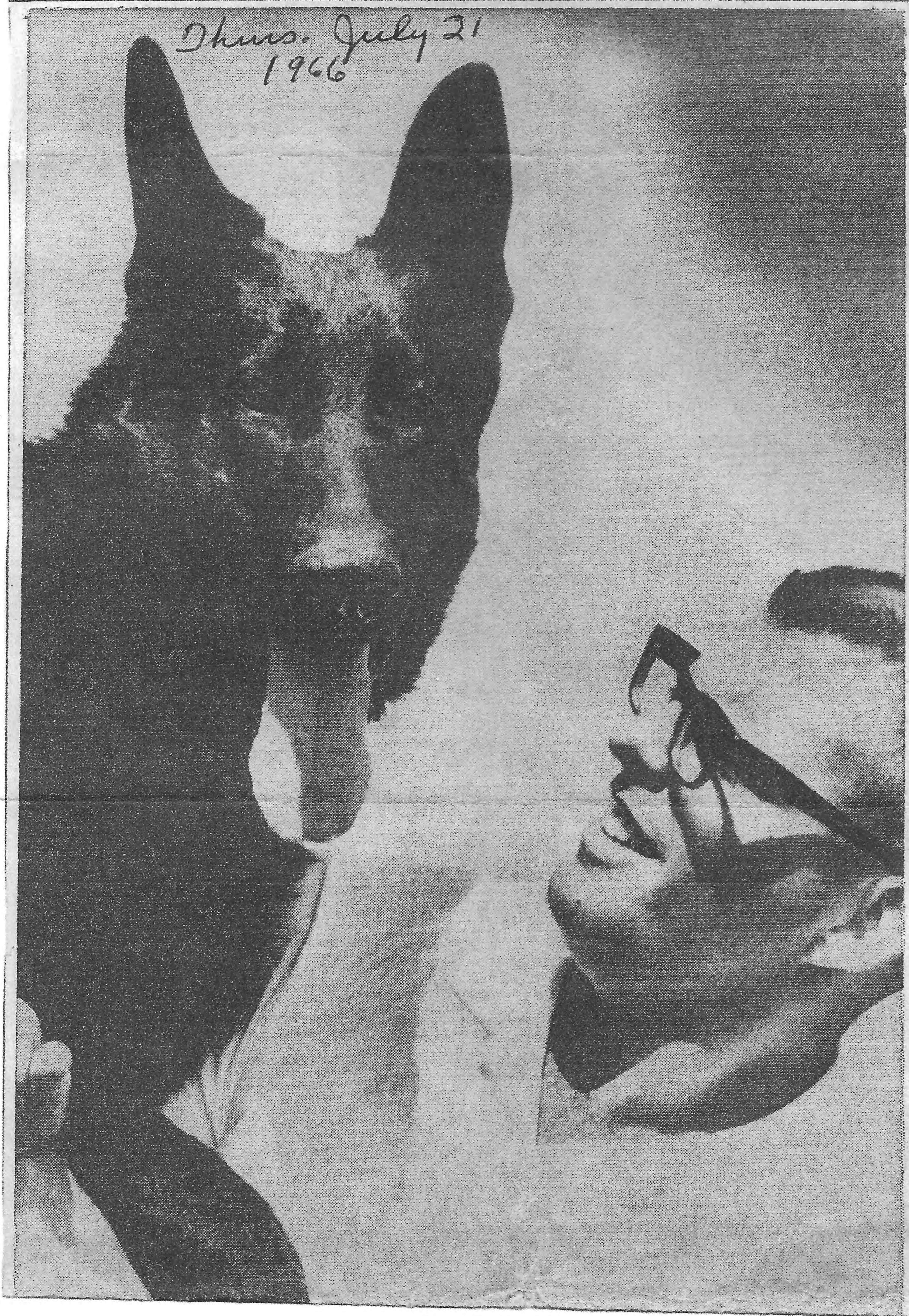
Scott, who has been assigned another dog, says he will give his new charge every opportunity to prove himself a good scout and maybe a good friend, but there will never be another Shad.

# Lancaster Eagle-Gazette

YOUR NEWSPAPER SINCE 1809

LANCASTER, OHIO, THURSDAY, JULY 21, 1966

## Wounded In Clev



This is Shadow-9X00 and Gary Burnside taken right after his graduation from college and before he entered the Army.

In July, 1966, Gary L. Burnside of Lancaster, Ohio, now with Hq. and Hq. Co., 2nd Log. Command, donated Shadow to the Army for use in Vietnam. After training, Shad was shipped to Vietnam and assigned to Spec. 4 Daniel W. Scott. They were a dog team with the 25th Inf. Div., in Vietnam.