



Fourth Inf. Div. troops display the eight-foot tiger they shot in the mountains east of Pleiku recently. The tiger came within three yards of the 1st Bn., 35th Inf. position. (UPI Photo)

Marine May Get Tiger Souvenir

DA NANG, Vietnam (AP) — The young U.S. Marine who was wounded by a tiger in northwest South Vietnam may get the skin of the slain beast.

Spokesmen said Thursday night that if the tropical heat and other problems permit, the project is in the works. They still declined to identify the Marine, listed in good condition in a hospital in Quang Tri City north of Da Nang.

The latest tiger incident occurred while a six-man reconnaissance team was on an

observation mission Sunday about six miles east of the Laos border in northernmost Quang Tri Province.

They had completed their task and were waiting for a helicopter to pick them up when "suddenly I heard somebody scream," said Pfc. Thomas Shainlin. "Then somebody else was yelling, 'It's a tiger, it's a tiger.'"

Pfc. Roy Regan, who was beside the Marine who was attacked, recalled: "I jumped and

saw the tiger on my partner. All I could think about was to get the tiger away from him. I jumped at the tiger and the cat jerked his head and jumped into a bomb crater 10 yards away, still holding his prey."

The Marines quickly pursued the tiger to the crater and opened fire on it. When hit, the tiger dropped the Marine, who was given first-aid treatment for lacerations and bites on the neck. A helicopter soon arrived to pick up him, the rest of the team and the dead tiger.