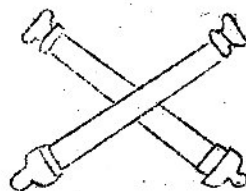


CHARGIN' CHARLIE CHATTER



By: SP4 Ron Frantz

TEXANS AND CRUISE

New arrivals to Chargin' Charlie were: 1Lt John Schuepbach from McAllen, Tex., and 2 Lt Stephen Bresk, Jr. from Houston. Alas, erroneously omitted from last month's roster of newcomers was 2Lt Dennis Vauter of Willoughby, Ohio. Those joining the ranks of the Firing Battery who could be seen searching for a bucket of muzzle blast, bore extractors, or lanyard grease were: Pfc Christopher Muff of Newport, Calif.; Joseph Elliott from Chesterfield, Va.; Pfc Earl Coleman of Somerset, Pa.; Pfc Robert Hepstall of Thomasville, Ala.; Pfc Wayne Pfeifer of Lester Prairie, Minn.; Sp4 Gregory Brueck from Bridgeport, Mich.; Pfc Rodney Farr from Oberlin, Kan.; and Pfc Wayne Vinson of Santa Rosa, Calif. Sp5 Kerry King of Columbus, Ohio rejoined Charlie from Service Battery.

FREEDOM FLYERS

Then there were those few who finally reached "Zero days and a wakeup." Those departing who were awarded the Army Commendation Medal for Service included Sp5 Jerry Brazil who was Motor Sergeant and Sp5 Allen Grissom who was chief computer in the Fire Direction Center. Ssg Robert Williams was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service for his tenure as section chief and ammo sergeant. A fond farewell was also paid to Sp5 David Boyer also awarded the Bronze Star Medal for service rendered as the battery medic over the past two years. During this time, "Doc" organized and participated in over 250 MEDCAPS, treated over 7000 patients, and formulated plans to help build "Green Acres" Chieu Hoi village outside Phuoc Vinh. Sp4 Chester Vanderkolk and Sp4 Mark Hershey left Charlie to become civilians. Also leaving the unit was 2Lt William Smith III who will assume his new duties as Battalion Aerial Observer.

MORE STRIPES

The following individuals were lucky enough to see increases in their monthly pay as they were promoted to their present grade: Sgt John Garvik, Sp5 Dennis Gendreau, Sp5 Daniel Holmes, Sp4 Nels Osterholme, Sp4 James Hollar, Sp4 Fred Sergeant, and Sp4 Joseph Wessels.

NAMED X

Not to be outdone by our Quan Loi counterparts, Chargin' Charlie, with the departure of its various canine mascots was also the somewhat proud owner of a pig whose name must remain withheld. The pig, however, whose future was somewhat speculative, had ideas of his own about any upcoming dinner in his behalf and after several unsuccessful attempts to escape, finally took off one morning without his usual pursuers--he escaped by taking a detour through a mine field.