

6TH BATTALION

# CANNON EARS

27TH ARTILLERY



Vol. 1, No. 5

Quan Loi, RVN, APO 96490

15 January 1970

## 800 LBS. OF PRESENTS

# GI'S ENJOY XMAS GIFTS

The last of the packages was opened. The impoverished Montagnard orphans were smiling. The artillerymen and the maneuver forces they support were convinced that there still was someone who cared. These were but a few of the many reactions that accompanied the arrival of some 800 lbs. of gifts sent by children who were supporting "their men overseas" this Christmas.

The gifts were part of a project called "Operation Vietnam", started in 1966 with the students of E.W. Thurston Jr. High School, Westwood, Mass. sending presents to the 6/27th Arty, who distributed them to fighting units in the Quan Loi area.

The project was the brainchild of Eugene P. Tinory, a major in the Army Reserve, who teaches at the school.  
(See XMAS GIFTS, back page)

## SECOND AWARD

# CITATION

A Meritorious Unit Citation (MUC), submitted by the 23d Artillery Group for the period 1 Feb 68 to 31 Jan 69, has been approved. A Department of the Army General Order is expected to be published about 1 Apr 70. All members of HHB, 23d Artillery Group, or one of the six (6) battalions of the 23d Artillery Group, during the cited period, will be authorized to wear the red colored citation over the right breast when the General Order is published.

(See CITATION, back page)

## BEST SOLDIER AWARD

# TOP EM

SP4 Charles V. Norton of Cincinnati, Ohio, battalion Commo PLL Clerk, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery was chosen as December's Outstanding Soldier of the Month. SP4 Norton, selected by a board on Jan 10, will receive a \$25 bond plus a three-day incountry R&R at Vung Tau. The top soldier was chosen by the Battalion XO and the battery first sergeants. The Soldier of the Month will also receive a certificate of achievement verifying his accomplishment.

HEADQUARTERS & HEADQUARTERS BATTERY

HEAD & HEAD

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

The holiday season is finally over and as was expected--the year did end on a good note. HHB saw its holiday spirit conclude with some vocal celebrating. The officers and the Enlisted Men both spent much of Christmas Eve caroling, saluting the birth of Christ the King. New Year's Eve's harmonizing was also something to behold and most likely will always be remembered by those who did participate.

ANIMAL FARM

The battery's managerie of pets has recently zoomed skyward. After the loss of many of our canine friends, the battery took measures to restore our zoo to respectable standards. "Sam" the cat was soon accompanied by a fowl pair, a goose and a wild turkey. "Goosie Gander" and Tom "The Bomb" Turkey have been seen waddling around the battery area; however, the carnivorous beasts that inhabit the battery have been eying them closely as they fatten up. It is expected that our animal farm will soon be devoured.

HAVE NO MERCY

The battalion's S-1 section stood in amazement as they watched their Christmas tree turn brown. Not only did it signal the end of the holiday season; moreover, it was the first time on record that an artificial tree had turned brown. The brain trust pooled, the astute S-1 team came up with the solution to this most peculiar situation. As with everything else, Quan Loi's clouds of red dust had no mercy and even S-1's "Ole Tannenbaum" was transformed into an ugly red brown conically shaped object.

FIVE REENLIST

HHB recently had five of its members reenlist for terms of three years. Those who took advantage of their tax-free VRB were: SP4 Charles Brown, SP4 Charles Rice, SP4 Dwight Poston, SP4 Kenneth Vanderbogart, and SP4 Larkin Tucker. The Re-Up five are all enjoying their 30-day Reenlistment Leave but will soon be enjoying their remaining service agreement.

AND IF EVERYONE LIT JUST ONE LITTLE CANDLE

Recently, the HHB nocturnal happenings have been abruptly cut short as the battery power source, an overworked and undernourished 30KW generator has been failing us. Most of the occasions ended with a rousing chorus of the old religic standby, "And If Everyone Lit Just One Little Candle", and of course all of the parties were strickly BYOC-- Bring Your Own Candle.

# HAG ALPHA-BITS JRN

By: SP4 John Wavra & SP4 Wayne Thompson

## IT DOES RAIN AT QUAN LOI

Amid the confusion and turmoil of the Alpha Battery Orderly Room, two men await the return of the "Great One." ALPHA-BITS reports that the big news item this month is the anticipated return of SP5 Bill "W.C." Slaten. Ah Yes! "W.C." has been frolicking under the--BRURRRR!--bright Indiana sunshine serenading fair demsels to the tune of "It Don't Rain in Indianapolis." "W.C." will be back to give Vietnam another "shot"--a "shot" with the club he bought in Canada! Both the orderly room personnel and the entire battery will remind SP5 Slaten that "It does rain in Quan Loi" and lately, the headaches that have been falling on Battery A have been coming down in buckets.

## THANK YOU

A hearty thanks is extended to the NCO's and EM of Service Battery from all the EM of Alpha Battery for the fine furniture donated to our EM Club. You have a standing invitation to stop in for refreshments whenever you're at Quan Loi.

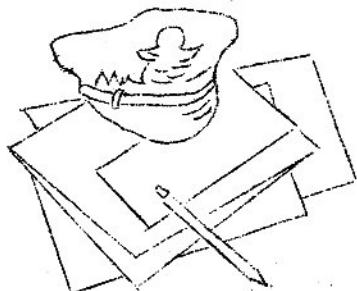
## NEW GUYS & DEPARTING PERSONNEL

New Guys joining Alpha Battery this month were: 2LT Ralph Porter of Takoma Park, Md.; PFC Francisco Laboy from Puerto Rico; and PFC Craig Norwood from Southfield, Mich. Alpha Battery welcomes you all. Last month saw many "Alpha-neer" departing from Vietnam and the Army: SP4's James Hynes, Harry Webb Jr., and Kenny Perkins. Departing for new duty stations were: SP4's Vernon Patterson and Allen Hill and SP5 Gary Collins.



## R&R INFO

About that R&R date you requested? Our statistics show that most approved R&R's fall within a three day range of the "approximate date desired" that you fill in on your R&R request. Hawaii R&R applications are usually granted within one day on either side of your requested date. For further information on plane schedules, beer prices, people to see and places to go, call QL 186, and ask for "Bat" Battersby.



# CO'S CORNER

## "HAIL AND FAREWELL"

"Hail and Farewell" are two often used words here in Vietnam as men enter and depart their units. It is time for this corner to use those terms.

"Hail" to LTC Dan Ralls who will assume command of this battalion on January 27. Colonel Ralls is coming from the II Field Force Artillery Staff where he acted as the fire support coordinator. I wish you well, Dan, as you take command of one of the finest artillery battalions in the United States Army.

"Farewell" to you officers and men--you Cannon Kings. It has been my privilege to be the commander of this great organization. I wish each of you continued success and good luck in your individual lives and pray that each of you will return to your loved ones knowing that you have contributed to the overall accomplishment of our national objective here in Vietnam--the preservation of the democratic right for our allies in the Republic of Vietnam.

--LEONARD F.B. REED JR., LTC

### THE CANNON-EARS

The CANNON-EARS is an authorized, unofficial monthly publication of the 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery, APO 96490. The views expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of the Department of the Army.

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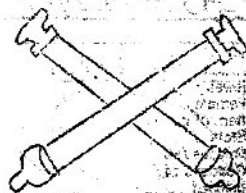
PRINTER: SP4 Gary Walter



"NOW REMEMBER . . . WHEN YOU SERVE THE CHAPLAIN, IT'S CREAMED BEEF ON TOAST!"



# CHARGIN' CHARLIE CHATTER



By: SP4 Ron Frantz

The month of December will be one to remember or forget, inspite of the fact it is a thirty-one day memory. It was a festive month full of spirit-moving out and moving in.

The highlight of the month could easily be detected from the depleted ranks and the decrease of thundering from the pads. The much rumored move of the 8" howitzers has finally taken place. The guns and half the battery are now located at Thunder III.

Almost simultaneously, change of command ceremonies were held with the men of Charlie welcoming a new boss, Captain Joseph R. Simino. Captain Simino joins the battery after serving as the battalion S-2. A farewell was bid to Captain Robert K. Spear who leaves Charlie to join the S-3 staff in Quan Loi.

An inevitable part of the end of December despite ones remoteness from the usual holiday festivities is Christmas and New Years. As was done on Thanksgiving, the unit (the Phuoc Vinh branch that is), entertained approximately 25 Vietnamese orphans from Phuoc Vinh. The various sections adopted several of the children for the day, teaching them games, playing "Big Brother", showering them with toys and candy, and finally stuffing them with Christmas dinner. The unit also presented the orphanage with over 85 pounds of clothing donated by the families of the men in Charlie Battery.

Joining Charlie this month were a few men from within the battalion: SSG Garcia, SP4 Comrie, SP4 Guiterrez, and PFC Eyster from Headquarters Battery; SP4 Taylor from Plantation; and PFC Killgore from Bravo Battery. Charlie Battery also gained five new "cruits" this month: PFC Ed Hickmon from Brooklyn, New York, PFC Bob Schlinker from Arkansas, PFC John Repass of Hillcrest, Md., PFC Tom Wilson from Jacksonville, Fla., and PFC Mac Cabrera of Louisiana.



Those for whom the "Freedom Bird" became a reality, and for whom PFC took on a different meaning were: SGT John Garvik of Minneapolis, SGT Roger Freeman of New Hampshire, SGT Billy Mills of Las Vegas, SGT Charles Walport of Wisconsin and SP4 Charles Fountain of Philadelphia.

Charlie Battery also greeted new neighbors. The 2d Bn, 13th Arty has recently moved into the Phuoc Vinh area.

# Plantation

ARMY BATTERY

By: Sp4 Richard "The Professor" Myers

## A DIRTY WORD

The "Professor" reports that the R&R Center at Plantation, Service Battery, is still alive and well but is slowly dissolving into nothingness... replacements seem to be a dirty word or maybe this is the new policy for troop withdrawals. The lack of extra help is starting to be felt around the battery and it would seem that the duty roster has more names on it.

## SOMEHOW THEY WILL GET ALONG

When Service Battery was forced to close its EM Club as a result of II Field Force regulations, the men of the "New South" were driven to find other outlets for their nocturnal interests. Resourceful as they were--it didn't take them too long. In the last month, the men discovered that the other clubs in the Plantation, Long Binh, Dien Hoa area had a vital commodity that their club lacked--a pretty face to attend to their needs and live music to divert their empty minds. Somehow they are getting along.

## LEAVING CARE

The Service Battery dog population is being seriously threatened by a new policy that requires dogs to be kept on a leash. If the dogs are found loose outside the battery area, they will be apprehended by the MP's and are to be given a DR--Dog Report. PUN! SIO! SIO! The move is an attempt to protect the conines from the bites of contagious Plantation workers.

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Answers on Pg. 8



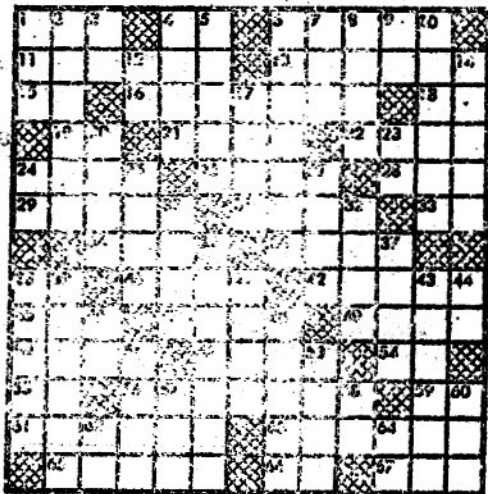
### ACROSS

- 1-Pronoun
- 4-A continent (abbr.)
- 6-Rugged mountain crest
- 11-Egg dish
- 13-Scorched
- 18-Symbol for tantalum
- 16-Painters
- 18-Sun god
- 19-Earth goddess
- 21-Journey forth
- 22-Prepare for print
- 24-Wife of Zax
- 20-Article of jewelry
- 28-Female ruff
- 29-Item of property
- 31-Stalk
- 32-Puppies (abbr.)
- 34-Goddess of discord
- 36-Pierce
- 38-Conjunction
- 40-Leave out
- 42-Look briefly
- 45-Definite article
- 47-Sand forth
- 49-Ireland
- 50-Rabbit
- 52-Metal
- 54-Printer's measure
- 55-Hypothetical force
- 56-Strikes out
- 58-Faroe Islands whirlwind
- 61-Calm
- 63-Bear witness to
- 65-Dispatches
- 66-Legal seal (abbr.)
- 67-Afternoon party

- 4-Steve
- 5-Essence
- 6-Agrees to
- 7-Seek
- 8-Comfort
- 9-Initials of 28th President
- 10-Weirder
- 12-Note of sects
- 14-Tropical fruit (pl.)
- 17-Flower
- 20-Geotic
- 23-Physician (abbr.)
- 25-Cymbal
- 26-North island
- 27-Metals
- 29-Measure
- 30-Relation of
- 32-Father
- 35-Figures of speech

- 37-Beard
- 38-One of Three Mustotours
- 39-Ties
- 41-Weary
- 43-Fun of cat's
- 44-Printer's measure
- 46-Teatonic duty

- 48-Sew
- 51-Forside
- 55-Year
- 57-Field
- 58-Saint (abbr.)
- 60-Treek after
- 62-Note of scale
- 64-Latin conjunction



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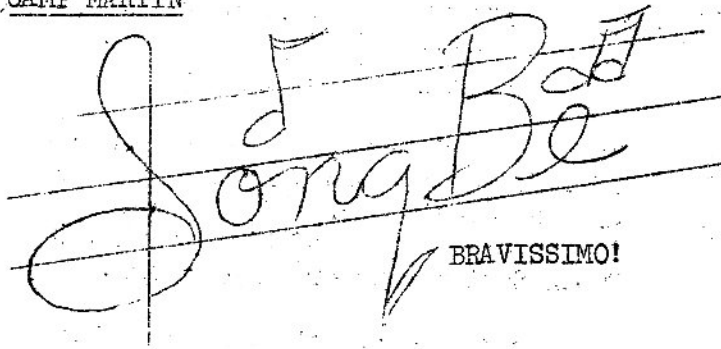
### DOWN

- 1-Torrid
- 2-Likeness
- 3-Pronoun



CAMP MARTIN

BATTERY B



By: Sp4 Robert Kane

GIRLS, GIRLS, GIRLS

Sunday, the 21st of December, the men of Bravo gave a Christmas party to the little Montagnard girls of Our Lady of the Lakes Mission located in Song Be. Forty girls took over the battery exploring the bunkers and making new friends. A full course Vietnamese meal was served followed by a visit from Santa Claus himself who gave each girl a present. Two bicycles and many presents were given to the school and the children.

THEY'RE GOING TO MAKE A BIG STAR OUT OF ME

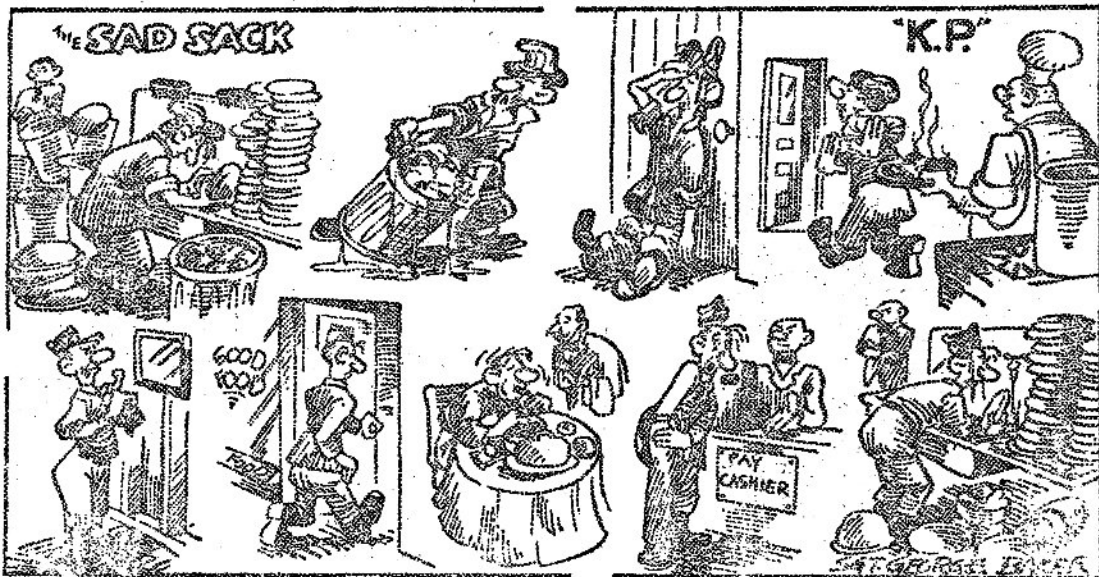
Recently, correspondents from the battalion and the II Field Force Public Information Office filmed some of Bravo Battery's artillerymen in action. The 16mm color movies that were shot have been sent to the hometowns of these men for release to local TV stations. Keep your eyes open for the local listings, time, and station. You may even see them after the late, late show one of these evenings.

NEW ARRIVALS

New arrivals this month to Bravo Battery were: Charles Paul, Roland Norder, Leonard Perry, George Snetterly, Gordon Paul, John Bradshaw, Robert Ford, Robert Dennison, David Potts, and Ronald Johnson.

A HELPING HAND

Bravo Battery continued its vigorous participation in civic action projects being conducted in the Song Be City area. The men of Camp Martin are spending their free time helping Sr. Thomas with the construction of her Montagnard Girl's School.





## ARTILLERYMEN ATTEND FOUR SHOWS

## CANNONEERS SEE HOPE

Many lucky men of the 6/27th Arty were fortunate enough to attend one of the Bob Hope Christmas shows held throughout Vietnam during Christmas week.

The artillerymen enjoyed the usual zany antics of Bob Hope and the band of Les Brown but were given a real treat with the performances of many of the weaker sex. The singing

of Connie Stevens, the exotic dancing of Lyne Charne, the chicanery provided by the Goldiggers, and the unforgettable appearance of Miss World, Eva Ruben Schier were crowd pleasers.

Addressed as "the winners of last year's lottery", the men of the battalion enjoyed the performances at Lai Khe, Cu Chi, Tan Son Nhut Air Force Base, and Long Binh.

CITATION, Continued from page 1

In the past, the 6/27 has been awarded a MUC for the period Jan 66--Oct 66. This citation can be worn as a red ribbon and the new one can be worn as an oak leaf cluster while assigned.

Battery B has been the recipient of two MUC's. One was for the cited period Jan 66--Oct 66; the other MUC was for activities in Oct 1966--Sep 67. The men of Bravo Battery will be able to wear the new award as a second oak leaf cluster while assigned.

At the present time, members of the battalion may just wear the red bar for the 1966 citation. The men of Battery B may wear the red bar with oak leaf cluster.

The highlight of many of the shows was a question-answer segment involving astronaut, Neil Armstrong.

XMAS GIFTS, Continued from page 1

As in the three previous Christmases, the students contributed the gifts and wrapped them while civic action organizations paid for the postage.

This year's campaign was launched in mid-October, the same time moratorium day protests were held and culminated with the distribution of gifts on Christmas Day.

The 3d Brigade 1st Cavalry Division, the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, Special Forces units, and many orphans shared the numerous packages of clothes and toys.

In the past, more than 4,000 lbs. of packages have been mailed at Christmas time and year round contact has been established through an exchange of letters, photographs, and other items.

This year LTC Reed, commanding officer 6/27th Arty, will send the students a Montagnard crossbow in appreciation of their benevolent effort

The program received wide coverage by the Armed Forces Radio and Television Service (AFRTS) and many civilian newspapers.

## ANSWERS TO TODAY'S PUZZLE ON PG 6

NIA	SA	ARETE
OMELT	SEAR	ED
TA	ARTISTE	RA
GE	FARE	EDIT
HERA	RINE	REE
ASSET	STEM	AG
ERIS	STAB	
AS	OMIT	STARE
THE	EMIT	ERIN
HARE	IRON	EM
OD	PELETES	DE
SERENE	ATTEST	
SENDS	LS	TEA