



CANNON-EARS

27TH ARTILLERY

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Quan Loi, RVN, APO 96490

15 September 1969

NEW BN CO WWI EXPERT

LTC Leonard F.B. Reed Jr., who became the sixth battalion commander of the 6/27 Arty in July, is an authority on World War I and author of a textbook on the subject used at the U.S. Military Academy.

The 37-year-old Chicagoan, who is on his first tour in Vietnam, comes here after three years as professor of military history at West Point. The colonel is a 1954 graduate of the Academy, with a B.S. in military history.

LTC Reed also has a master's degree in history from Duke University. His specialization for this 1966 degree was the First World War period and his text, published earlier this year, examines various campaigns in the war.

One of LTC Reed's more exotic assignments was in 1962 as commander of a British artillery troop in Minden, Germany. The outfit was a 25-pounder, comparable to the 105mm.

He was with the military advisory group in Korea for 16 months directly after the fighting stopped there -- his first assignment upon graduating from the Academy. He was battery commander in the 1st Battalion, 35th Artillery (105mm towed) at Fort Lewis, Wash., in 1958.

In 1961-64 he was battalion S-3 in Germany, again in the 35th Artillery, but this time in the 2d Battalion.

Among the military schools he has attended are the Command and General Staff College and three tenures at the Field Artillery School at Fort Sill.

(See LTC REED, back page)

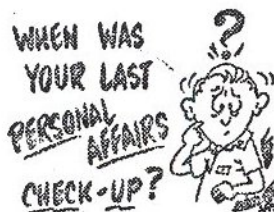
FIRST ISSUE...

OUR EARS

This is the first issue of Cannon-Ears, a battalion newsletter to be published each month. This is an introductory issue, not as complete as future ones will be but an example of what we hope to do.

In the October 15th issue there will be news from every battery--from Song Be in the north to Long Binh in the south. We have sent out a letter asking each battery to choose a reporter as soon as possible so your news won't be late for this first deadline, which is October 1st.

Cannon-Ears is not for the publication of official information but for what is happening among the men of the battalion.



VEHICLE OF MONTH...

WIN BOND

A \$25 savings bond will go to the driver of the battalion vehicle of the month, under an awards program recently established.

The first inspection for the top vehicle in the battalion will be held the week of Sept. 22. The vehicle for September will be a 1/4 ton truck.

Primary inspection team will be from the battalion maintenance section.

The battalion commander will make the presentation.

SHORT SHOTS...

IF IT DOESN'T MOVE....

As long as the paint holds out, no one is safe. First, everything got an undercoat of Gloom Gray, but now brighter hues are appearing. The S-1 shop is sporting Landlord Green, the Orderly Room at HHB is trimmed in Boot Black and That Blue (which is not as blue as it looks). But things do look cleaner, a bit cheerier, and until the rain stops, will be. Then everything will turn red again.

RETURN TO NORMALCY....

With the 1969 AGI thundering off into the sunset, we are settling back to our sloppy old ways. It took a while to sift through those dusty files, moldy ARs and long-unexplored desk drawers. The rumor even went around that somebody's M-16 had a spot of rust on it. The gigs are all counted now, so everyone can start mislaying stuff because next year it will be somebody else's worry, won't it?

BLESSED EVENTS, DOG DIVISION....

Among the battalion mascots at Quan Loi, there is much new to report. Little Oscar, a roly-poly pup whose always covered with mud, is the feistiest addition. Suzy is bringing her ample brood (8, count 'em) right along down at Haymaker switchboard, with the motherly aid of PFC Harper and SP4 Rivera. Dickbird (formerly Pepper) is learning the domestic joys of having four little ones around.

NOTE ON THIS COLUMN...

The type of material in the above column is an example of what you may find useful for your battery columns in the future. This one, because of the haste of preparation, is oriented toward the Quan Loi area. We will be in touch with battery reporters soon to work out plans for the next edition.



EDUCATION IN VIETNAM

The Quan Loi Education Center, located across from the PX, offers regular counseling and coursework in addition to periodic GED and college-level testing. The latest testing schedule ends Sept. 19-20.

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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USARV CONTEST...

XMAS IDEAS

You still have a few days left to submit your idea for the 1969 USARV Christmas Card.

The illustrations, which may be either a pen-and-ink drawing or a color scene, are due at USARV Headquarters, ATTN: SGM Cannon, not later than Sept. 18.

The first prize is a \$25 bond and a 3-day pass to Vung Tau. Second prize is a 3-day pass to Vung Tau.

The illustration should be about 5x7 inches. See letter on your bulletin board for full details.

TOP SOLDIER TO GET R&R

Pay grades E-4 and below now have the opportunity to compete for both an in-country R&R plus a \$25 savings bond.

LTC Reed, battalion commander, has revealed plans to establish a board to select a Battalion Outstanding Soldier of the Month.

Each of the batteries of the Battalion will pick their own Battery Outstanding Soldier of the Month. These candidates are then to compete for the battalion's top prize.

Meeting during the second week of each month, the selection board will choose the winner from the can-

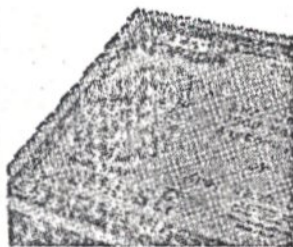
didates who have survived the battalion's preliminary competition.

The selection board will consist of Major Jerome J. Libassi, battalion executive officer, Sergeant Major James C. Rusk, and at least three of the battery first sergeants.

The winner will receive a Battalion Certificate of Achievement, a three-day pass to Vung Tau, and a \$25 savings bond.

Each of the batteries' outstanding soldiers will receive plaques, certificates of achievement, and other authorized awards.

The
face that's
launched
a thousand
trips.



Take stock in America
Buy U.S. Savings Bonds & Foreign Shares

GED's UP

Army participation in the General Educational Development (GED) program reached a new high in FY '69 as 896,403 course completions were reported. This compares to 734,885 in FY 1968 and 629,969 during FY 1967.

Included in FY 1969 totals were 495,418 completions in MOS related courses, a gain of 119,803 over the previous year.

F-T ROOP

Bustin' Bravo has got a new neighbor at Song Be. F Btry, 16th Arty, the "sixth finger" of the 6/27, has moved three of its six 155mm towed howitzers up to LZ Buttons, directly across the way from Camp Martin, home of Bravo.

This one-day airlift took place Sept. 11. It also included two officers and 38 men.

DEROS

September will see 57 men DEROS from the battalion, down from last month's record high of 72.

Battery C will lead the battery loss column with 15. The rest of the list looks this way:

HHB.....	9
Btry A.....	11
Btry B.....	10
Btry C.....	15
F/16.....	7
Svc Btry.....	5

Other statistics--these for August--include 61 getting awards, 42 taking out-of-country R&R, 29 getting extensions on their tours, 15 Article 15s. Five persons were wounded in action.

TWO BTRY'S GET 1SG'S

In two separate change-of-command ceremonies scheduled today two batteries were to get new first sergeants.

1SG Earl Rompanen, 39, becomes the new F/16 mentor replacing 1SG E.O. Ramsey. 1SG Rompanen joins the battalion following his last assignment with the US Army Advisory Group at San Mateo, Calif.

1SG Ramsey has moved to Headquarters Battery where he replaced Acting 1SG Benjamin Morgan. SFC Morgan will rejoin his Survey section and await his DEROS in October.

SFC Morgan had replaced 1SG Albert Anderson, who became the Battalion operations sergeant.

LTC REED, Continued from Page 1

LTC Reed now considers Concord, N.H., his home, where his wife Joan and their four children, aged 7 to 12, now reside.

The colonel, who enjoys trying his hand in the kitchen, is a member of the American Military Institute and the Company of Military Historians.

In change of command ceremonies at Quan Loi on July 27 LTC Reed assumed command from LTC Richard S. Bullock.

6/27 RECOMMENDED

CITATION

The battalion has just submitted a recommendation that the 6/27 be awarded a Meritorious Unit Commendation, which will materialize--if approved--as a red bar with oak leaf cluster.

The hefty 13-page report, which covers the period 1 Feb thru 31 Aug 1969, notes that during this seven-month span batteries of the battalion sustained 194 enemy attacks.

These attacks involved 2,147 rounds of incoming rocket, mortar and RPG fire, plus ground probes.

The fire and ground attacks resulted in 3 killed in action and 45 wounded in action.

Also included is the battalion's aggressive Civic Action Program for the Vietnamese people.

The 6/27 Arty was awarded a Meritorious Unit Commendation for the period Jan 66 thru Oct 66. This citation can be worn as a red ribbon and, the new one as an oak leaf cluster. Battery B alone has received a unit citation for activities in 1966-67.

At the present time members of the battalion may wear the red bar, for the 1966 citation. They also may wear a blue Presidential Citation, granted in 1967. The blue bar may be worn only while assigned.
