PARTICIPATION SINCE 1966

JHS SENDS XMAS CHEER

Each Christmas since 1966, this battalion has been the recipient of hundreds of individual Christmas gifts from Thurston Junior High School, Westwood, Mass. These gifts are the result of the efforts of youngsters who are supporting "their men overseas."

Eugene P. Tinory, OV 69 program director and instructor at Thurston Junior High, announced that again this year "Operation Vietnam 1969",

is well underway with a projected goal of 1,000 pounds of gifts for the men of this battalion and the maneuver forces we support.

The program was originally organized to help raise the morale of the fighting men in Vietnam.

In the past, over 4,000 lbs. of packages have been mailed at Christmas time.

(See OV 69, back page)

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS16 OFF & E M
DECORATED

Sixteen persons representing every battery of the battalion were pinned with achievement medals Nov. 12 by Brig. Gen. L. D. Kinnard, II Field Force Artillery commander.

The ceremonies at Quan Loi, marked the first ceremonial visit of the general since the battalion has been under his command. Decorated individuals ranged from the battalion commander, to battery commanders and enlisted men.

(See AWARDS, back page)

'THE YEAR'

IT'S HERE !! Those days and nights of mud and dust, of sitting in wet bunkers, listening for that special sound, are once again relivable.

The Korean photographers that were commissioned to produce a sort of yearbook depicting the men of the battalion have finished their work and the 60-page, artillery-red book has arrived.

Distribution will begin this week throughout the battalion. Ask your battery clerk for the details.

HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS BATTERY

SHORT SHOTS

IT HAD TO HAPPEN DEPARTMENT

When the Headquarters Battery clerk, SP5 Jerry Suchocki was gone on R&R, the vacuum was filled--unofficially--by a, yes, a woman. The orderly room's house-girl, Ian, 17, sat at his desk, typed form letters and answered the phone. There was no indication whether she had considered enlisting--in the ARVN of course.

THEY WENT AWAY

There seems to be a tendency--almost a mania--for people to scratch their names into the wet cement of sidewalks, bunkers, etc., as they are built. The defacement--if it is that--is negligible, but the last place we want to leave our name is in some firebase in Vietnam. Perhaps it is a grasp at immortality; the name, though nobody remembers the person, lives on in Vietnam.

AND THIS LITTLE PIGGY

For a short time, Headquarters Battery was the proud but somewhat embarrassed owner of a pig. It was purchased by LT. James Dunlap, battery XO, for \$40-- a good buy for a 75-pound pig, according to those who know. He was added briefly to the managerie of one cat and many dogs but he was soon added to the mess hall menu.

FAREWELL TO EARS

Graying after six years in the Army Reserves--the last six months in the Active Action Army--SP6 Bobby Veteto will be returning to the civilian ranks shortly. "Cowboy" Bob will ETS in December so this was his farewell issue. Departing for the sweet spring water and sagebrush of Valley Mills, Texas, Bob is scheduled to return to North Texas State University, his alma mater, as editor of his alumni magazine. The officers and men of the battalion thank our mustached co-editor for a job well done.

HELLO, DOLLIES

Last month we sent copies of the CAMMO-EARS to the wife of every man in the battalion--unless some were missed because of clerical errors. This month, and hereafter, we hope that YOU will slip your issue of the paper into an envelope and send it to your wife, girlfriend, or parents. This monthly newsletter is an attempt at closing the separation gap that confronts the men of the battalion. The staff of the CAMMO-EARS welcomes your support and encourages your participation.

A STEP FORWARD

DISCHARGE



An idea found throughout the Army insists that on a certain day--the day of one's release from the service--one's entire life will reverse its field. The idea is extremely appealing.

If a scrap of paper known as a discharge held the power to so transform lives, it would easily be the most sought-after document in the world. If this piece of paper with a handful of words on it--none of them very important or moving words--could purge a man of his old habits and personality and ways, every last human being would enlist in the military merely to get that discharge.

Needless to say, the paper holds no such magic. A man will be exactly the same the day after he gets the discharge as he was the day before. This fanciful idea is an essentially destructive one. It gives the individual an absolutely false hope to cling to. Thus, far too many exiting servicemen--after two or three years in the Army--walk into civilian life expecting some sort of dream world.

Essentially the serviceman will face the same problems outside the Army as inside. Whether he fits will hinge mainly on his individual attitude and enterprise. A man, contrary to the cliché, does not "find his niche" in life --he makes it.

The discharge should not be viewed as a ticket to some never-never land but as what it is--a step forward into an increasingly competitive society that will not tolerate missteps or laxity any more than a first sergeant and hands out much stiffer punishment.

THE CANNON-EARS

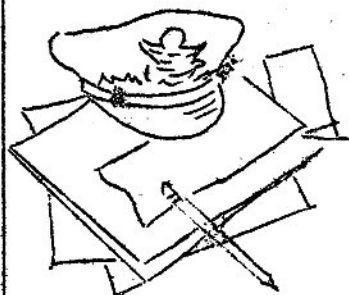
The CANNON-EARS is an authorized, unofficial monthly publication of the 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery, APO 96490. The views expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of the Department of the Army.

EDITORS: SP6 Bobby Voteto
SP5 Denny "Boog" Camp

STAFF: SP4 Wayne Stacer, SP4
Ken Long, PFC Larry
Trantham.



"AHH-H-H-H-H!"



CO'S CORNER

" A MOMENT FOR REFLECTION "

November 27 has been marked in red on most of the calendars I've seen throughout the battalion. That is Thanksgiving Day, a day of tradition and sentiment for all of us. While the mess sergeants and their hard-working cooks prepare turkey and all of the trimmings, we should take a moment to reflect on all for which we have to be thankful.

Your initial thought on this might be, ". . . you've got to be kidding . . . in the heat, dust, and dirt of Vietnam . . . thankful for what?" Let me suggest a few thoughts--

--Our fathers and theirs before them worked, fought, and died to make our homes and families secure.

--Our loved ones at home are safe and comfortable because of our nation's strength, wealth, and philosophy of individual human dignity.

--Our buddies serving with us here in Vietnam are willing to fight and die, if need be, to protect and support us.

--Our privilege and duty to serve and defend our fellowmen, the Vietnamese, in their efforts to achieve that which we take so much for granted--individual liberty and dignity.

Let us all take a second before diving into the turkey, dressing, and gravy to ask for strength to complete our tour--safely--conscientiously--honorably.

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

VEHICLE AWARD

TOP DRIVER

PFC Fred Sergeant, Baxter, Ken., a heavy truck driver in the ammo section at Battery C, won a \$25 bond for having his M577, Carrier Command Post, picked as Vehicle of the Month.



ALPHA-BITS

By: SP5 Bill Slaten, SP4 John Wavra,
SP4 Wayne Thompson

On 18 October, Alpha Battery hosted a change of command ceremony, saying farewell to an absent CPT Jeffrey Emara, and bidding a cheerful welcome to the new commander, CPT Donald Albers. Although CPT Albers is enjoying his first command position, he is no stranger to Alpha Battery. While a 1LT, he was the XO from February until July of this year. A native of Milwaukee, Wis., CPT Albers is a graduate of West Point, receiving his commission on 7 June 1967. Upon his arrival in Alpha, his comment was, "I could not help but notice the great improvements made by the battery in all areas, especially morale of personnel, battery facilities, professional competence and general operations. I hope that we will be able to continue to strive forward in the months to come."

HOMEWARD BOUND . . .

Alpha said a fond farewell this month to SP4 Ferber Lusk of the maintenance section and SP4 Barney Bowles of the FDC section. Both departed for Oakland where they will ETS.

PROMOTIONS

Promotions for the month totaled an even dozen. Pedro Agosto was promoted to E5 and assumed the duties of Supply Sergeant. Promotions to SP4 included: Wayne Thompson, James Jones, Steven Robles, John Wavra, Floyd Oller,

Daniel Smith, Harry Parker, Bob Moore, Sam Shockley, Bob Katzenback and Claude Dancy.

A NEW LOOK IN PADS

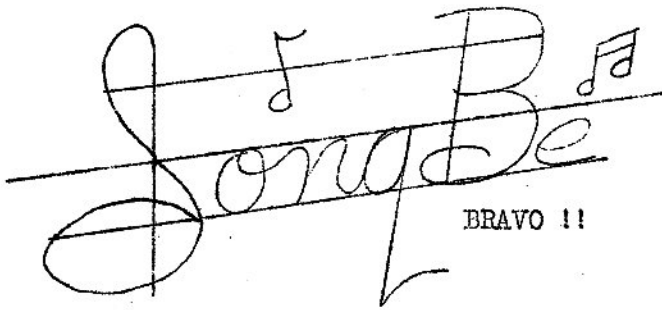
There is a new look in the 1969 "pads" of Alpha. Engineers from Co. C, 168th Engineer Battalion, commanded by 1LT Libby, have been busy rebuilding the four gun section pads in the battery. The new construction will make life in the gun section a little brighter due to easy maintenance of the gun pad.

ALPHA SEES STARS ****

Alpha Battery was recently paid a visit by General Ralph E. Haines, USARPAC commander. Gen. Haines commented that the Battery looked excellent and that the men of the battery should be thankful for the high standards which they have worked for and enjoy. His general comments were cheerful, making his visit a happy memory.

NEW GUYS

New arrivals to Alpha this month were SGT Archie Green, recently of C Battery. SGT Green has assumed the duties of Chief of Section in the "Fightin' 4th" section. SP4 Eddie White and SP4 Rich Kassar came to us from deactivated units. They assumed the duties of Unit Supply Specialist and Chart Operator in the FDC respectively. Alpha takes this opportunity to welcome the new guys.



**SERVICE BATTERY GETS
NEW COMMANDER**

Cpt. Robert C. Dieterlen assumed command of Svc Battery today in ceremonies at Plantation.

Cpt. Dieterlen succeeds Cpt. James B. Foster III, who became Battalion Motor Officer.

Bravo Battery has a lot of new buildings--and one new citizen.

SP4 Richard Cxyz, who came to America in 1950 at age one, became an American citizen on October 24. His parents came to New Orleans from their native Germany and now live in Trenton, N.J.

Cxyz, who is of Polish descent, says that because he has lived in the U.S. all his life, he feels that he has always been a citizen. In March, he will turn 21, fully qualifying him to vote.

CONSTRUCTION

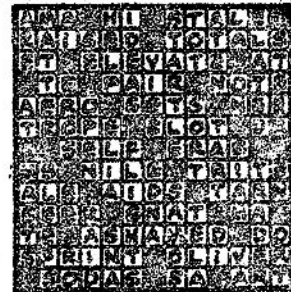
On the construction scene, the new EM Club has been completed. An addition has been put on the existing NCO-Officers Club, which is part of the mess hall. The EM Club has a patio and now showers adjacent to it.

A new laterite, described by 1SG Wilkerson as "TT laterite", road from LZ to the battery area is finished.

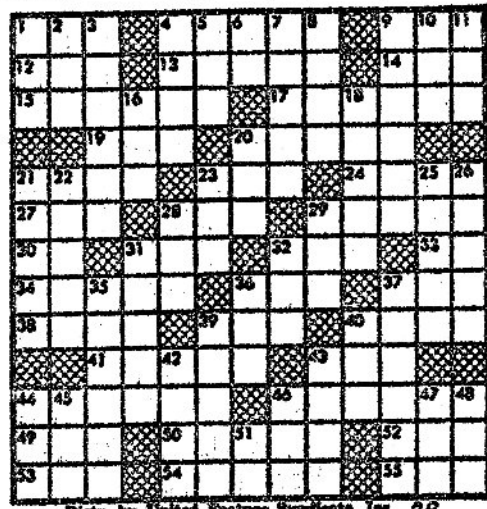
Among those faces that will return this month to the U.S. after a year in Vietnam will be David Crane, Ron Sims, John Malloy, and Richard Alexander.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Answer to Previous Puzzle

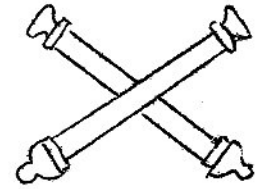


- ACROSS**
- 1-Limb
 - 4-Profits
 - 9-Chapout
 - 12-Sign of zodiac
 - 13-Kind of fabric
 - 14-Before
 - 15-Tart
 - 17-Succaner
 - 19-Garden tool
 - 20-Part of jacket
 - 21-Barracuda
 - 23-Crory (colloq.)
 - 24-Meadows
 - 27-Profoun
 - 28-Weaken
 - 29-Dipper
 - 30-Teutonic deity
 - 31-Fish limb
 - 32-Period of time
 - 33-East Indies (abbr.)
 - 34-Downy ducts
 - 35-Novelty
 - 37-Hurry
 - 38-Farm implement
 - 39-Pain
 - 40-Musical instrument
 - 41-Earn
 - 43-Gave food to
 - 44-Outfitted
 - 46-Newly married women
 - 49-Man's name
 - 50-Eagle's nest
 - 52-Period of time
 - 53-Male
 - 54-Self-esteem
 - 55-Free of
- DOWN**
- 1-Priest's vestment
 - 2-Unit of Portuguese currency
 - 3-Parent
 - 6-Morriment
 - 5-Ventilate
 - 6-Preposition
 - 7-Country of Asia
 - 8-Cut
 - 9-Cured
 - 10-Skill
 - 11-Golf mound
 - 16-Small child
 - 18-Kind of foot race
 - 20-Once around track
 - 21-Wool-bearing animal
 - 22-Danger
 - 23-Shallow vessel
 - 25-Eskimo
 - 26-River in France
 - 28-Title of respect
 - 29-Young boy
 - 31-Smaller amount
 - 32-Man's nickname
 - 35-Realm
 - 36-Obese
 - 37-Part of ship
 - 39-Broaden
 - 40-Hawaiian wreath
 - 42-Harvest
 - 43-Liberate
 - 44-Preclous stone
 - 45-Guido's high note
 - 46-Proposition
 - 47-Silkworm
 - 48-Mournful
 - 51-A state (abbr.)



Distr. by United Feature Syndicate, Inc. 26
For Use in Authorized Service Newspapers Only.

CHARGIN' CHARLIE CHATTER



By: SP4 Ron Frenz

Significant happenings at Charlie Battery this past month were at a minimum with regards to inspections, VIP visits, rocket attacks, ground probes, and other related events.

BOU VOYAGE

Those fortunate individuals for whom the "Freedom Bird" became a reality and who are no longer just short were: SP5 Terry Blanchard; CPL Allen Riffey; Paul Starkey; PFC Gordon Rogers; SP4 Robert Feeley; SP4 Joel Boden; SP4 David McComas; and SP4 John Chapman.

NEW GUYS

Then there are those who have the distinct honor of sporting new unfaded fatigues and boots--the sign of a "New Guy". We welcome the following to the ranks of Chargin' Charlie: 2LT Lawrence Deary, Detroit, Mich.; 2LT Dennis Vauter, Willoughby, Ohio; SGT George Wright, Bloomfield, Conn.; PFC David Garcia, Denver, Colo.; PVT Harry Baker, Kirkwood, Ill.; and SSG Lyle Belton, Granger, Wash.

We also welcome SFC Willie Jones from Btry A, and SGT Roger Freeman from Btry B, 6/15th Arty.

SPORTS

In the field of sports, the only major game played this month was a football game between Chargin' Charlie and a team from the 1/9th Cav, with the chargers victorious 49-0.

CALL COLLECT

In keeping with the increased costs of living, the commo section was observed posting the following:

Local Calls (In Btry) . . .	10¢
One minute limit--	
Each additional minute . . .	5¢
Long Distance calls . . .	25¢
(Quan Loi, Song Be)	
One minute limit	
Each additional min . .	15¢

On Sundays, Holidays, and A&R days the rates will double.

--failure to ring back--

Failure to ring back is a violation of the UCCJ, (Uniform Code of Commo Justice), AR-1/D-1-TA 312/PT, Para 3, Sub-para C. Violators will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

--RIT Rates--

Each word, 100 word min . . .	5¢
Heading and DTG . . .	No Charge

All traffic sent or received after 1800 hours will require \$1.50 in advance before the station will operate.



SCOUTS TAKE INITIATIVE

SELF-HELP UNDER WAY

The boys and girls in this impoverished countryside have taken on a man-sized job.

Every Sunday afternoon an artillery captain who heads his battalion's civic action project bumps along rubber plantation roads and into dusty hamlets carrying a truckload of fruit and vegetables to give away.

The helpers, who distribute food to needy Montagnards, are brightly-clad Boy and Girl Scout troops he has organized.

The artilleryman, Captain Merle E. Hoffman, civic action officer for the II Field Force Artillery's 6th Bn, 27th Arty at Quan Loi, explained that food is distributed throughout the Binh Long and Phuoc Long provinces. But this new project in the Quan Loi area is unique in that the Vietnamese he once helped are helping their own countrymen. Using their own initiative, the scouts assumed a major role in the civic action program in the area.

"Watching the Vietnamese help their own cause is gratifying," said Hoffman. "These kids are the country's potential future leaders, so

OV 69, Continued from page 1

This year's "cache" promises to include everything from jig-saw puzzles to beef jerky and will arrive shortly before Christmas.

The campaign started on October 15 and lasted for approximately three weeks before the goal was attained.

we are giving them every possible opportunity to become responsible."

Captain Hoffman's efforts to make the South Vietnamese self-reliant is soon to become the task of Captain Bruce Bailey, assistant S-3. Captain Hoffman is scheduled to depart Vietnam 19 January.

Captain Hoffman's work has received both civilian and military recognition and his superior performance was recently awarded the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross with Bronze Star.

AWARDS, Continued from page 1

Bronze Star Medals were awarded to: LTC Reed, CPT Cole, CPT Spear, CPT Wey, 1SG Hendren.

Army Commendation Medals were awarded to: CPT Dieterlen, CPT Askman, SFC Garrett, SFC Stallworth, SSG Michura, SP6 Bobby Veteto, SP 5, Dennis Camp, CPL Anders, SP4 Morton, SP4 Brown, and SP4 Harper.

BEST SOLDIER AWARD

TOP EM

PFC Willie Wilson of Dekalb, Miss., a cannoneer in Battery B, was chosen Soldier of the Month in the battalion's second month of competition. Wilson, selected by a board on Nov 8, will receive a \$25 bond plus a three-day in-country R&R at Vung Tau. The top soldier was chosen by the battalion XO and first sergeants.