



CANNON-EARS

27TH ARTILLERY

Vol. 1, No. 2

Quan Loi, RVN, APO 96490

15 October 1969

PHOTO ALBUM

'THE YEAR'

Those days and nights of mud and dust, of sitting in wet bunkers, listening for that special sound, and marking off days on a Julian calendar won't look so bad in retrospect.

And you'll be able to view it that way in a photo album the battalion is sponsoring.

The battalion has commissioned a Korean firm to produce a sort of year-book depicting the men and activities of the six batteries. The photographers have already finished their work in part of the batteries and ex-

(See PHOTO ALBUM, back page)

SOLDIER, VEHICLE AWARDS

2 TOP EM

SP4 Robert A. Kane of Westville, Ind., was supply sergeant in Battery B, was chosen Soldier of the Month in the battalion's first competition.

Kane, selected by a board on Oct 8, will receive a \$25 bond plus a three-day in-country R&R at Vung Tau.

In a second contest, also held for the first time, SP4 Carl C. Mowbray, the battery commander's driver in Battery A, won a \$25 bond for having his jeep picked as Vehicle of the month. He is from Flagstaff, Ariz.

(See TOP EMs, back page)

HOT POOP ON RAIN

Chances are that most letters leaving these batteries complain about the rain and mud, the heat and dust. Yet chances are just as good that none of the letters contain any exact information about the weather.

Such as:

--The mean high temperature for this region in September was 88 degrees; the minimum averaged 68.

--Rain fell on 21 of the 30 days and amounted to about 16 inches.

This information comes from a detailed climatic study based on past weather conditions. These "forecasts" are published each month by II Field Force primarily for the use of aircraft.

The report says that in September "the soil becomes very moist and tractionability poor." That's another way of saying everything becomes a sea of gooey mud and it's all a man can do to stand up or keep his jeep on the road.

(See WEATHER, back page)

SHORT SHOTS

DANCING HERE NIGHTLY...

A sign on the door of the Battalion S-1 proclaims "We Can Do More." It would be less inspirational but catchier if it read: "President Nixon and General Westmoreland Dance Here Nightly." It's true, you know. When those 175s fire over the S-1, the chain of command photographs dance on their nails.

WRITING HISTORY WITH FIRE...

While writing a short history of the 27th Artillery for the battalion's photo album, Specialist Camp uncovered some interesting facts. During World War II the 27th Artillery fired a total of 380,115 rounds of 155mm and 3,447 rounds of 75mm. Since the organization has been in Vietnam, the batteries have fired 365,835 rounds of 175mm/8-inch and 54,225 rounds of 155mm. That boils down to: 383,562 total rounds firing in three years in WW II and 420,060 total rounds in 4 years in Vietnam.

WHAT'S THAT GREEN FURRY STUFF?...

Our hasty research into Vietnam weather told us a lot we didn't know but little that we hadn't already felt. At least, the rain should begin tapering off during this month (which it is already). But then come the clouds of red dust churned up by trucks and tanks and fanned into every nook and cookie box by choppers. We knew when we dug out our low-quarters for R&R and found the soles covered with a furry green mold that this climate wasn't too good. Now we've got the figures to prove it. (See page 1)

HELLO, DOLLIES...

Our circulation is increasing like mad but, unlike any other newspaper in the world, we don't intend to hike our advertising rates. The names of 165 wives of men in the battalion--all of them, we hope--were added to the Cannon-Ears mailing list this month. We don't claim the most exciting life here in these fire bases and base camps, but we're willing to share our rather unusual existence with the outside world. Welcome, ladies.

YOUR CHRISTMAS MAIL...

Here are the dates for mailing from Vietnam to reach the destination by Christmas Day. Surface mail to CONUS or Hawaii must be mailed by 15 November. Air-lift mail will go on the following schedule:

<u>TO</u>	<u>AIRMAIL</u>	<u>SAM LETTERS</u>	<u>SAM PARCELS</u>	<u>PAL PARCELS</u>
CONUS	13 Dec	10 Dec	4 Dec	10 Dec
NY APO	8 Dec	5 Dec	1 Dec	5 Dec



CO'S CORNER

FAREWELL, FOXTROT

On 17 October the "Cannon Kings" lost one of their members. F Btry, 16th Arty will be detached from the 6/27 Arty and will be attached to the 2/12 Arty where Foxtrot will join up with three other 155mm towed batteries. The loss of such a long-time member of the family is indeed a severe loss. During the eleven months Foxtrot has been with the battalion, this battery has fired almost 60,000 rounds in support of friendly maneuver elements without ever "firing out."

This is a record of which we all may be justly proud. There have been many personal friendships developed among the men of all our batteries-- friendships which will now be interrupted by the needs of the service.

I'm sure I speak for all of you when I say I'm sorry to see Foxtrot leave. I wish Captain Solomon and all of his men Godspeed and good shooting.

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

ONE WAY TO SOLVE...

PROBLEMS

When there are marital, birth or other personal problems which demand the serviceman's presence at home, his Vietnam unit will grant him leave if the proper verification is provided through the Red Cross.

The family members at home such as parents, wife, etc., must contact the Red Cross so it--not the family--may verify to the man's unit commander the need for him back in the States.

Many persons request compassionate leave but numerous requests are turned down because of lack of verification. A letter from a chaplain in Vietnam who has talked with the

man, word from the Red Cross, or a letter signed by a doctor will provide proper documentation.

So, Vietnam personnel should inform their families that, if they are required at home, the family must contact the Red Cross -- not simply write to the battery commander themselves.

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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QUAN LOI GETS MARS

Now you can call home by way of MARS! NO, not the planet but the Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS).

The Quan Loi Base Camp is being given a MARS station. Construction is now under way and should be completed soon.

Located in Bldg. T26, near the

Quan Loi EM Club, GI's will be able to call home and speak (limit of 3 minutes) to their loved ones from a real live phone booth.

Qualified Ham Radio Operators or personnel with MARS Operating Licenses are asked to contact Lt. C.L. Steel at Shotgun 10 to work at the station on a voluntary basis.

SEE PAGE 2 FOR CHRISTMAS MAILING DATES FROM VIETNAM TO UNITED STATES



FOXTROT BATTERY GETS NEW COMMANDER

Cpt. John Solomon assumed command of Btry F, 16th Arty on Sept. 28 in ceremonies at Quan Loi.

Cpt. Solomon succeeds Cpt. Cumberland Warden, who became assistant S-3. Solomon was XO at Btry C before being sent to F.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Answer to Previous Puzzle



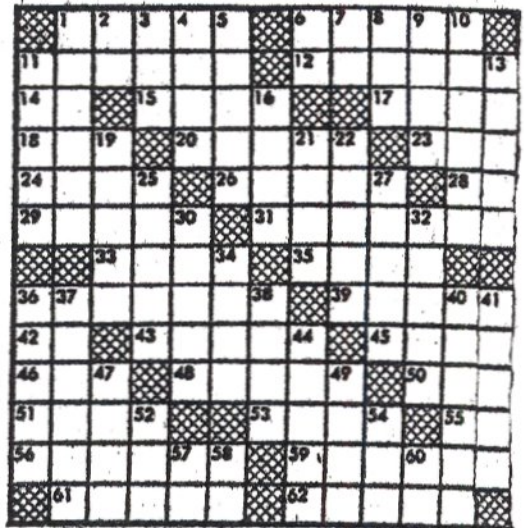
ACROSS

- 1-Wading bird
- 6-Nautical expression
- 11-Figures of speech
- 12-Ankle covering
- 14-Exclamation
- 15-Small children
- 17-Unit of Italian currency
- 18-Possessive pronoun
- 20-More recent
- 23-Seek
- 24-Selines
- 26-Less cooked
- 28-Symbol for tellurium
- 29-Facial expressions.
- 31-Early
- 33-Permits
- 35-Be borne
- 36-Guided
- 39-Weird
- 42-Preposition
- 43-Rosters
- 45-Edges
- 46-Unit of electrical measurement (abbr.)
- 48-Adhesive substance
- 50-Make lace
- 51-Festive
- 53-Wife of Zeus
- 55-Proceed
- 56-Star in Draco
- 59-Slumbering
- 61-Amphibious mammal
- 62-Liquefies

DOWN

- 3-Likely
- 4-Gaseous element
- 5-Chemical compound
- 6-Symbol for silver
- 7-A state (abbr.)
- 8-Be II
- 9-Mix
- 10-Cylindrical
- 11-Item
- 13-Evaluates
- 16-Scrub
- 19-Set of steps out a wall
- 21-Pitcher
- 22-Bind again
- 25-Scoff
- 27-One borne
- 30-Sharpen
- 32-Earn
- 34-Bristle
- 36-Platforms
- 37-Fruit
- 38-Sprint
- 40-Likenesses
- 41-Bar legally
- 44-Vapor
- 47-Real estate map
- 49-Gaelic

- 52-Danish land division
- 54-Everyone
- 57-That is (abbr.)
- 58-Near (abbr.)
- 60-Latin conjunction



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G O
 ALPHA-BITS
 P E

Orange blossoms, blood tests, wedding bells and a champagne breakfast were on the list of Cpt Jeffrey L. Hmara, who attended his own wedding while R&Ring in Hawaii. Miss Carolyn Leapart of Charleston, S. C. was the lucky girl, so all you (or y'all) can take her name out of your address books. Cpt Hmara will spend his first days of marital bliss in Honolulu from Oct 6-13, experiencing the loss of bachelorhood to the soothing sounds of the ocean and the sunny playground surrounding him.

SP4 Carl C. Mowbray, A Battery commander's driver, drove away with the battalion's best driver and the Vehicle of the Month award for September in his 1/4 ton. SP4 Mowbray adds an \$18.75 Savings Bond to his account along with the award.

The enlisted men of Alpha have embarked on a program to remodel their club. PFC Frank M. Pastore, club custodian, acquired several sheets of fiber board to panel the inside of the club. The expected results will be a much pleasanter appearing club and perhaps a dustproof one. (Ed. Note: You're dreaming.)

In September Alpha Battery lost some familiar faces...

Among those who left were three intrabattalion transfers: PFC Ronald Alvarez to Bravo, SP4 Charles B. Clarke to Service, and PFC Inez J. Chevez to Charlie.

Some also departed via "Freedom Bird": SP5 William A. Henricks, for reassignment to Germany; SP4 David W.

Goshen, reassignment to Germany; SP4 Ronald E. Barr, Ft. Campbell, Ky., SP4 Duane M. Nygaard, Ft. Riley, Kan., and SP4 Daryl V. Home Gun, Ft. Lewis, Wash.

...and gained some new ones:

New and needed addition to roster totaled 8 for September. Two were sergeants from the ACL Academy-- Dale L. Anello, Towanda, N.Y., and Domingo Rios Jr. from Dallas, Texas.

Three other "New Guys" bunk in the maintenance section: PFC Stephen J. Haky, Cleveland, Ohio; PFC Mark D. Wolfe, Kincaid, Ill., and PFC Gerald L. Morris, Columbus, Ohio.

Three more arrived from other batteries in the battalion--PFC Robert Patterson from Bravo, PFC Gregg L. Hetzel from Service, and PFC John R. King Jr. from Charlie.

23D GROUP CHANGES COMMANDERS

Col. Joseph N. Hearin, formerly deputy commander of the II Field Force Artillery, is the new commander of the 23d Group.

The 6/27 was represented October 4 at the change of command ceremonies at Phu Loi--both by LTC Reed and the battalion staff and by guidon and color bearers from the batteries.

Col. Walter Beinke, former 23d Group commander, takes an assignment with CINCPAC in Hawaii.

Col. Beinke received the Legion of Merit at the ceremonies.

WEATHER, Continued from page 1

The monthly mean rainfall ran from 13 inches at Phu Loi to 16.5 at Quan Loi and 17.6 at Song Be. There was a maximum in all three places of 25 inches and dwindled down to as little as 4 or 6 inches. It's safe to say it did not dwindle during this September.

While the average temperature was about 81, it hit an extreme of 95 degrees or a pleasant 68 to 70.

But here is the important factor: humidity. The report notes this can cause "mildew, corrosion and decay of susceptible items."

The mean humidity for September at Phuoc Vinh, Quan Loi, and Song Be at 7 a.m. each day was 93 per cent. By 1 p.m. it had dried out to a mere 72 per cent.

October marks the start of the fall transition season, or the tapering off of the rain, in this region. According to the report, the winds will shift to the northeast bringing in the winter monsoon.

Mean rainfall in October in Quan Loi is 13 inches, Song Be 9 inches, Phuoc Vinh 11.7, and about 8 inches in Bein Hoa, the closest station to Long Binh.

PHOTO ALBUM, Continued from page 1

pect the 70-page book to be out by late November or early December.

The album, which will cost \$14, will have 8 to 10 pages on each battery. Arrangements are being made so that those who go back to the States before it is published can have it mailed to them.

Besides the battery sections, which will include individual pictures as well as action shots, there will be a page each for the 23d Group and battalion commanders and a section on the history of the 6/27th.

TOP EMs, continued from page 1

The battalion maintenance section was the inspection team for the vehicle of the month. The top soldier was chosen by the battalion executive officer, the sergeant major and at least three first sergeants.

WE REGRET THAT MATERIAL FROM BATTERIES OTHER THAN ALPHA WAS NOT RECEIVED IN TIME TO INCLUDE IN THIS ISSUE

6
Cents