

6TH BATTALION

CANNON EARS

27TH ARTILLERY



Vol. 1, No. 7

Phu Loi, RVN, APO SF 96289

15 April 1970

CONJUNCTI STANS

UNITED WE STAND

"CONJUNCTI STANS"—United We Stand. The motto of this battalion is emblazoned on the unit crest so proudly worn by the members of this command. Although the unit crest has been seen by every Officer, NCO, and Enlisted Man within this unit, there are very few who know the significance of the design.

The official designation of the Coat of Arms and Insignia's original approval dates: "Shield: Gules (red) for Artillery. The bend fracted represents the break in the history of the organization between its origin as a World War I unit and its reconstitution and consolidation with the present unit." Although the insignia seems ordinary, the history which molded this crest is a history of battle from North Africa to Vietnam. (See UNITED, back page)

VETERANS GUARANTEED SAME STATUS

VETS HAVE JOB RIGHTS

WASHINGTON (AFPS)—Almost a million first-term Service people will return to civilian life in 1970. Many of these young men and women will be returning to the same jobs they held before entering the Service, with perhaps a pay raise or two thrown in. Some will even find a promotion waiting for them.

All this is possible because Congress, in 1940, decided that one's military service should not carry with it an economic burden beyond the period in uniform. While the full intent of Congress is still being evolved by court decisions, the law as it stands today could be summarized roughly as guaranteeing veterans the same status they would have enjoyed had they remained on the job. In addition to promotions and pay-raises, the courts have held that in many instances, the veteran is entitled to fringe benefits which are acquired by seniority—severance pay, vacations, and pensions.

Department of Defense Instruction 1205.12, issued January 15, 1969, spells out the responsibility of commanders to ensure that individuals separating from the Service are aware of their rights under the law.

(See RIGHTS, back page)

HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS BATTERY

HEAD & HEAD

"WE CAN DO MORE"



VOLLEYBALL CRAZE

For the past month, HHB has been enjoying its concrete regulation size volleyball court. Rivalries have been born overnight between the different sections in the battery and the competition has become very intense. The HHB Cooks, led by the fierce play of "MESS DADDY" Eugene Horace and PFC "GROPER" Bidwell have formed their own team, the SPUDS. Besides the SPUDS, there exists the Motor Pool "GRASSERS", the HHB ALL-STARS, and the DOUBLE A, Alcoholics Anonymous. All of these teams have been competing on a regular basis but at the present time only the Battalion S-1 section can boast an undefeated team. The S-1 section's BOMBER A TEAM has compiled an 8-0 record over the past month of competition. The BOMBERS own a monstrous front line with 6'4" "FURIOUS" Furr, 6'4" "SLAMMMMMMM" McGehee, and 6'2" Pat "BOMBER" Battersby. The play-making of "SPEED" Sheets and "DIRTY" Darry Camp coupled with the mid-court prowess of Majors Gliff "THE GRIPPLER" Clay and "MAYBER" Morrill has thus far been too much for all opponents. Coach "BAD" Bill Slaton admits that the season has a long way to go but with the bench strength of "TERRIBLE" Thomas and 6'9" "ROCKY" Nawrocki, the overall depth of the S-1 Bombers should be too much for the other ballclubs. A stiff challenge for the Bombers should be the DOUBLE A. The DOUBLE A downed the Bomber B team two weeks ago and now they are gunning for the A's.

THERE WAS AN EASTER BUNNY AFTERALL

While most of HHB was attending religious services or finishing off their Easter candy, SP4 James McLeod, the battalion commander's driver, was enjoying a special Easter gift. Approximately five days prior to Easter Sunday, SP4 McLeod had his vehicle stolen. After searching and then giving up hope of finding "his" jeep again, Easter Sunday morn revealed something extra in McLeod's Easter basket. Somehow the Easter Bunny (NOT THE PLAYBOY) found McLeod's vehicle abandoned in a Saigon parking lot and returned it to him. Just like a million other people, SP4 McLeod admits that "There is an Easter Bunny afterall."



EDITORIAL

NO GENERATION GAP

A preliminary survey report from a five-year project indicates America's youth are not as anti-military as one might suspect from the news media. The survey, "Young Men Look at Military Service," is part of a broader YOUTH IN TRANSITION project which followed young men from the start of their tenth grade (Fall of 1966) to the time when most of them had been out of high school for about a year (Spring of 1970). The project is being conducted under a US Office of Education contract, with Department of Defense support.



Among its most basic purposes, YOUTH IN TRANSITION includes the study of attitudes, plans and behaviors, particularly those relating to educational and occupational aspirations and achievements. The Department of Defense, of course, placed special emphasis on military plans and attitudes. Some of the findings have been highly significant. For instance, the majority of the young men do not fit the "generation gap" stereotype of rebellious youth casting aside the values of their elders. In fact, the dominant position they express essentially supports the principles Americans have lived by for decades. They are not strongly opposed to the war in Vietnam, nor are they anti-military or pacifists. They agree that it is important to fight the spread of communism. The young men are quite knowledgeable about draft requirements, but are not well informed about the conditions and compensation associated with active military service. The majority see good citizenship primarily in terms of obedience to law and pride in country. For them military service provides an opportunity to serve their country. (AFPS)



THE CANNON-EARS

The CANNON-EARS is an authorized, unofficial monthly publication of the 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery, APO 96289. The views expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of the Department of the Army.

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DISTRIBUTION: PFC Arnulfo Gonzalez

DROG ALPHA-BITS WSTO

by: SGT John Wavra

FAREWELL

Alpha Battery personnel said their farewells 11 April after a change of command ceremony at Ft. Defiance to Captain Donald P. Albers, who has completed his tour and will return to Ft. Sill for a 39-week Career Course. Captain Arthur R. Wilkerson was welcomed as the new battery commander. Hailing from Marion, Ala., he is married and has two children. Captain Wilkerson arrived at Quan Loi after attending the same 39-week Career Course at Ft. Sill that Captain Albers will attend. Captain Wilkerson expressed his appreciation for the reception he received and noted he was impressed with the high degree of cooperation exhibited by all battery personnel and he hoped this cooperation would continue. He noted further that there may be some changes, as is the case when all units change commands, but he saw no major changes at the time.

JONES KING PLASTER LAUNDRY

A new franchise was recently started here at Quan Loi with the opening of the JONES KING PLASTER LAUNDRY. SSG Archie L. Jones, the Number 4 Gun Section Chief, scrounged together parts from various sources and designed a "whirlpool" washing machine for his section. The machine consists of two 55 gallon barrels and a water pump. To everyone's surprise--the system works and the clothes are much cleaner than those washed by the old "foot stomping" method employed by the local Montagnards. Plans are now on the drawing board to build an automatic dryer in order that the section will have a complete "home" laundry during the rainy season.

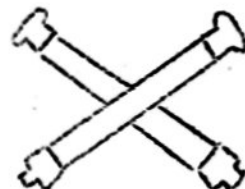
THE HEADCOUNT DROPS

The battery headcount noted a definite drop in numbers in the past month. Leaving the battery were: SSG James Cook for reassignment to Germany; SSG Antonio Martinez for Ft. Riley, Kansas; SP5 Richard Kassar, SP4's Gerald Hill and Michael Heitert, and Lloyd Huck were all reassigned to Ft. REFRAD (Release from Active Duty). The battery welcomed PV2 John Rasnick and PFC John T. Edwards. Don't worry Alpha--replacements are on the way.

PROMOTIONS

Alpha saw three of its personnel promoted to the grade of E-5. They were Richard Kassar and Dan Smith to SP5 and yours truly to "Hard" Five, Sergeant. Gerald Morse and Glen Pussell were also promoted to SP4.

CHARGIN' CHARLIE



CHATTER

BY: SP5 William O.D. Kamai
with regards from RA

The month of March saw many more changes to Charlie. The mission of the artillery--shoot, move and communicate was made more real to Chargin' Charlie as he moved again, this time to Thunder II. One platoon of 8 inch or is it 175 mm is located at Thunder II?

The long awaited CMMI arrived at Charlie on 1 April. Well prepared by long and strenuous weeks of work, Charlie fared excellently. Satisfactory scores were achieved in all areas. Charlie thanks those from the other batteries who helped in the preparation. Personnel upheaval has been a big problem in Charlie. Going home for reassignment were: SP4 Jerry Davis who went to the 2/2 Arty at Ft. Sill, Okla; SGT Jackie Coleman who was assigned to the artillery training center at Ft. Sill; CPL Ronnie Lesh who will join the 4/14 Arty this month at Ft. Sill and SSG Johnny Moss who joins the 2/31 Arty also at Ft. Sill. Those for whom the Freedom Bird signaled a change in status were: Joe Richards of Grantsville, W. Va., Mike Hinds of Windfall, Ind., and SP5 Ron Frantz, the former Chargin' Charlie editor of Leighton, A. SP5 Frantz--Mr. Frantz--is saluted for a job well done.

Charlie saw all kinds of records fall this month as no fewer than eleven new eagles sprouted on the shoulders of some proud men. Earning promotions to SP4 this month were: Luane Jeffers, John Greenier, Gordon Stockfleth, Louis Greer, Victor Rous, Vincent Marier, Arthur Dean, Ray Wright, Colie Williams, Joe Elliott, and Robert Kapstall. Leroy Blank of Charlie's FDC section made Specialist Five. We also welcomed Lieutenants Hickey and Waugh into Bravo's ranks.

SPORTS QUIZ

1. Name the NBA's only Negro coach?
2. Who is the oldest active player in major league baseball?
3. Name the highest paid athlete in the world today?
4. Who wrote the best-selling book, "Instant Replay?"
5. Periods of play are known as "chuckers" in what sport?

ANSWERS:

1. Lennie Wilkens, Seattle SuperSonics. 2. Hoyt Wilhelm, Atlanta Braves. 3. Pete, Brazilian Soccer star. 4. Jerry Kramer, G.B. Packers. 5. Polo

THE NEW SOUTH

PHU LOI

South

SERVICE BATTERY

"HUMPIN TO PLEASE"

BY: SP5 Richard "The Professor" Myers

THE SOUTH SHALL RISE AGAIN

When the men of Service Battery were relocated to Phu Loi, their monthly newspaper page needed a new head. After five months of distinguished residence at Pleikien, the men of the battery had called themselves the "New South". Rather than change in the middle of the stream, Service Battery has requested that their news remain under the banner and guise of the South--"The New South". In keeping with Service Battery's request, the battery page will be titled PHU LOI SOUTH due to its location south of HNB also at Phu Loi.

HUMFARS

Service Battery's ammo section, which remains behind the scenes at the 7/8th Arty in Bien Hoa is faced with the problems of mobility, adeptness, and the "Hot Cargo Ramp". The question is where will the ammo section be next week--not even J. Edgar Cayce knows.

SQUARE IT AWAY

Since the battery move to Phu Loi on March 14, the problem of "squaring it away" is facing the men of Phu Loi South. While "squaring it away", Service Battery's social life has suffered. 1SG Danny Tillman, the "square it away kid", has been conducting nightly 5:30 work formations so the men have not been able to get to the local Phu Loi bars as early as usual. Oh well, the men of the "New South" have faced adversity before and they will triumph again.

MANY NEW FACES

Thanks to an influx of transfers from the 7/9th Arty and the 2/13th Arty, Service Battery is again operating at full strength. New arrivals from the 7/9th were: SP4's Barker and Brake, and PFC's Hairston, Andrews, and Vanderdussen. New arrivals from the 2/13th were: SGT's Qualls and Rider, Specialists Ptaszok, Hardy, Morgan, O'Neal, Maurer, and Warner and PFC Harrison.

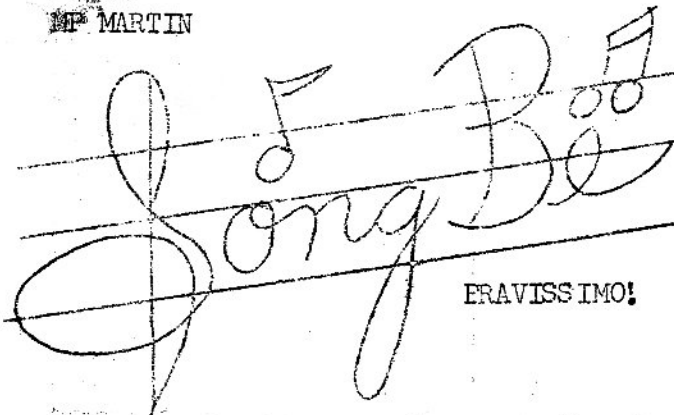
Den Met "Professor"

This was the final column submitted to the CANNON-EARS by SP5 Myers. SP5 Myers was abruptly sent home on an Emergency Leave last week due to illness in his immediate family. SP5 Myers will not be returning to the 6/27th Arty or to Vietnam but will be reassigned in the States upon completion of his leave. The officers and men of the 6/27th Arty salute "The Professor" for a job well done.

SOLDIER OF THE MONTH

SP4 Howard H. Hashimoto of Kula Maui, Hawaii, Service Battery P1L clerk, was chosen as March's Soldier of the Month. SP4 Hashimoto, selected by a board on March 28, will receive a \$25 bond plus a three-day in-country R&R.

MP MARTIN



BATTERY B

By: SP4 Robert Kane

HELL-O TOP

1SG James B. Castleberry of Atlanta, Ga., took over the almost impossible job of First Sergeant of Bravo Battery from the retiring 1SG Lavoy Wilkerson last month. 1SG Castleberry came to Bravo Battery from KMB, 7/9th Arty, located at Tay Ninh. Old, grey and retiring 1SG Wilkerson, called "PEEPSIGHT", left the battery for his new duty station, LZ HOME. 1SG Wilkerson will be retiring after 20 years of military service.

NEW MASCOT

Bravo Battery has had many a mascot but never like the one that it has now. The mascot, a duck, has been named "PEEPSIGHT" in honor of retired 1SG Lavoy Wilkerson. The duck was the present of the ARVN Airborne unit that makes its residence next door to Bravo Battery. Like the previous 1SG, "PEEPSIGHT" holds daily formations. Despite threats of ovens, "PEEPSIGHT" continues to walk his post in his CP (a fenced cage) in front of the orderly room. A word to the wise--walk with care when passing by the battery orderly room!



CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Answers on Page 8

ACROSS

- 1-Macaw
- 4-Volcanic emanation
- 8-Portico
- 12-Obtain
- 13-The sweetsop
- 14-Nobleman
- 15-Rodent
- 16-Everlasting
- 18-Collect
- 20-Dispatched
- 21-Symbol for cerium
- 22-Writing implement
- 23-Tardy
- 27-Inquire
- 28-Ferocious
- 29-Part of flower
- 31-Chinese mile
- 32-River island
- 33-Existed
- 34-Prefix: not
- 35-Declare
- 37-Flying mammal
- 38-Guide's high note
- 39-Bacteriologist's wire
- 40-Swiss river
- 41-Indian mulberry
- 42-Final
- 44-Faces of clocks
- 47-Agile
- 51-Sesame
- 52-Great Lake
- 53-Otherwise
- 54-Period of time
- 55-Mind part
- 56-Places
- 57-Obstruct

DOWN

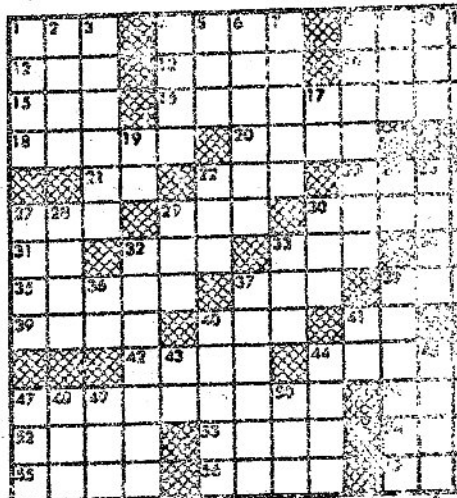
- 1-Site of Taj Mahal
- 2-Paper measure
- 3-Assault
- 4-Turns around track
- 5-Devoured

6-Poems

- 7-Froniouts
- 8-Colonizes
- 9-Greek letter
- 10-Anglo-Saxon money
- 11-Everyone
- 17-Printer's measure
- 19-Compass point
- 22-Hole
- 24-Near
- 25-Caudal appendage
- 26-Girl's name
- 27-in addition
- 28-Location
- 29-Masten
- 30-Stroke
- 32-Studio
- 33-Armed conflict
- 35-Conjunction



- 37-Fight
- 38-Puffed up
- 40-Residue
- 41-Three-toed sloth
- 43-Symbol for river
- 44-Changes color of
- 45-Unit of Italian currency
- 46-Shut noisily
- 47-Weight of India
- 48-Prefix: before
- 49-Initial
- 50-Assault weapon (abbr.)



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INTEREST RATES UP TO FIVE PER CENT

US BONDS HIKE

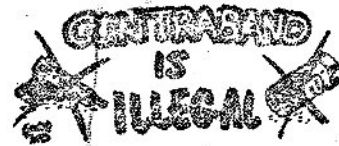
WASHINGTON (AFPS)—Secretary of the Treasury, David M. Kennedy recently announced an increase in the interest rate of United States savings bonds from 4.25 per cent to five per cent.

According to Secretary Kennedy, "This five per cent rate assures a more equitable return to the millions of purchasers of savings bonds. It will also permit these bonds to continue to make an important contribution to a sound structure of the public debt, by enabling them to remain competitive with other types of savings instruments." All outstanding series E and H savings bonds now yielding less than five per cent, regardless of when they were purchased will now yield a full five per cent from June 1, 1969 to their maturity. "This means there is no reason for any savings bond owner to redeem outstanding bonds for new ones," said Kennedy.

The Treasury Secretary also explained that freedom shares—which already pay five per cent interest—will be discontinued after June 30, 1970. "The delay," according to Kennedy, "will give employees who buy freedom shares through payroll savings plans an opportunity to change their deduction programs to savings bonds in an orderly manner."

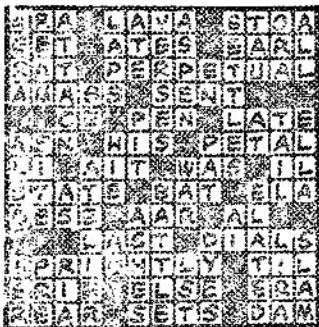
UNITED, Continued from page 1

"CONJUNCTI STAMUS" — a simple phrase, but to keep the spirit and history of the 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery alive it is a phrase that is alive. The pride of wearing such a phrase is that of the members of this command.



RIGHTS, Continued from page 1

CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS



An easy-to-use form called OVR-2 is filled out at the separation center and mailed to the Office of Veterans' Reemployment Rights in the Department of Labor. Both the individual and the previous employer will then receive a brochure outlining the requirements of the law. Eleven field offices in major cities around the country take over from there, serving the veteran's interest if he encounters problems in securing his rights.