

JDS

ALPHA-BITS

WRO

By: SP4 John Wavra

ALPHA SHOOTS AT MARGE

The 175mm platoon of Alpha Battery recently moved out for a one day "hip-shoot". Traveling to LZ Marge, located near Loc Ninh, the 175mm guns moved into range of targets they could not reach from Quan Loi. In fact the targets, a series of bunker complexes and a bridge, were located in an area out of range of US and ARVN artillery. The operation was termed a success when the guns, escorted by the 11th Armored Cavalry, returned to Quan Loi that same evening after accomplishing their objective.

A DAY ROOM AT QUAN LOI ??????

Yes, plans are in the making to build a day room at Alpha Battery. As soon as the building materials are acquired, according to Captain Donald Albers, battery commander, construction will begin. As a start, the day room will contain such time consuming hobbies as scale model construction, a wood-working shop, and a giant slot-car racing set. Besides being a place to devote a little "free" time to a favorite hobby, it will be a place to write letters, read, or just relax.

THE FRIGID OVEN

Remember when you first arrived in country and processed through the 90th Replacement Battalion--a long or short time ago? You were issued an Army OD wool blanket with a 98 degree sun beating down on you. You probably laughed and thought of the old story of the Eskimo getting a refrigerator. Little did you know that you would make good use of that blanket and your field jacket, if you had the foresight to bring it and had not turned them in at the 90th. Temperatures at Quan Loi have been fluctuating greatly from a cool 64 degrees at 0715 in the morning to a torrid 95 degrees in the afternoon. The temperature dropped almost 30 degrees on one occasion to an uncomfortable 66 degrees. With the advent of this cool weather, Christmas must be near.

DEPARTURES

Leaving Alpha Battery in the last month for reassignment at the most sought after duty station, Fort Sill, were: 1Lt Charles Allen, Sfc James Ashe, Sp4 Steve Aiken, and Sp4 Leon Allen. Sp4 Gerald Clare and Sp4 Claude Dancy departed also, but they will separate from the Army on their return to the United States.

NEW GUYS

Alpha Battery added several new guys to its roster: 2Lt Michael Netzel from Milwaukee; Ssg Charles Wilfork from Louisville; Sgt Bob Lipka hailing from Rochester, N.Y.; Sp4 Freddie Carter from McHenry, Miss.; Pfc James Byther from Raynham, Mass.; Pfc Joseph Ciullo out of Long Island, N.Y.; Pfc Donald Corbin from Lake Providence, La.; Pfc Michale Lemburg from Kent, Wash.; Pfc Carrol Loveless from Olivet, Mich.; Pfc Lewis Thompson of Lafayette, Tenn.; and Pvt Melvin Selman from New Castle, Ind. Alpha Battery welcomes all of its New Guys.