



CO'S CORNER

THE TRUE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

Looking down on the jungle from my helicopter today, I thought to myself-- "Christmas, ten days away--that is hard to believe." I'm sure that each of us has had the same kind of thought as the dust billows through the battery areas under a sunny cloudless sky. It is interesting how we have associated snow, red and green decorations, and Santa Claus with Christmas. The association is so strong that when these manifestations of the season are not present, the spirit of the holiday is difficult to develop.

Christmas, as we all learned in our youth is the birthday of Christ who gave Himself to the world. The spirit of Christmas, then, is one of giving. Each of you is living this spirit by your very presence in Vietnam. You are giving of your life for some other people. It is a wonderful gift that you make in this dusty, jungle covered country and to its people.

In each battery you will bring great personal joy to a small segment of the people whom you will host on Christmas. Although they won't understand your words they will understand your spirit--the true spirit of Christmas.

May each of you have a happy holiday knowing that the new year--1970--will bring each of you home to your family and friends.

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

THE CANNON-EARS

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BEST SOLDIER AWARD

TOP EM

Sp4 Nels G. Osterholme of Astoria, Ore., a member of the ammo section in Charlie Battery, was chosen Soldier of the Month in the battalion's third month of competition. Osterholme, selected by a board on Dec 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.