

23 JAN 69

A battery engages VC with 100,000 lb round.

On 23 Jan 69, Cpt Beach pulled the lanyard on 'Ace' and ~~sent~~ ^{sent} ~~the~~ A Battery's 100,000 lb artillery projectile screaming at Charlie. Supporting ground forces in the vicinity of Short Tiers hill. ^{The battery} engaged 12 VC in the open resulting in one ~~the~~ VC KIA. as darkness approached, Lt Harrahan Forward Observer with D, 2/327 requested illuminator for the sweeping ground forces. at that time the H.E. mission was terminated, illumination commenced, and at 1815 hrs, the ^{magic} ~~the~~ round was fired from LZ Las Bapos. A battery's first round ~~was~~ fired in Viet Nam was sent on its way 27 Feb 68 from Red Beach near Da Nang and

FILE
(BN/H/S/206)

331 days later ~~of~~ reached
the present total expenditures,
for an ~~and~~ average of 302.6
rounds per day. So, to I copy,
A Btry 6/33 ARTY. says
shot 100,000th round "out."

Lions Rear

The Best Free Newspaper
this side of the DMZ !

6th Bn 33rd Arty
Quang Tri, Vietnam

An authorized publication whose views are not necessarily those of the Dept. of Army

Vol. 1 No. 16

May 29, 1968

* IN MEMORIAN *
* *
* Sp4 William E. Knox of Headquarters *
* Btry, died May 24th as a result of *
* an accidental gunshot wound. Speciali- *
* at Knox was assigned as a medic in the *
* battalion. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. *
* William Knox live in Canton, Ohio. *
* *

Sending Goods From R&R to Vietnam

Many soldiers are experiencing difficulty importing their R&R purchases into Vietnam.

The shipment time between R&R ports and Saigon is approximately two months. Many persons who take R&R late in their tours have usually rotated by the time their goods arrive in Vietnam.

Most vendors will promise, but usually can not perform, shipment to any point in Vietnam.

All personal goods shipped into Vietnam must be customs cleared. This process, requiring up to three weeks to complete, is extremely involved for a foreigner and the owner or legal representative must be present to clear the goods.

To save time and worry it is recommended that you send your purchases to your home.

And What Shape is Your World In ?

The peace talks in Paris have turned into nothing more than a sophomoric debate of name calling... De Gaulle threatened to step down if riots continued, but it served to infuriate the crowds even more... Pueblo ship and crew still held by North Koreans... Recent death of Martin Luther King sparks rioting and looting across the U.S.... Part-time topless dancer and Stanford University student Vickey Drake loses student presidency job on nude platform... Time magazine calls the vice president "Soul brother Humphrey" in recent article... To top it all off, the mess hall is serving ice cream! What is the world coming to?

Five Days in Paradise

Sp5 Melvin Brackett recently boarded a Pan Am jet in Da Nang, and one steak dinner and two and a half hours later found himself on one of the most luscious islands of the Malaysian peninsula: Penang.

The A Battery soldier was greeted with a cold glass of beer as he stepped off the plane. After a ferry ride to the island, Brackett was given a briefing along with the other 165 men on R&R, and then driven to an American bank to exchange his MPC into Malaysian currency.

"We were given a choice of seven hotels, the one I chose cost me \$33 for five days".

(Cont. on page 2)

The Indochina War 1946-54

(The period of Vietnamese independence and the return of France was dealt with in last weeks article)

The Vietnamese enjoyed a brief period of independence when the Japanese left at the close of WW II, but when the French returned, bitter feelings were renewed.

The Viet Minh launched its first attack on the French on December 19, 1946, beginning an eight year war that killed over 35,000 French troops.

In the early months of 1947, the French controlled the major northern cities forcing the Viet Minh to resort to guerrilla tactics. By selecting their objectives and retiring when they met superior strength, they presented a problem the French could not cope with.

After three years of fighting the Viet Minh controlled large areas in the north, Central Lowlands, and the South.

In 1947 some of the anti-communist nationalists in Saigon formed a front of national union and appealed to Bao Dai to return from exile in Hong Kong and head a national government. Bao Dai accepted and negotiations with France dragged on for two years, until France approved of self government for Vietnam.

With Ho Chi Minh's party, there were two governments claiming to be the government of the entire country.

After the defeat of the Chinese nationalists by the communists in China. at the end of 1949, Communist China became the first state to recognize the North Vietnamese regime. In February of 1950, the United States and Great Britain recognized the State of Vietnam headed by Bao Dai.

Ho Chi Minh let it be known he was ready to talk peace. While meetings were going on in Geneva, the French fortress at Dien Bien Phu fell, bringing a rapid end to the war. The country was partitioned at the 17th parallel, and for 300 days people were free to move from one sector to another.

Next Week: A Summary

Paradise Cont.

It had a double bed, TV, airconditioning, and telephone.

Asked about one of the highlights of his trip, Brackett mentioned a one-day tour of the island which cost \$19 for him and a date.

The bus tour included a drive to Penang hills which features a monkey garden and a reclining Buddha. The day was topped off at the beach where surfing, sailing, water skiing, and just plain relaxing were offered. A luau was held on the beach till ten p.m., when the buses took them back to their hotels.

According to the Englewood, New Jersey shorttimer, the cuisine in Penang was international with European, Chinese, and Indian meals offered. His favorite was an Indian curry dish.

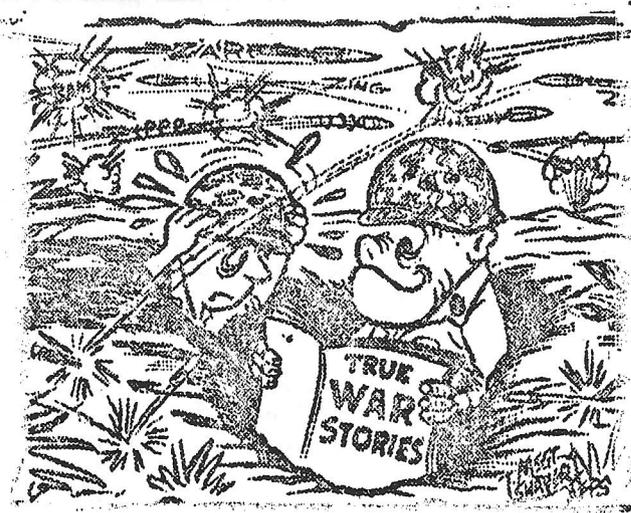
Business is carried on at a leisurely pace in tailor shops where the owner offers drinks on the house while you look over the merchandise. Melvin picked up six suits for \$80.

Almost everyone spoke English, and the most inexpensive way to travel around is the pedi-cab which can be had for three or four dollars a night.

Summed up Brackett, "The hospitality was overwhelming... Penang is a great melting pot of people".

The women? Melvin only smiled.

The Real Grunt



Editor: Rick Benson

ALPHA BLAST KILLS 1, INJURES 8

LZ LOS BANOS — Btry A Commander CPT Buddy L. Watson and three of his cannoners were wounded here Tuesday afternoon by an enemy explosive device which also injured four 101st Abn Div infantrymen and killed another.

CPT Watson was released from the 85th Evac Hospi-

tal, Phu Bai, after being treated for an upper right arm fragmentation wound, and left Thursday for an R and R in Honolulu.

SGT Palmer Moore is recuperating at the 249th General Hospital, Japan from right hand and shoulder and left thigh wounds.

PFC Stephen S. Stempleski is recovering from left thigh wounds and PFC Calvin L. Tomicich, from chest wounds at the 6th Convalescent Center Cam Ranh Bay.

The explosion occurred when the men were checking a "fresh trail" outside their perimeter here, according to Battery Executive Officer 1LT Melvin L. Brewer.

The patrol left Highway QL 1 near their perimeter gate about 4 p.m., 1LT Brewer said.

And about 4:30 "there was an explosion."

He and medic SP4 Gordon L. Atkins rushed to the explosion site.

"I saw three men coming up the hill," 1LT Brewer said.

"They all were wounded, but not seriously."

The infantryman who tripped the explosion, however, was killed.

The Lion's Roar

Vol. II

Saturday, July 19, 1969

No. 7

PAPERBACKS ARRIVE

PHU BAI — A 2600 volume paperback library arrived in the S-1 office Tuesday and lending will begin immediately, Battalion Adjutant CPT Frank J. Kytte said today.

Rear area personnel may borrow two books at a time and keep them two weeks, CPT Kytte said.

They can sign out books from 8 a.m. to 7:15 each day, he added.

A list of available books — which include well-known contemporary and classic fiction and non-fiction — will be posted in rear battery orderly rooms and at each battery fire support base, CPT Kytte said.

Personnel in the field can submit lists of books

desired, and the S1 will send them to the fire support bases, the adjutant said.

CPT Kytte urged borrowers to keep books clean.

BN ADDS STREAMER

PHU BAI — The Meritorious Unit Streamer will be added to the battalion colors Sunday by 108th Arty Gp commander COL Robert V. Lee.

XXIV Corps Arty Commanding General BG Allan G. Pixton will also attend the 11 a.m. ceremony at the battalion helicopter pad.

The Meritorious Unit Commendation was awarded by Department of the Army last month.

NEXT TO BEING THERE, MARS BEST

PHU BAI — The average GI accustomed to direct long-distance dialing on his lemon-colored Princess phone finds the Military Affiliate Radio System a primitive substitute.

But in Vietnam, MARS will have to do. The Phu Bai MARS outlet at the 8th Radio Research Field Station makes contact with affiliated radio transmitting and receiving hookups twice daily, relaying from 25 to 35 calls back to the states.

So instead of picking up the phone, hearing the familiar dial tone and getting a connection in 12 seconds flat, MARS callers place their names on a list at 6 a.m. or 8 p.m. — and wait.

It may be a matter of hours before a call is placed, or it may not be placed at all, depending on the number of callers and transmitting conditions.

The call is automatically cancelled if it is not placed by the next listing

period, when names may be submitted again.

Once a connection is reached, only one caller may talk at a time over the one-way hookup.

And on a MARS call those celebrated three little words become four:

"I love you, over...."

Three-minute MARS calls are economical — even with the extra words — because rates begin from the first relay point in the states.

If a caller picks up a relay in Chicago on a New York connection, his reduced rate is the price of a call between New York and Chicago.

The Phu Bai station is open between 6 a.m. and 8 p.m. daily and is located off Highway QL 1 near Camp Hochmuth. Phone numbers are 2946 and 2043.

WEST POINT GRAD

REYNARD IS S-3

PHU BAI — MAJ Richard L. Reynard became battalion operations officer Tuesday, replacing fellow West Point alumnus MAJ Lawrence E. Welsh, who left to teach math at the Military Academy.

MAJ Reynard studied commerce at Ohio State University for a year before he graduated from

West Point in 1958.

He took the Artillery Officers Basic Course, Ft Sill, and basic airborne training at Ft Benning.

MAJ Reynard was then fire direction and recon and survey officer, battery commander and communications, assistant operations and executive officer, 7/11th Arty, Hawaii.

He then took the Artillery Officers Career Course, Ft Sill, and earned a mechanical engineering MS at the University of California at Los Angeles, before he taught at West Point.

MAJ Reynard is married to the former Vivian Lee of Wilton, Conn. The couple have two children.

HQ SQUEAKS BY ON CMMI

PHU BAI — Hq Btry earned a satisfactory rating Monday on a Command Maintenance Management Inspection which now threatens the other four batteries.

The XXIV Corps inspection team gave the battery a 72 per cent score — only two points above the unsatisfactory mark.

Some area ratings were maintenance management: 78, small arms: 76, wheeled vehicles: 79, communications: 84, M-17 protective masks: 94, engineer equipment: 86, mess: 98, supply: 72.

Prescribed Loads Lists was rated "excellent."

* * *

COMMO CHIEF

ALEMAN ON 2ND TOUR

PHU BAI — SSG Francisco L. Aleman Jr. began his second Vietnam tour Monday as assistant battalion communications chief.

SSG Aleman, 24, previously served in Vietnam with the 40th Sig Bn and in Germany with the 144th Sig Bn as a lineman.

Sergeant Aleman, who enlisted in 1963, was recently a communications instructor, Combat Support Training Bde, Ft Polk, La.

His wife Maria Eugenia and daughter Donna Michelle live in San Diego, Tex.

* * *

PENANG R&R SITE BUMFED

Saigon — Penang is no longer an R and R site as of July 1, USARV headquarters announced last week.

Another Malaysian R and R site, Kuala Lumpur, was cancelled only a month ago.

The cancellations leave

eight sites available: Bangkok, Thailand; Hong Kong; Honolulu, Hawaii; Manila, Philippines; Sydney, Australia; Taipei, Formosa and Tokyo, Japan.

Most popular sites continue to be Honolulu and Sydney.

CPT ARNETT MEDEVACED

PHU BAI — CPT Truman R. Arnett was medevaced to the 3d Medical Hospital, Quang Tri with pneumonia on July 7 — exactly one week after he became Btry C commander.

CPT Arnett's temperature was between 100 and 103 degrees, according to battery clerk SP5 Johnny L. Wilson.

He had a slight fever this week, but is expected to return to the battalion shortly.

Assistant Operations Officer CPT Jack L. Hall has been named acting commander in CPT Arnett's absence.

NIELAND MTR OFFICER

PHU BAI — CPT John B. Nieland has been named battalion motor officer, replacing CPT Edward W. Szawiel, who is leaving Aug. 1 for stateside reassignment.

CPT Nieland, 29, began his second Vietnam tour as battalion assistant operations officer in May.

CPT Nieland served his first Vietnam tour as a Special Forces enlisted

man and won the Silver Star "for exceptionally valorous action" in August, 1965 while leading a Regional Forces company on a patrol.

CPT Nieland graduated from Artillery Officer Candidate School in 1967 and served with the 5/81st Arty, 8th Inf Div, Germany.

His wife Virginia lives in Fayetteville, N.C. with the couple's three children: David, 9, Susan, 7, and John Jr., six months.

CPT Szawiel joined the battalion in October, 1967, at Ft Carson, Col. as Btry B executive officer.

He became motor officer last July.

(Other assignments, page 3)

VETS DEROS, NABORS BRAVO ISG...

PHU BAI — LSG Homer F. Nabors began his second Vietnam tour Saturday as Btry B first sergeant, replacing LSG Floyd D. Thomas, who will leave next week for Ft Carson.

LSG Nabors, 34, was first sergeant in an infantry company, in Div Arty headquarters battery and Btry A 2/17th Arty, 1st Cav Div, Vietnam in 1966-67, when he won the Bronze Star.

Sergeant Nabors enlisted in 1952.

He was a gun section chief in Germany and Iceland and later firing battery chief in Germany.

Sergeant Nabors became first sergeant in 1964, when he was principal ROTC drill instructor at Philadelphia's LaSalle College, where he also studied political science for two

years.

LSG Nabors has three children: Mary, 11 on Monday, Christopher, 5, and Michael, 8, who live with Sergeant Nabors' parents, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Nabors, in Fairfax, Ala.

Sergeant Thomas has been first sergeant in three of the battalion's five batteries.

He joined the battalion last September as Btry C first sergeant, went to Svc Btry in January and Btry B in March.

Sergeant Thomas, 38, began his first Vietnam tour last July as first sergeant, Btry A, 5/4th Arty, 5th Inf Div.

* * *

...BECKLEY TO SURVEY

PHU BAI — SFC Billy J. Beckley began his second Vietnam tour Saturday as battalion survey section chief, replacing SFC Matthew L. Gilbert, who will leave next week for his new assignment at the Infantry Center, Ft Benning, Ga.

SFC Beckley, 32, was a survey party chief, 5/27th

Arty, Vietnam from 1966 to 1967.

He was survey computer, 1/13 Arty, Germany, from 1963 to 1966.

He was a chief surveyor in Korea, Japan and Okinawa from 1954 to 1959, when he left the service to be an oil rigger.

He reenlisted in 1962.

Sergeant Beckley met his wife Kimoko in Okinawa.

She lives now in Ft. Worth, Tex. with son Douglas, 4.

SFC Gilbert, 33, joined the battalion in September.

He began his first Vietnam tour last July as a survey party chief, 5/4th Arty.

Sergeant Gilbert enlisted in 1957.

He attended Florida A & M University, Tallahassee.

...BISHOP BRAVO CHIEF...

LZ PANTHER II — An NCO who was an Infantry recon squad leader in World War II became Btry B firing battery chief this week, replacing SSG John G. Shirley who will be reassigned to Ft Carson, Col.

SSG Bishop served in Germany in 1945 and 1946.

He reenlisted in 1950 and was an Air Defense Squad leader, section chief and supply sergeant in Japan, Korea and Germany.

Sergeant Bishop was section chief 1/44th and 1/36th Arty, Germany, the 76th Arty, Korea and later the 2/27th Arty, Germany.

He began his first Vietnam tour June 6 as Btry B section chief.

Sergeant Bishop met his wife Helga in Germany.

She lives now in Sacramento, Cal. with daughter Carol, 6.

SSG Shirley, 32, began his first Vietnam tour last July as section chief, Btry A, 5/4th Arty, 5th Inf Div.

Sergeant Shirley graduated from Friendship Junior College. He enlisted

in 1960 and was a radiotelephone operator and liaison specialist, 1/77th Arty, Korea.

He was a gunner at Fts Sill and Campbell and a gunner and liaison sergeant, 2/3d Arty in Germany.

He was then section chief, Fts Knox and Carson.

...THOMASSON TO 'C'

LZ MAI LOC — SFC Daniel T. Thomasson became Btry C firing battery chief this week, replacing SFC Freddy D. Ward, who is leaving for the Artillery Training Center, Ft Sill, Okla.

SFC Thomasson, 38, joined the battalion July 6.

He began his first Vietnam tour last October as firing battery chief and later Svc Btry section chief, 8/4th Arty.

He was then operations and intelligence assistant, Hq Btry, 108th Arty Gp.

Sergeant Thomasson enlisted in 1949.

He was a gunner with the 32d Arty Bn, Germany and later section chief, 108th and 2/39th Arty, Germany.

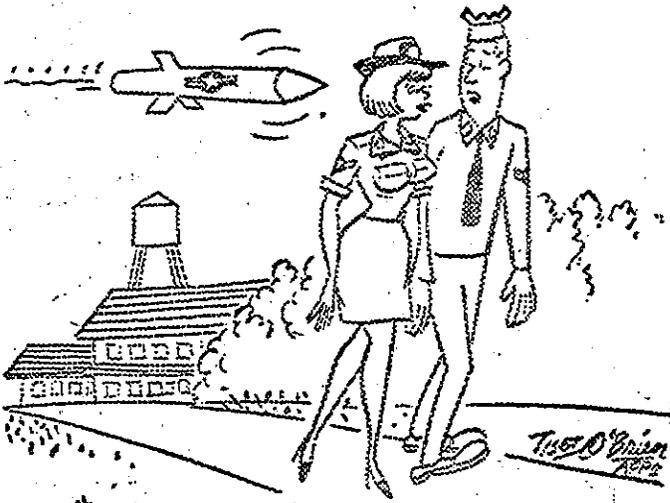
He was later section chief, 7/17th Arty, Korea and again with the 1/10th and 2/39th Arty, Germany.

Sergeant Thomasson graduated from Non-Commissioned Officer Candidate School and basic airborne training.

He met his wife Doris in Germany.

She lives now in Huntsville, Tex. with two daughters and a son.

THE LION'S ROAR
Saturday, July 19, 1969 3



"HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT OUR NEW HEAT SEEKING MISSILES?"



"WOULD YOU BELIEVE, ... 48-38-48?"

Armed Forces Press Service

Cartoonists See The Uniformed

BETTER HALF

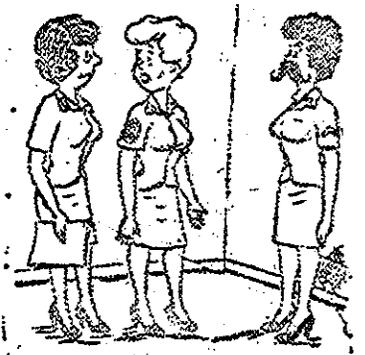
... Through Funny-Colored Glasses



"THEY TOLD ME IF I ENLISTED I COULD CHOOSE ANY BRANCH I WANTED."



"SORRY MEN-YOU'VE BEEN DETAILED TO AID LT. MISSILEDOCK TEST THESE NEW TYPE CASUALTY BANDAGES!"



"I COULDN'T FIND ANY REGULATION AGAINST IT!!"

THE LION'S ROAR

Saturday, July 19, 1969

An authorized biweekly publication of the 6th Bn, 33d Arty, Phu Bai, Vietnam, APO 96308. Any opinions herein are not necessarily the Army's. Commanding Officer: LTC Everett E. Hooper; Information Officer: CPT Frank J. Kytte; Editors: SP5 Charles O. Sterling, PFC Robert H. Gillmore.



"YOU'D BETTER SHAPE UP, SOON, AIRMAN NEWCROP!"

KIDS INVADE BATTALION

PHU BAI -- A platoon-sized group of little people captured the battalion base camp here last week -- with devastating results.

Twenty - nine children from Hue's Nuoc-Ngot Orphanage won over the battalion with their disarming smiles and laughter during "Operation Big Brother," a Sunday-afternoon exercise in having fun.

The youngsters, mostly from 8 to 10 years old, sampled mess hall cuisine, downed gallons of soda and played games with some 25 GI's during the four-hour visit sponsored by the battalion medical section.

The operation was aimed at "getting the kids out of the orphanage for a while -- making them feel they really are kids and that somebody cares about them," Battalion Surgeon CPT Robert G. Jobst said.

* * *

CPT Jobst and his medical team visit 150 children at the orphanage several times weekly on the battalion Medical Civil Action Program (MEDCAP).

"This was a chance for them to visit us," he said.

Since December, the program has distributed nearly 200 boxes of children's clothes, toys, vitamins and formula from donors in Ottawa, Ill., CPT Jobst's home town.

* * *

The outing began when eager children scrambled aboard two 2½-ton trucks -- almost before they had rolled to a stop at the orphanage.

They arrived at the Phu Bai compound in time for a chicken dinner topped with peach cobbler dessert and ice-cold sodas.

Battalion members then led the youngsters -- some atop their shoulders -- on a sweep of the battalion area where they inspected

troop billets and got a glimpse of television.

Games -- and more soda followed.

The youngsters huddled over parlor games, puzzled over jigsaw puzzles, played volleyball and badminton and won prizes in hard-fought musical-chair competition.

Others spent the afternoon in the battalion Enlisted Men's Club where they listened to stereo-recorded music -- and

drank more soda.

As a result, some of the GI chaperones have since visited the orphanage to renew friendships made during the outing.

And one has expressed interest in adopting a Vietnamese child.

The operation was so successful that it may become standard operating procedure, CPT Jobst said.

"I don't really know who had more fun -- the kids or the guys here."

WIND-UP DOLLS DO DARNEDEST THINGS

Once upon a time there was a community of doll houses built in a sand box near the sea in never-never land. In these houses lived many dolls who wound each other up and wound each other down. Here are some of them:

The Frank Waitkus Doll: You wind it up and it crawls under a truck.

The SFC Simone Doll: You wind it up and it puts too much sugar in the pudding.

The MAJ Westmoreland Doll: You wind it up and it doesn't stop 'til midnight.

The LSG Monty Doll: You wind it up and it purses its lips delicately, flutters its eyelashes and goes on police call.

The CPT Swaziel Doll: You wind it up and you wish you hadn't.

The Andy Coates Doll: You wind it up and it says you didn't.

The SP4 Stringer Doll: You wind it up and it picks things up.

The SP4 Kilgore Doll: You wind it up and it does nothing.

The CW2 Payne Doll: You wind it up and it goes over to see Kim.

The Kim Doll: You wind it up and it turns you on.

The LSG Barnett Doll: You wind it up and it reproduces.

The CSM Murphy Doll: You wind it up and it makes conference calls.

The PFC Robertson Doll: You wind it up and Robertson unwinds it.

The SFC Travethan Doll: You wind it up and it says: "I haven't got it...I haven't got it...I haven't got it...I haven't got it...."

The SP5 Downs Doll: You wind it up and it runs out of beer and soda.

The Frank O. Brown Doll: You wind it up and it loses tools.

The SP5 Murawski Doll: You wind it up and it goes on leave.

The SP5 Harding Doll: You wind it up and it types the morning report -- again.

NON-CITIZEN GI'S ARE...

LZ LOS BANOS — A Btry A cannoneer is a British subject who probably speaks better Spanish than English.

PFC Martin J. Lipp was born in Brighton, England, in 1948 and his family came to Los Angeles in 1964 after living 14 years in Argentina.

Lipp was put in the non-English-speaking—largely Spanish—class at University High School, and he graduated first in that section in 1967.

And he had begun his second year of mechanical engineering studies at Santa Monica City College when he was drafted.

How does he, a British subject, like fighting in an American war?

"Well, I'm only technically a British subject: I only lived in England for two years as a baby," Lipp explains.

Lipp, whose friends call him "Marty," attended Spanish-speaking schools in Argentina until he was 16.

He wants to be an American citizen "as soon as I can" — which by law is at least five years after coming to America.

And he has "no objections" to the Vietnam war.

"I knew I'd be drafted sooner or later," he said, "so why not sooner?" he laughed.

Lipp's journey to America indirectly began early in World War II.

His father Jozef was a Polish Air Force pilot captured by the Russians and sent to Siberia.

He was released in a prisoner exchange late in the war.

And he went to England to join a Royal Air Force reconnaissance squadron.

"After the war many of my father's friends" — fellow Polish refugees — "were moving to South America. They thought there would be greater opportunity."

Lipp's sister Christina (now a language major at the University of California at Los Angeles) was born the year the family arrived in Argentina, where his father was unhappy.

"For one thing, the country is politically unstable — they have their war games every year to see who'll run the country," Lipp says.

"And my father worked hard — and he never got anywhere. They seem to put you in a caste down there and you stay there," Lipp adds.

In the states, although his father is still a machinist, he has found a difference, Lipp says:

"There's always a chance to improve yourself here.

"If you put in something you'll always get something back," Lipp says.

Lipp himself has put quite a bit into sports — and got a lot back.

"When I came to high school here," he says,

the coach wanted me to play football.

"I said 'fine' — I played football in Argentina. Only you call it soccer.

"So when I came into the locker room and I saw all the equipment — for what you call football — I said, 'uh, uh' and I got out of there as fast as I could."

Lipp tried out several sports and decided he liked gymnastics best.

He spent five hours a day, seven days a week, specializing in rings and rope climbing.

And he set both his high school and college rope-climbing records.

Gymnastics added about 40 pounds to his former 120 — mainly in his arms, shoulders and chest — and another 20 or so came from "Army chow."

Lipp's principal exercise now is swimming with fellow cannoneers in the Tonkin Gulf, just down the hill from Btry A's position.

* * *

...AMERICANS AT HEART

LZ PANTHER II — Finding himself in another country as a result of circumstances not of his making is nothing new for a Nicaraguan GI here.

But Btry B cannoneer SP4 Roberto A. Trinidad is un-

awed by events over which he has no control.

And he makes the best of them.

Trinidad was transplanted from his native Managua, Nicaragua as a five-year-old when his father decided to move to Los Angeles.

And now, 16 years later, he is in Vietnam at the bidding of his adopted Uncle Sam.

"I guess I had to come," the soft-spoken Trinidad shrugs when asked how he feels about serving in Vietnam.

"There was nothing I could do about it."

And though he retains some ties with his native country and sometimes thinks about going back, He seems to have few regrets about being an "An-

gelino."

Growing up in a large American city has had its advantages for Trinidad, like an education which he might not have received in Nicaragua.

He graduated from Roosevelt High School in 1966 and plans to attend Los Angeles Junior College when he returns from Vietnam in January.

"I consider L.A. my home now," he says, adding he will "most likely" become an American citizen when he returns.

Trinidad does not miss the Central American tropical climate, which is similar to that of Vietnam;

"Heat bothers me, too."

RAIDERS TAKE TOURNEY IN STRIDE

PHU BAI — Personnel Section's Remington Raiders executed the expected Monday by expertly slugging their way to the battalion volleyball tourney championship.

The Raiders downed the Hq Btry Wreckers, two games out of two.

The Wreckers defeated their fellow Hq Btry Mongoloids July 9.

And the Mongoloids beat the Officer Mashers July 7.

In three successive games, bigger fish ate smaller fish.

And there was no real doubt as to the identity of the biggest fish.

* * *

The Mongoloids, however, raised a few eyebrows by stopping the Officer Mashers, who earlier in the tourney looked like a potential Raider match.

Least surprised by their victory were the Raiders themselves.

SSG Raymond Holland, SGT Jack Joliff, SP5s Ron Cox, Bill Dunlop and Bill Marawski, SP4s Chuck Johnson and Don Kilgore and PFCs Chuck Mason and Jim Parker took their victory nonchalantly.

"Oh yah, we won," Parker shrugged, as if there were no question they would.

SOSOKA MAKES 8, 13 EM UPPED

PHU BAI — Fourteen battalion enlisted men were promoted this week.

Intelligence sergeant Richard J. Sosoka was promoted to master sergeant Monday by Battalion Commander LTC Everett E. Hooper.

Eleven others advanced to sergeant or specialist five Thursday:

SGTs Mammie Hampton Jr. and Charles L. Weaver and SP5s Richard J. Chisholm, Rufus Jones Jr. and Charles O. Sterling, all of Hq Btry.

SGT Edward J. Cox and Richard Police, Btry A; SGT Gregory Watson and SP5 Terry W. Griffin, Btry C; SGTs William H. Eveland Jr.

and Randy R. Jones, Svc Btry.

Timothy L. Ferek and Garry D. Tiller of Svc Btry were promoted to SP4 Thursday.

MSG Sosoka, 38, began his third Vietnam tour in

March when he came to the 6/33d from the 4/39th Arty at Ft Bragg, N.C. where he was also an intelligence sergeant.

He earlier served here with the 1st Cav Div and the 2/26th Arty.

URGE EARLY EXTENSION

PHU BAI — All personnel who plan to extend their Vietnam tour are urged to submit their extension application to the Personnel Section at least six months before their presently-scheduled DEROS date, Personnel Officer CW2 Thomas H. Payne said today.

Mr. Payne explained that the "Advanced Overseas Returning Roster"—a list of personnel returning to the States and their DEROS dates—is sent to the Department of the Army six months before the listed men are set to DEROS.

And when a person applies for a later (extended) DEROS after this roster is mailed, additional paperwork is required, causing additional work for the Personnel Section, Mr. Payne said.

ALLEN TO HQ SUPPLY

PHU BAI — SP5 Terry W. Allen became Hq Btry Supply sergeant July 9, replacing SSG Arthur S. Poindexter, who was medevaced to Japan for a back ailment.

SP5 Allen, 20, joined the battalion May 31 as Prescribed Load List clerk.

Allen was drafted into the Army in April, 1968.

He took basic training at Ft Bragg, N.C. and supply school at Ft Huachuca, Ariz.

He was a supply clerk Maintenance Co, General Support Gp, Ft Ord, Cal. before he came to Vietnam.

Son of Mr. and Mrs. James T. Allen of Gaffney, S.C., Allen graduated from Gaffney High School in 1966.

HQ NCOs DECORATED

PHU BAI — Three Hq Btry NCO's have been decorated for outstanding Vietnam service.

Former battalion commo chief SFC William D. Hardee and chief surveyor SFC Matthew L. Gilbert received Bronze Star Medals from Battalion Commander

LTC Everett E. Hooper at ceremonies July 12.

LTC Hooper presented the Army Commendation Medal July 9 to former radio section chief SGT Robert S. Underhill.

(Related story, page 3)

BTRY A FINDS ROOM AT THE TOP

LZ LOS BANOS — Btry A is literally moving up in the world.

It has moved its gun position to the next higher crest on its hill-top position here, closer to the 101st Abn Div platoon which shares the seaside site with the battery.

The move will reduce the position's perimeter size, thus "tightening security," according to battery executive officer 1LT Melvin L. Brewer.

The higher position will also give the battery better observation on the site's north, east and south sides.

The battery was ordered to move by the 101st Abn Div, in charge of the po-

sition, July 4, and it began relocating immediately, 1LT Brewer said.

Crews of about 35 men — or about half the men on the site — worked during daylight hours every day until today to build six howitzer positions and personnel bunkers, an executive officer's post and a fire direction and an ammunition bunker on the new site.

Aiding the cannoneers for a few days was a squad from the 326th Engineer Bn (101st Div) and a D7 bulldozer loaned from the 26th Gen Spt Gp.

The new bunkers were backboned by eight-by-eight-inch timbers and walled with artillery ammunition boxes.

Sandbags from the old site were hauled to the new in 2½ ton trucks.

100,000TH FOR BRAVO

LZ PANTHER II — Btry B fired its 100,000th round of the Vietnam War Monday, to become the second of the 6/33d's howitzer batteries to reach the six-

figure mark.

Btry A leads with 121,000 rounds fired, and Btry C trails with 96,000 for a battalion total of 318,000.

Bravo cannoneers celebrated firing the milestone round with a party at the battery's Panther II location.

Btry B tops the other units in fire missions with 14,326; Btry A has 11,658 and Btry C, 10,659.

WATCH GROUP HEARS GRIPES

PHU BAI — Battalion Adjutant CPT Frank J. Kytte today urged unit members to use the Watch and Action Committee as a means of settling grievances.

"Anyone in the battalion who has a gripe should see his battery representative so he can bring it up at the next meeting," CPT Kytte said.

He explained the committee is an "outlet" for

inter-racial problems in the battalion and attempts to promote interaction among all battalion members.

Committee representatives will be increased to about 13 soon, CPT Kytte said, and will include at least two from each battery.

Committee chairman is MAJ Franklin D. Westmoreland, battalion executive officer.

1ST FOR SMITH

GRAND ISLAND, Neb. — Mrs. Kay Smith, wife of Btry SP4 Alan Smith gave birth to a son Monday.

BOTH SERVED IN KOREA

PALMERTREE REPLACES MURPHY

PHU BAI — CSM Patrick F. Murphy will leave Vietnam next Sunday to join the 3d Armored Div Arty, Frankfurt, Germany.

He will be replaced Aug. 10 by SGM William A. Palmertree, now with the 4/18th Arty, Ft. Lewis, Wash.

CSM Murphy joined the battalion in February after serving with the 1/40th and XXIV Corps Arty.

The 23-year veteran has spent most of his career in artillery and six years of it in Germany.

He was firing battery chief with occupation forces in Japan from 1946 to 1948 and served with reserve artillery units until 1952.

He spent three years in Germany until

1956 and became an artillery advisor for the Southern Illinois-Missouri sector command, XVI USA Corps.

CSM Murphy was in Korea with Btry B, 6/15th Arty in 1962 and returned to Germany with the 5th Replacement Bn in 1965 and the 3/17th Arty in 1966.

CSM Murphy, 41, is a Kansas, City, Mo. native and graduated from Redemptionist High School there in 1946.

His wife Lisa and five children now live in Honolulu, Hawaii.

CSM Murphy and SGM Palmertree served together in the 6/15th Arty in Korea. CSM Murphy was Btry B first sergeant. SGM Palmertree was Hq Btry first sergeant.

Vietnam Persecutes Christian Minority, Report Says

By SETH MYDANS

BANGKOK — Vietnam has increased repression of indigenous minority Christians in the country's Central Highlands, closing small informal churches, compelling public renunciations of faith and arresting worshipers, Human Rights Watch said in a report on Thursday.

The hill tribe minorities, known as Montagnards, are traditionally animist but have been converted to Christianity in large numbers over the past half-century. Culturally and ethnically distinct from the majority lowland Vietnamese, the believers worship clandestinely in informal settings known as house churches, which are illegal under Vietnamese law.

"Montagnards face harsh persecution in Vietnam, particularly those who worship in independent house churches, because the authorities don't tolerate religious activity outside their sight or control," said Phil Robertson, deputy Asia director of the human rights monitoring group, which is based in New York. "The Vietnamese government has been steadily tightening the screws on independent Montagnard religious groups, claiming they are using religion to incite unrest."

The conflicts involve more than religion as Vietnam's population and economy expand and lowland Vietnamese settlers en-

croach on the farmland of indigenous hill tribes, primarily with agricultural plantations.

There is a political aspect as well, involving government concerns over links with evangelical groups in the United States among some of the Montagnards. Many Montagnards fought alongside American and South Vietnamese troops during the Vietnam War, and some continued to resist after the Communist victory in 1975.

For the most part, Montagnard

Worshipers are being arrested, and churches closed.

Christians today are nonpolitical, but the government is particularly concerned about a branch known as Dega Christianity, which is associated with a movement for land rights.

The United States designated Vietnam as a "country of particular concern" for religious freedom in 2004 but removed it from the list two years later, saying it was satisfied with the government's moves to loosen restrictions.

Officially atheist, Communist Vietnam started allowing religious practice in the early 1990s.

Mostly Buddhist by tradition, it also has a Roman Catholic population that is the largest in Southeast Asia outside the Philippines. Buddhist temples are packed during festivals, and churches sometimes overflow with worshipers on Sundays and at Easter and Christmas.

But under Vietnamese law, religious groups must register with the government and operate under approved guidelines. When the government gave official sanction to some evangelical Protestant churches a decade ago, almost none of the 400 churches in the Central Highlands were included.

Independent unregistered groups often come under harsh government pressure. They include unapproved or independent congregations of Mennonites, Cao Dai, Hoa Hao Buddhists, ethnic Khmer Theravada Buddhists and members of the Unified Buddhist Church of Vietnam, as well as the Montagnard Christians.

The police and local officials disperse their religious gatherings, confiscate religious literature and summon religious leaders to police stations for interrogation. In some instances, police officers destroy the churches of unauthorized groups and detain or imprison their members on charges of violating national security.

"The United States government should recognize this and

should clearly designate Vietnam as a country of particular concern for violations of religious freedom," Mr. Robertson said. "I think the facts demand it. The situation with the Montagnards is one of the most egregious violations of religious freedom in Vietnam."

The Central Highlands are mostly off limits to journalists and independent rights groups. The report said much of its information came from the official news media as well as from asylum seekers who had fled through the mountains to neighboring Cambodia and from overseas Montagnard advocacy groups.

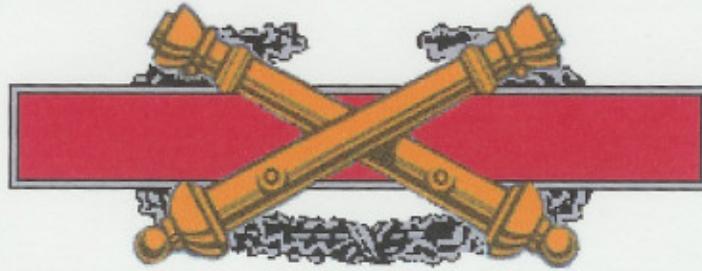
The Vietnamese news media are remarkably forthright about the pressure on the Montagnards, Mr. Robertson said.

The Human Rights Watch report quoted one Vietnamese press report, in Bao Gia Lai, a state newspaper in Gia Lai Province, as saying: "After attempting to organize violent protests at various locations in the highlands and facing continued failure, some helpless leaders fled into the forest. But the sacred wood and untamed water could not protect them."

It quoted Voice of Vietnam radio as saying, "When a so-called religion becomes a tool in the hands of evil people, it should be considered evil and unlawful and should be eliminated."

Volume 1 Issue 1 October 2003

6th Battalion 33rd Artillery



THE LION'S ROAR

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What is this all about?

How time flies. 35 years have come and gone since we spent our time in Vietnam together. As Charles Dickens wrote in the first sentence of *The Tale of Two Cities*, "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times". But, most of us would do it all over again if we were asked. Many of you have been trying to find old buddies and this newsletter is intended to provide assistance for all. Stay tuned for future articles. We'll publish the newsletter from time to time, however the schedule has not yet been determined. Credit for the newsletter goes to Jim Slate to provided the original idea.

Condensed Battalion History

The 33rd Artillery Regiment was originally activated as a component of the National Army and the 11th Division at Camp Meade, Maryland on 5 July 1918. After four short months on 11 November 1918 the Armistice ending World War I was signed in France and the unit was deactivated. It had not gone overseas and its only combat was with the mosquitoes in the Maryland countryside north of Washington, D. C.

On 1 November 1940 the battalion was reorganized as the 33rd Field Artillery Battalion at Camp Ethan Allen, Vermont and assigned to the First Infantry Division. The battalion fought

throughout World War II with the Big Red One, participating in eight major campaigns:

Algeria	Tunisia	Sicily
Normandy	Northern France	Rhineland
Ardenes-Alsace		Central Europe

The 33rd made assault landings at Algeria, Sicily and Normandy, landing at Omaha Beach on D Day, and participated in 422 days of actual combat, firing 175,000 rounds of 105mm ammunition, taking more than 500 prisoners of war and sustaining 292 casualties. Decorations were awarded to 655 officers and enlisted men. At the end of the war, the 33rd was in Czechoslovakia then moved into Germany with the First Infantry Division and remained there as part of the occupational forces.

Unit decorations for World War II action:

- * Streamer, French Croix de Guerre, with palm, embroidered KASSERINE,
- * Streamer, French Croix de Guerre, with palm, embroidered NORMANDY, for gallantry during the landing at Omaha Beach on D Day.
- * Fouragere in the colors of the French Croix de Guerre (1939-1945)
- * Cited in the order of the day of the Belgian Army for action at Mons
- * Cited in the order of the day of the Belgian Army for action

in the area Eupen-Malmedy.
* Belgian Fouragere (1940)

Excerpts from the history of the 33rd state:

"On 8 November 1942 at 0832 hours, Battery B fired the first American artillery rounds in the European Theater."

"On 21 February 1943, at Kasserine Pass, cannoneers of the 33rd cut the time on fuses to one half second and fired like grape shot into Rommel's Panzer Grenadier Regiment Africa."

"In one 45 minute period on 4 August 1943 the Golden Lion's guns poured 335 rounds of supporting fire into German units defending Tronia, Sicily."

In 1955, the 33rd returned with the First Division to Ft. Riley, Kansas. In 1957 the unit was inactivated when the First Infantry Division was reorganized under the RCCID concept. On 20 April 1960, the 2nd Howitzer Battalion, 33rd Artillery was reactivated as part of the "Big Red One" and given the mission of training BCT's. In August 1961, the 2/33rd's mission was changed to one of combat readiness. After successfully completing battery and battalion Army Training Tests the battalion was declared combat ready.

On 1 September 1967 the 6th Battalion 33rd Artillery was reactivated at Ft. Carson, Colorado under the command of Colonel Frank Olcott and deployed to Vietnam. The battalion landed at Red Beach, DaNang on 21 February 1968 and was assigned to the 108th Artillery Group. The battalion established its base camp at Landing Zone Sharon, in Quang Tri Province, then moved to Phu Bai in November 1968 and moved again to Dong Ha in November 1969.

On 28 February 1968 the Battalion's first shot in Vietnam was fired in support of the 1st Marine Division. By Easter Sunday, 14 April 1968, the 30,000th round had been fired. The 100,000th round was fired from LZ Sharon on 28 July 1968 by the A Battery Gun Section Chief. The ceremony was short lived as the battery received a fire mission from a Forward Observer who was flying over the hills nearby. Two gun crews began the mission by firing the 100,001st round at "Charlie".

During two years of continuous combat in Vietnam the unit occupied more than 50 fire support bases from DaNang to the Demilitarized Zone and from the Laotian Border to the South China Sea. The battalion fired 51,964 fire missions and 435,165 rounds in support of the 1st Cavalry, 101st Airborne, 1st Marine and 3rd Marine Divisions, separate Brigades of the 82nd Airborne and 5th Infantry Divisions, and the 1st ARVN Division as well as several ARVN Regiments and is credited with killing 378 confirmed and 98 probable enemy soldiers

and destroying nearly 300 enemy structures including two complete enemy villages.

On 2 November 1969, deactivation ceremonies were held at Phu Bai for Battery B and their equipment was turned over to the 14th ARVN Artillery Regiment. Battery A fired its last round in Vietnam at 0720 hours and Battery C fired its last round at 1010 hours on 14 February 1970 then were airlifted to the Dong Ha Combat Base to stand down for inactivation. LNO teams were released between 18 February and 23 February 1970. The Battalion inactivation ceremony was conducted on 21 February 1970. Colonel Robert C. Hixon, 108th Artillery Group Commander who activated the 6/33rd at Ft. Carson, Colorado in September 1967 as then commander of the 46th Artillery Group took part in the ceremony and cased the battalion colors.

The unit was equipped with towed 105mm howitzers and supported Allied ground troops in I Corps Tactical Zone. Its batteries were widely scattered over I Corps and they moved -- by air, land, and sea -- more than eighty times.

The battalion participated in the following major operations:

Pegasus = (opening a land route to Khe Sahn)

Delaware/Lam Son = (A Shau Valley)

Somerset Plain	Comanche Falls
Rice Denial	Alpeana Beach
Carolina Hills	Jeb Stuart III
North East Monsoon	Scotland I and II
Lam Son 245	Lam Son 225
Lam Son 265	Nevada Eagle
Jeb Stuart II	Kentucky
Marshall Mountain	Napoleon
Saline II	Maine Crag
Purple Mountain	Ohio Rapids
Massachusetts Striker	Kentucky Jumper
Cumberland Thunder	Republic Square

The 6/33rd was awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation in General Orders no. 42 on 16 June 1969 for distinguished Vietnam Service between 21 February and 31 October 1968.

Battalion statistics as of 28 February 1970:

Battery	Missions	Rounds fired
A	18,800	178,997
B	18,809	123,206
C	14,355	132,962
Total	51,964	435,165

From historical reports written by Captain Frank J. Kytte dated 16 July 1969 and Captain Lancy O. Burns dated 18 February 1970 with modifications by Clyde Lewandowski based on information from the National Archives

A Publication from the Early Days

ORDER OF THE JUNGLE BOOT

Let It Be Hereby Known to All Concerned that the Men of the 6th Battalion, 33rd Artillery Have Distinguished Themselves Far Above and Beyond the Call of Duty by Reason of the Followings:

For Having Successfully and Deftly Put Off as Long as Possible KP, Guard, PT, Police Call, and GI Parties by Means of Leaves, Passes, Sick Call, AWOLs, and Visits to the Chaplain:

For Conducting Regular Nightly Research on All Movies Shown at Post Theatres,

For Enjoying the Lovely Delicious Odors from the Gas Chamber and the Mess Hall

For Having Participated in thorough Jungle Training, complete with simulated climate and heat,

For Standing Final Inspections, completely alert, in the best of health (infra-red eyes) ready to fight following their staunch leaders and showing their Friendly Cooperation and Spirit by Breathing on the Inspecting Party, And

For Leaving Colorado Springs and Fort Carson intact after the Big 6, 33rd Manuvers Held in honor of Artillery Week the week of 29 January.

The Men of 6th Battalion, 33rd Artillery have Further Shown their Courage and Valour by:

Having Made Reveille after All-Hours-of-the-Night Carousing, Circumventing the Cinderella Curfew, and Also Holding the Envidable Daily Record of a Fifty Percent Hangover Rate due to the Diligent and Conscientious Examples of the NCOs and Officers :

Setting New Pads and Styles in Civilian Clothing such as Constant Wearing of the same Articles Day after Day until the Clothing has the Strength to Stand Alone - Famous as the "Strong" Style, and the Wearing of Sizes too Large or Small, Known in Fashionable Circles as the "Borrowed" Look:

Having Wooed, Won, and "Weft", Thereby Creating a Flood of Tears and Broken Hearts in Every Accessible Community Where Women were Found:

Having Avoided Headache Bars such as the Old Corral, the 119 Taproom, Duncans, the Hogan, and the NCO Club,

Having Courage and Displaying Good Humor in the Face of the Enemy - Boredom, Apathy, and the Famed Army "Hurry Up and Wait" Program, and Finally

By Being Some of the Zaniest, Wildest, and Finest Men in the United States Army.

Because of Their Undying Loyalty and Their Brave Example to All Men, the Men of the 6th Battalion, 33rd Artillery are Hereby Awarded and Presented With the Order of the Jungle Boot and Will Hereafter, as a Symbol of Their Valour and Honor, Wear the Jungle Boot with Pride, Dignity and Respect as Part of Their Regular Uniform, Reminding All Men Everywhere of Their Brave Courage and Famous Deeds .

By Order of:

General Will Wearitt
Commanding General
Peak Service Club

400,000th round fired by the 6/33rd

On 15 December 1969 a ceremony was held commemorating the firing of the 400,000th round by the battalion in Vietnam at Battery A's position at Strong Point A-4. (The Battalion log shows coordinates YD 113703, but other publications indicate YD 118701) Colonel Robert C. Hixon, XXIV Corps Artillery Commanding Officer, Colonel R. C. Cartwright, 108th Artillery Group Commanding Officer and Lieutenant Colonel Everett E. Hooper, 6th Battalion 33rd Artillery Commanding Officer performed the honors. Colonel Hixon had a long history with the battalion. He activated the 6/33rd at Ft. Carson when he was the 46th Artillery Group Commander, was involved in the firing of the 400,000th round and finally cased the battalion colors at the 6/33rd deactivation ceremony.



Colonel Robert C. Hixon as he was promoted and assumed command of the 46th Artillery Group at Ft. Carson in 1967 shortly before activating the 6/33rd.
U.S. Army Signal Corps Photo



Colonel Hixon, 108th Artillery Group CO, prepares to load the 400,000th commemorative round on 15 December 1969.
National Archives Photo

2004 Reunion Information

A battalion reunion is planned for the 4th of July weekend 2004 at the Honeysuckle Inn at Branson, Missouri and will be held in conjunction with the Northern I Corps Artillery Reunion. Information is available by contacting us or by logging on to the Will Pete website at www.willpete.com/Forms/reunion2004.htm.

The I Corps Artillery Reunion was held at the Honeysuckle Inn in May 2002. The hotel prices were fair, there was time to visit, to see the museums or shows, or just lay back and enjoy the company of old friends. The 2004 reunion promises to be every bit as enjoyable as the last one.

What you can do to help

- * Update your address because e-mail addresses change from time to time. It's important for us to know your mailing address, too.
- * Provide names of friends who are not shown on the attached roster.
- * Please let us know if you find it acceptable to provide individual contact information to all the guys who sign in.
- * Contact old friends who are on the roster and forward their address to us.
- * Send copies of any printed historical information you may want to share.
- * Tell us about your experience with the 6/33rd.
- * Provide suggestions for future newsletters.
- * Help us to build a unit website.

***** Contact Information *****

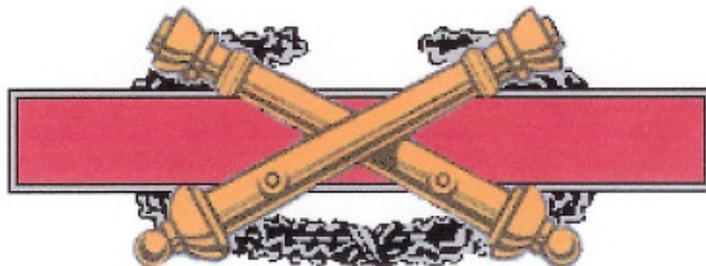
For additional information please contact:

Clyde Lewandowski
6525 47th Ave SE
St. Cloud, MN 56304
320-253-1690
4clew@warpdriveonline.com

Jim Slate
910 N Benson Ave
Ontario, CA 91762-2007
909-986-9693
Hardhammer46@aol.com

Issue 2 January 2004

6th Battalion 33rd Artillery



THE LION'S ROAR

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Share your memories

A Civil War Treasury of Tales Legends and Folklore contains this story as told by A. W. Barkley.

It seemed that two Confederate veterans were reminiscing about the days during the war when Paducah was being fought over by the Northern and Southern forces. "I remember", one veteran said, "when we pushed those damn Yankees all the way across the Ohio and up to Illinois!" The other old soldier regretfully corrected him. "I was there, old friend," he said, "and I'm afraid that wasn't the way it happened at all. Those Yankees drove us out of Paducah and almost to the Tennessee line." The first veteran reflected a bit, then sourly remarked, "Another good story ruined by an eyewitness!"

Many of us have memories and stories that will be gone forever unless we record them. If you will be so kind as to write down your stories and send them to us, we will use them in future newsletters.

Battalion Log - Dec 67 / Jan 68

Dec-67 Historical Report

The freezing weather and heavy snow coincided with various field problems and the Army training test during December. Besides the two-day field junkets where tents were set up in four feet of snow, battalion soldiers also

received their first classes on the M-16. Moving out to the rifle range with their new weapons, the men encountered several feet of powdery snow and 7 degree temperature while trying to find the targets. Also included during the firings was familiarization with all weapons in the battalion. In the latter part of the month, medical shot records were brought up to date and a satisfactory rating was received for the two-day battalion Army training test. After returning from the field on 20 December, equipment was stowed and most battalion soldiers departed for a two-week Christmas leave.

6-Dec-67 News Release by Sp 4 Richard Benson
Harold K. Johnson, Army Chief of Staff, visited the 6/33rd during his November tour of the post (Fort Carson). The four-star general was briefed on the unit by LTC Frank R. Olcott, Battalion Commander, and watched artillery pieces set up in practice formation.

The battalion fired its first shot since activation on 6 November 1967, as SFC Leslie Roe of A Battery pulled the lanyard of a 105.

19-Dec-67 Army Training Test successfully completed

20-Dec-67 Personnel are released for leave

Jan-68 Historical Report

The beginning of the month found most of the battalion soldiers still home on leave. As soon as the men returned from leave, the tempo increased as tactical equipment was loaded into boxes and put on vehicles. When all vehicles had been stenciled with code numbers and their loads secured, drivers took them to the post rail yards where they were driven onto flat cars for shipment.

Personal equipment was inspected and packed into duffle bags, with one sent ahead and the other carried on board ship by the individual. Intermixed with packing during the month, classes were held on Vietnam related subjects, final shots were given along with a physical proficiency test.

A massing of battalion soldiers took place on 30 January 1968, reviewed by General Michaelis, 5th Army Commander, and General Corcoran, Ft. Carson Commander. The following day found 6th Battalion soldiers on Colorado soil for the last time and the beginning of their odyssey to the Far East.

2-Jan-68 Return from Christmas/POR leave

3/6 Jan-68 ORI Phase I, 100% inspection of all TO&E equipment and station property by Ft. Carson (IG) ORI Team

6/9 Jan-68 Vehicles are processed and equipment is packed and loaded for rail shipment

10 Jan-68 Equipment Readiness Date (ERD/ESRD)

10 Jan-68 Vehicles and equipment (126 vehicles, 18 howitzers, 20 trailers and 12 conex containers) are shipped by rail from Ft. Carson to Beaumont, Texas with an escort detachment of 1 MSG and 4 EM

17/19 Jan-68 100% inspection of all personnel and medical records is completed

19 Jan-68 Circle Red TAT (Equipment to accompany troops) is shipped from Ft. Carson to Long Beach, California

22/25 Jan-68 Battalion fires direct and indirect service practice with borrowed howitzers

25-Jan-68 USS James L. Likes with vehicles, equipment and a 5 man escort sails from Beaumont, Texas.

30-Jan-68 Operational Readiness Inspection Phase III, in-ranks inspection of entire battalion by CG, 5th Infantry Division and Ft. Carson. Battalion is assigned 55% of its officers and warrants as well as 88% of its authorized enlisted strength.

30-Jan-68 Commanding General, 5th Army is briefed by Battalion CO, and inspects the Battalion

31-Jan-68 Main Body departs Ft. Carson for Long Beach in 4 aircraft

Advance Party: Pick-up point Peterson Field
Time Afternoon of 5 Feb 68
Destination Bien Hoa, RVN
Date due in ctry. 15 Feb 68

Main Body: Pick-up point Peterson Field
Method of transport 3 plane loads to Long Beach, California

One plane load from Stapleton International, Denver, CO

Departure Point Pier 13 at Long Beach, California

Date 1 Feb 68

First leg: Destination Okinawa EDA 14 Feb 68

Second leg: Destination Vung Tau (*changed to DaNang enroute*) EDA 21 Feb 68

Total elapsed time of voyage 21 days

Parent unit: 54th Artillery Group at Xuan Loc, RVN

Host Unit: 7th Battalion, 9th Arty at Bearcat, RVN

Equipment: Departed FCN 10 Jan 68 *FCN - Ft. Carson*
Departed Beaumont 24 Jan 68

Equipment: Departed FCN 1500 hours 19 Jan 68

Personnel: Departure long Beach 1st wk in Feb. 68
Arrival - approx 28 days out of Long Beach

Advance Party Members: CO LTC Olcott
S-3 MAJ Rembecki
SGM Connors
PBO Mr. Fair
S-4 SSG DeFillipo
Pers. Off. Mr. Hodges

HEADQUARTERS: Asst. Commo Off Lt. Joseph
Commo Sgt M/Sgt Whitfield
Supply Sgt. SSG Dawson
Officer Lt. Dutcher
Supply Sgt. Sgt. Reier
RTO Sp/4 Stracker

A Battery Officer Lt. Wade
Supply Sgt. SSG Gronsberg
RTO PFC Warfield

C Battery Officer Lt. Hogen
Supply Sgt. Sgt. Reagor
RTO Sp/4 Lard

SVC Battery Ammo. Off. Lt. Sackett
Maint. Off. Mr. Cardinal
Food Svc. SSG Metcalf
Supply Sgt. Sgt. Burns
RTO Sp/4 Lesbee
Mechanic Sgt. Clark

Guard for rail loaded equipment

HEADQUARTERS M/Sgt Younger

A Battery Pfc. Schultz

B Battery Cpl. Allen

C Battery Pfc. Munn

SVC Battery Cpl. Stark

A Publication from the Early Days

Are you ready for that winter getaway? Bob Leonardis sent a copy of the May 29, 1968 Lion's Roar that contained this article entitled **Five Days In Paradise**

Sp5 Melvin Brackett recently boarded a PanAm jet in DaNang. One steak dinner and two and a half hours later found himself on one of the most luxurious islands of the Malaysian Peninsula; Penang. The A Battery soldier was greeted with a cold glass of beer as he stepped off the plane. After a ferry ride to the island, Brackett was given a briefing along with the other 165 men on R&R and then driven to an American bank to exchange his MPC into Malaysian currency. "We were given a choice of seven hotels, the one I chose cost me \$33 for five days". It had a double bed, TV, air conditioning and telephone. Asked about one of the highlights of his trip, Brackett mentioned a one-day tour of the island which cost \$19 for him and a date. The bus tour included a drive to Penang hills which features a monkey garden and a reclining Buddha. The day was topped off at the beach where surfing, sailing, water skiing and just plain relaxing were offered. A luau was held on the beach 'til ten P.M. when the busses took them back to their hotels. According to the Englewood, New Jersey short-timer, the cuisine in Penang was international with European, Chinese and Indian meals offered. His favorite was an Indian curry dish. Business is carried out at a leisurely pace in tailor shops where the owner offers drinks on the house while you look over the merchandise. Melvin picked up six suits for \$80. Almost everyone spoke English and the most inexpensive way to travel around is the pedi-cab which can be had for three or four dollars a night. Summed up Brackett, "The hospitality was overwhelming...Penang is a great melting pot of people". The women? Melvin only smiled.

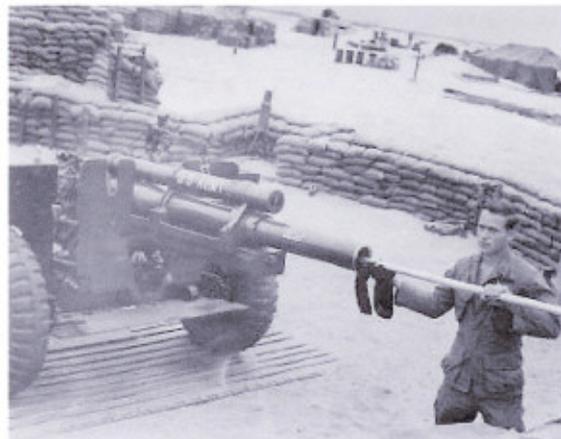
100,000th round fired by A Battery

23-Jan-69 Msg. to Headquarters

On 23 January 1969, Captain Beach pulled the lanyard on "ACE" and sent A Battery's 100,000th artillery projectile screaming at "Charlie". Supporting ground forces in the vicinity of Short Timers Hill, the battery engaged 12 VC in the open resulting in one confirmed VC KIA. As darkness approached, Lt. Hanrahan, Forward Observer with D 2/327, requested illumination for the sweeping ground forces. At that time the H.E. mission was terminated. Illumination commenced and at 1815 hours the magic round was fired from LZ Los Banos. A Battery's first round fired in Vietnam was sent on its way 27 February 1968 from Red Beach near DaNang and 331 days later reached the present total expenditures for an average of 303 rounds per day. So, to I Corps, A Battery 6/33rd Artillery says shot 100,000th round "out".



Members of A/6/33 change the azimuth position of their howitzer during a fire mission at LZ Jeannie - 20 March 69
National Archives Photo



A member of A/6/33 cleans his 105mm howitzer after a fire mission at LZ Jeannie - 21 March 69
National Archives Photo

Photo of the USNS Upshur



2004 Reunion Information

A battalion reunion is planned for the 4th of July weekend 2004 in Branson, Missouri in conjunction with the Northern I Corps Artillery Reunion. Information is available by contacting us or by logging on to the Will Pete website at www.willpete.com/Forms/reunion2004.htm.

The **Honeysuckle Inn** is the official reunion hotel. Rooms are **\$45 per night**. Make reservations by calling them at **800-942-3553**. Be sure to tell them that you are registering with "**I Corps Artillery**". The banquet room is provided at no charge if enough folks register.

Please let Clyde or Jim know if you plan to attend.

What you can do to help

- * Update your address because e-mail addresses change from time to time. It's important for us to know your mailing address, too.
- * Provide names of friends who are not shown on the attached roster.
- * Please let us know if you find it acceptable to provide individual contact information to all the guys who sign in.
- * Contact old friends who are on the roster and forward their address or ask them to contact us.
- * Send copies of any printed historical information you may want to share.
- * Tell us about your experience with the 6/33rd.
- * Provide suggestions for future newsletters.
- * Help us to build a unit website.

***** Contact Information *****

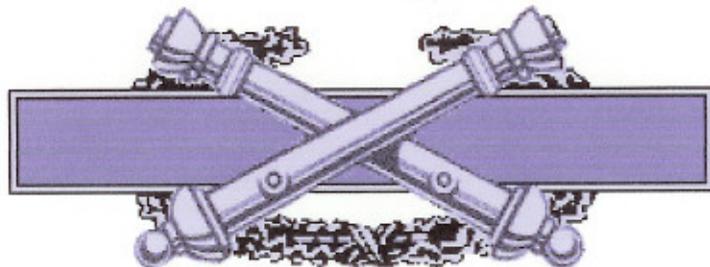
For additional information please contact either of us:

Clyde Lewandowski
6525 47th Ave SE
St. Cloud, MN 56304
320-253-1690
4clew@warpdriveonline.com

Jim Slate
910 N Benson Ave
Ontario, CA 91762-2007
909-986-9693
Hardhammer46@aol.com

Issue 3 April 2004

6th Battalion 33rd Artillery



THE LION'S ROAR

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REUNION 2004

6/33rd and I Corps Artillery Units

Branson, Missouri July 2 - 4, 2004

(OFFICIALLY 2 NIGHTS, 3 DAYS / FRI - SUN, LONGER IF YOU WISH)

\$45 plus tax per room per night

**RESERVE A ROOM BY CREDIT CARD UNDER I CORPS
ARTILLERY - CALL**

1 - 800 - 942 - 3553



Additional Reunion information is available at:

<http://www.willpete.com/Forms/reunion2004.htm>

If you have not made your hotel reservations for the reunion, PLEASE MAKE THE CALL TODAY in order to assure room availability. The hotel will hold a block of rooms for us until April 30.

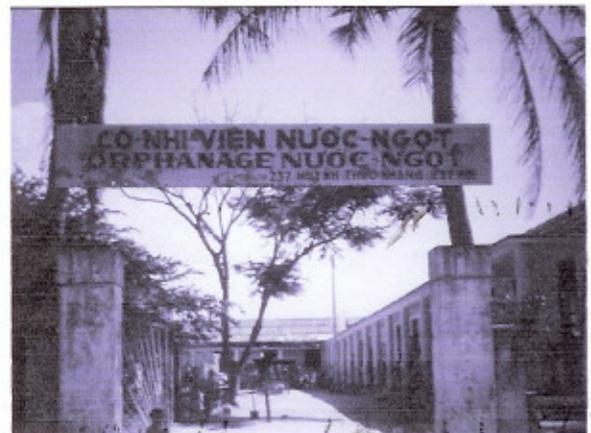
After your hotel reservations have been made, please go to the willpete website address shown above and indicate the days that you plan to be there. If you would rather not use the website, please notify Clyde or Jim.

Battalion Log

9 February 1970 A snake was sighted under the headquarters building and taken under fire with an M-79 and a 45 caliber pistol. The enemy snake was wounded but not recovered.

Battalion Log

January 1969 Members of the battalion truly care for the people of Vietnam. The medical section began its second MEDCAP program at Nuoc-Ngot Orphanage, 237 Huyhkhuc-Khang, Hue, which is under the direction of Sister Marie Pierre. The first program in Ba Ben, near Quang Tri, had to be discontinued due to the relocation of Headquarters to Phu Bai. Medics visited the Nuoc-Ngot orphanage two times per week concentrating on the improvement of personal hygiene. Liquid pediatric vitamins were introduced and administered daily to improve the health of the children. Over the span of three months, the personal hygiene and overall health of the children in the orphanage improved immensely. In early 1969, the Battalion Surgeon's hometown newspaper published a week-long serial with articles related to the situation of the children in the orphanage. The series resulted in many social groups and individuals in the U. S. offering support with many packages containing bedding, baby supplies, clothing, food, toys and infant formula distributed. Members of the battalion continued their ongoing support by making plans and taking action to improve the living conditions at the orphanage.



A Publication from the Early Days

UPIA-456

BULLETIN''''''

WASHINGTON (UPI)--THE PENTAGON HAS ANNOUNCED THE ARRIVAL OF THE ARMY'S ULTIMATE WEAPON IN VIETNAM. THE NEW TOP-SECRET WEAPON TOOK CAREFUL PLANNING AND 5 MONTHS TO COMPLETE, AND ITS SHEER EXISTENCE IN COUNTRY STRIKES TERROR INTO THE HEARTS OF THE VIET CONG AND NVA REGULARS. THIS ULTIMATE WEAPON, DESIGNED TO ELIMINATE ALL COMMUNIST FORCES, IS CALLED THE "6TH BN, 33RD ARTY".

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE ROBERT S. MCNAMARA, WHEN ASKED ABOUT THE 6/33 BY UPI CORRESPONDENT DUDLEY DOORIGHT, SIAD, "WHO?" AND GENERAL WILLIAM C. WESTMORELAND HAD THIS TO SAY: "THE 6/33 IS DEFINATELY THE FINEST INFANTRY UNIT IN COUNTRY!!"

THE 6/33 IS UNDER THE COMMAND OF LTC FRANK R. OLCOTT, WHO SAID THE REASON FOR THE UNIT'S OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE IS "TEAMWORK! THE MEN OF THE 6/33 WORK TOGETHER, DAY AND NIGHT, TOWARDS ONE COMMON GOAL! E.T.S.!" OLCOTT WENT ON TO SAY, "AS AN EXAMPLE OF THE HIGH MORALE, ESPIRIT, AND FINE TEAMWORK AMONG THE MEN, LAST MARCH 17, ST. PATRICK'S DAY, EVERY MAN GOT INTO THE SPIRIT OF THE OCCASION AND WORE SOMETHING GREEN!! ISN'T THAT AMAZING??"

OH, YEAH ... APRIL FOOL.--(UPI)

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Issue 4 July 2005

6th Battalion



33rd Artillery

THE LION'S ROAR

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July 6, 1968 Letter Home from Vietnam

6/33rd ARTILLERY REUNION

IN COOPERATION WITH - I CORPS ARTILLERY

VETERANS DAY 2005



November 10 -13



at the Westwood Inn in Branson, Missouri

The Reunion will be headquartered at Westwood Inn, 3033 Shepherd of the Hills Expressway, Branson, MO. For reservations, please call the hotel at (866) 506-6835 or (417) 339-7471. Rooms are \$51.22 per night including tax. Use your credit card to transfer one of the rooms that have been reserved by Don Aird for the I Corps Artillery Reunion.

Dotty Hill has graciously agreed to coordinate activities for the women. You can reach her at dottyhill@kasplat.com.

More information will be available at
<http://www.willpete.com/Forms/reunion2005.htm>

Please let us know if you plan to attend the reunion.
Contact information is located at the bottom of this newsletter.

2004 Reunion Attendees

Retiring the unit flag



How many names are you able to match with the faces?

Dan Vestal
Robert Parker
William Bourke

Pete Sabel
Andy Coates
Arthur Hawkins

Clarence Hill
Dan Smith
Dale Thies

Oliver Bishop
Bob Eunson
Clyde Lewandowski

James Slate
Jerry Lingle

Sorry, but I failed to take a photo of Dan Vestal at the last reunion.

Lessons learned at the 2004 reunion

All the folks who attended the 2004 reunion, members of many individual artillery battalions, enlisted and officers, proved to be a great group of brothers with shared experiences that drew us all back together. We who served together are all members of a family.

Everyone who served in Vietnam had an assignment and each of us attempted to do the job as best he could. Sure, mistakes were made, but most of the time things were done correctly. Time heals all wounds. We have matured over the years and can now forget about any hard feelings we may have harbored towards anyone.

One very important lesson I learned at the 2004 reunion was that the battery level officers felt that they were personally responsible for the well being of each and every man in the unit. Their primary personal goal may very well have been to bring us home alive. Because we were not always able to understand their motives, some of us may have misjudged their actions and felt, at times, that they expected too much of us, or put us through too much B--- S---. But, their training and judgment proved to be valuable to us all.

Only 7 men of the 6/33rd were lost during the two years that the unit was in Vietnam. All of us, enlisted as well as commissioned officers, grieved for each of them. Compared to other units, we were fortunate. I believe that we survived partly because of the good officers we worked with.

My Father-in-Law was a medic assigned to the 313th Field Artillery in Europe during World War II. As we were doing research for a family album of his wartime service, we found a copy of General Patton's General Orders to the officers of the 3rd Army during World War II. This document provides some valuable insight that may help us to understand the responsibility carried on the shoulders of an officer. The following items were included in the orders:

1. *There is only one kind of discipline – PERFECT DISCIPLINE. If you do not enforce and maintain discipline you are potential murderers. You must set the example.*
2. *High physical condition is vital to victory. Fatigue makes cowards of us all. Men in condition do not tire.*
3. *DO NOT TAKE COUNSEL OF YOUR FEARS.*

“Humility must always be the portion of any man who receives acclaim earned in the blood of his followers and the sacrifices of his friends.”

Dwight D. Eisenhower June 1945

A letter home from Vietnam

July 6, 1968

Sorry that I didn't write last night, but I was in Phu Bai and couldn't get a flight back until this morning. We left here about 1000 yesterday and at 1400 we finally got a flight to Phu Bai. We were carrying some radio gear down to have it repaired, so I hoped we could get a chopper. There were none available, so we rode on a Caribou – a 20 passenger plane that reminded me of the gliders used in WWII, but with 2 engines. It was really neat. The tail hopped from one side to the other during the entire trip, which lasted only about 20 minutes.

When we got there we took our gear to maintenance. They couldn't fix it so we left it and attempted to get a flight back home. After waiting until the terminal closed at 1930 we went over to Provisional Corps HQ where a captain who used to be in our battalion is stationed. He found us a place to sleep.

This morning we put our names on the standby list at 0730 and got a flight at 0800. The plane was a C-130 - a big 4 engine cargo plane. The seats were folded up to make cargo space, so we sat on the floor, but at least it was a ride back. That got us to Dong Ha, which is about 8 miles from home. From there, we walked about a mile out to highway #1 and thumbed a ride home.

This afternoon, I went over to the Quang Tri airport with Al Dieken and bought a lawn chair from the Vietnamese for \$6.00. It's great to finally have a chair with a back on it.

You should have been here to see the fireworks on the 4th. It was really fabulous! We had been ordered not to shoot any flares, but as soon as it got dark the guys on the perimeter started shooting them anyway. They shot red and white parachute flares and red, green and white star clusters constantly for an hour. We shot the single machine guns, the quad 50 caliber machine guns, and the anti aircraft dusters, too. It was so great, flares and tracers all over. The flares started hitting the choppers so we had to quit. But, it was fun while it lasted. There was one time when the guys shot a whole case, 24 I think, of green star clusters all at once. We thought all hell broke loose and started for the bunkers before we realized that it was only our guys playing around.

Clyde

*****For Information Please Contact*****

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clew4@warpdiveonline.com

Jim Slate
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909-986-9693

Hardhammer46@aol.com

Hardhammer46@pngusa.net

Clarence & Dotty Hill
dottychill@kasplat.com

***HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL AT
THE REUNION IN NOVEMBER.***

Make your hotel reservations today.