



CANNONEER

VOLUME 1 - NUMBER 1

LZ BRONCO - DUC PHO, RVN

July 5, 1969

Cannoneers Relax

6/11 Stand Down Underway

Swimming in the ice blue surf of the South China Sea, USO shows, cold soda and beer and plenty of time for sleeping...these are some of the luxuries of the 6/11 stand down area in Chu Lai.

The Battalion started the stand down program in June to give the 6/11 Cannon Cockers a chance "to get away from the rigors of combat." Thus far 20 men have visited the stand down area. Most of them agree that it is a refreshing change.

Every Monday morning, two men from each of the five batteries go to the stand down area. Men are selected on the basis of "time in country" and performance of duty. The stand down personnel return to friendly Duc Pho the following Friday morning.

One of the biggest attractions at the stand down area is the new Division Artillery (DIVARTY) Craft Shop. Located a short distance from the stand down area, the shop offers slot car racing, leather craft, wood craft, plus the largest photo lab in the Division. Table tennis is also available.

Transportation is a small problem at the stand down area for the time being. But an industrious Soldier has little trouble "thumbing" from one end of Chu Lai to the other in just a few minutes.

The best description of the stand down area was made by one of the men who returned to Duc Pho last Friday. With a quiver in his voice and a tear in his eye, he said, "I thought I had died and gone to Heaven."

12 TAKE GED

Twelve men from 6/11 took the General Educational Development test during June.

The test was given at the 11th Brigade's S-1 by instructors from the Chu Lai area.

GED tests are given weekly. Anyone interested in GED should contact Battalion S-1.



Service Numbers Replaced by SSAN

July is "BIG CHANGE" month for US Soldiers all over the world. To most of us the 12% pay increase is the most important change...but there are other changes which affect all of us.

Effective July 1st, your Social Security Number becomes your Service Number. New inductees into the Army, God bless them, will no longer be issued service numbers. Your Social Security Number will be used on all official paperwork and records and should be used in your mailing address.

If you DEROS after December 15th, 1969 you must have your Social Security Number placed on your ID Card. All ID Cards in need of correction should be changed no later than November 1st, 1969. Your Battery 1st Sergeant can give you all the information about having your ID Card corrected.

FROM THE TOP!

"How important is my job?" All of us have probably asked this question at one time or another. Or we may have said, "I'll do just enough to get by." In combat it makes no difference whether you are US, ER, NG or RA, or what your personal convictions are about U. S. involvement in the Vietnam war. We all have an important contribution to make.

It is impossible for our commanders and supervisors to check everything we do. Each man must rely on the ability and know-how of his fellow soldiers. It makes no difference (Cont back page)

55 Men Decorated By LTC Sloan

FROM THE TOP (Cont from front)

if you are an RTO with the Infantry, battery clerk, computer operator, cannoneer or mechanic--you must strive to perform your job as if your life or the life of a friend depended on your ability.

In combat, a life is all too often the high cost of mistakes or negligence. Team work is a must for us to accomplish our combat mission. We cannot do less than our best and expect to win!

IG ON ITS WAY! Our Battalion is scheduled to undergo the Annual IG Inspection September 5th, 1969. At that time, the IG and his team will descend upon us to determine if we are complying with directives and Command Guidance. EVERYTHING will be inspected..... billets files, sanitation, supplies and equipment, military courtesy general housekeeping and administrative work. The IG will attempt to find out how well we do our jobs as soldiers. We must prepare now for the IG. We proved our capability by the outstanding record we compiled on the CMMI last April. Let's show our best side again on the IG. CSM

WITH YOUR HELPS

THE ARMY TAKES CARE!

ARMY EMERGENCY RELIEF (AER) helps the Americal Division live up to the motto, "The Army Takes Care of Its Own." Last year over \$4,500,000 was provided to personnel of the Division in the form of loans and grants and the current loan volume indicates that AER will provide more assistance in 1969 than ever before.

AER is the Army's way of assisting active and retired Army personnel and their families when a financial problem arises. Assistance is provided to deserving Army personnel in time of an emergency for travel, medical and dental expenses or other emergencies which cause hardship for the soldier or his family.

The 1969 Joint Army Emergency Relief and Army Relief Society Fund Raising Campaign is presently being conducted in the Americal Division and will end on August 15th, 1969. The 6th Battalion, 11th Artillery AER Project Officer is CPT Feret, S-1. You are asked to make generous contributions to help your fellow soldiers.

Battalion Commander LTC James H. Sloan Jr visited the Battalion's Fire Support Bases July 2nd to say farewell to the men leaving in July.

Accompanied by Major Larry L. Frie, the Battalion Executive Officer, and CSM Max E. Wineinger, the CO presented 55 awards and decorations to the departing men of the Battalion.

Sp5 George Karsiladze received highest honors as he was presented the Bronze Star Medal with "V" device and Oak Leaf Cluster. The young Medic was presented the Purple Heart at an earlier ceremony.

The Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service was awarded to:

1LT MAYLAND	1LT WALTERS	1LT BALTRUZAK
1LT RIOUX	1SG GONZALES	CW2 HAUBNER
1SG PERRINE	SFC COCKRELL	SSG BRYER
SSG TOPOLSKI	SSG LARSON	SGT SALLIS
SGT FLYNN	SGT WORTHEY	SGT HOODHOOD
SP5 GUZMAN	SP5 JUMP	SP5 BREHM

The Army Commendation Medal was awarded to:

SSG WELLS	SP5 KUMLIEN	SP5 ARMSTRONG
SP5 MAZZI	SGT RUNNELS	SGT W. SMITH
SGT THOMAS	SP5 AUGUST	SP5 P-MUDIA
SP4 ZAHNOW	SP4 HUDSON	SP4 DAVIS
SP4 HERNANDEZ	SP4 HAWTHORNE	SP4 ARNOLD
SP4 DI CHIARA	SP4 ERICKSON	SP4 FERGUSON
CPL RIVERS	SP4 SHIRLEY	SP4 SLOAN
CPL MILLER	CPL GUINN	SP4 DYKES
SP4 SHERWOOD	CPL PICKENS	SP4 MARTINEZ
SP4 HOLDER	SP4 RATHBUN	SP4 VAUGHN
SP4 PERRYMAN	PFC LYNN	PFC SHOPE
SP4 J-DINGUI	PFC SITES	PFC SILER

Congratulations to these men of the 6/11. "CANNONEER" wishes them the best of luck in their future endeavors and a safe trip home.

MAURITIA CAN KILL YOU!

**TAKE YOUR PILLS
RELIGIOUSLY**

CANNONEER

Battalion Commander LTC James H. Sloan Jr
Information Officer CPT John M. E. Feret
Editor SP4 BUD DOTSON

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The Editor wishes to extend a personal invitation to the men of the 6/11 to make any suggestions which would improve the paper's contents and/or submit any newsworthy items which would be of general interest.