

WEEKEND WORLD SCENE

CHICAGO—A 13-man surgical team Sunday completed a 9½-hour heart transplant. The recipient, a six-year-old girl, was given the heart of a seven-year-old boy who was killed in an auto accident.

BERLIN—The hot-again, cold-again friction between East and West Germany flared up once again last weekend when the East German interior minister announced that his government will close the corridor between West Germany and West Berlin.

The move was apparently aimed at disrupting West Germany's March 5th elections.

WASHINGTON—The Coast Guard reported Saturday that a series of Russian fishing trawlers were spotted within the maritime coastal limits of the United States.

A Coast Guard spokesman reported that contact was made with the captain of one of the Russian ships and he was warned that if the Soviet vessels did not leave U.S. waters im-

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1ST BN.
82D ARTY.



GI BENEFITS:
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VOLUME 2, NO. 6

CHU LAI, VIETNAM

FEBRUARY 10, 1969

INFUSION TIME AGAIN

Another infusion is scheduled to hit the 1st Bn., 82d Artillery next week when 20 more men with July, 1969, DEROS dates will be sent out of the unit.

The 20, all of whom are cannoneers, are scheduled to depart the battalion Feb. 17.

Their departure will lower the number of original members of the unit to approximately 200 men.

The infusion schedule for the battalion must be completed by the middle of May because no man can be shifted to another organization with less than 60 days left in country.

EM-NGO CLUB MAKES 'UNOFFICIAL' DEBUT

The long-awaited opening of the 1st Bn., 82d Artillery Enlisted Men's Club should become a reality within a few weeks.

SFC Roy F. Smith Jr., NCO in charge of the Survey Section which supervised the construction, states that there will be an official opening before the end of February.

"There are still a lot of odds and end to be completed," he notes, "but we expect that almost all of the work will be finished soon."

The club opened on

a limited basis last Saturday night but Smith pointed out that there is still work to be done on the stage and ceiling.

He expects that the stage will be finished by Wednesday when the first floor show is scheduled for the facility.

Construction on the building-- the first permanent home for the club-- began in mid-December.

When finished it will feature an all-brick bar, a large stage, dressing facilities for the entertainers and provisions for a Headquarters Battery theater.

Smith also noted that tables and bar stools should arrive this week, hopefully in time for the Wednesday evening floor show.

IT'S HAPPENIN' DEBUTS

"It's Happenin'", a new column by Sp4 Dick Shearer debuts in today's edition of the Pan-Tell.

The column, which will be offered on alternate weeks with "Commander's

Corner" by Lt. Col. John J. Luxemburger Jr., will cover a wide range of Army and battalion life.

The first "It's Happenin'" column appears on Page 2.

IT'S HAPPENIN'

BY SP4

Dick Shearer

Tackling a new column in a relatively young newspaper is a little like trying to find a good lobster dinner in Vietnam. You don't really know where to start.

When the idea of a column came up a few weeks ago, we figured it wouldn't be very successful if we didn't dig down into the batteries and get some information about our readers. We'll try to do this, but it won't be easy without some help from you.

If one of your battery-mates (pardon the baseball slang) has an unusual background or takes part in an interesting happening—something that you think our readership would be interested in—let us know.

We'll also throw in some side commentary like the brief editorial found below and we might even toss in a few jokes from time to time. This week, however, we'll spare you that fate.

Remember that you are part of the "Happenin'" story. If you come across something that strikes you as humorous or sad, odd or colorful, jot it down, stick it in an envelope

1SG RUCKER MENTIONED FOR E-9 PROMOTION

1SG Willie W. Rucker of Alpha Battery is apparently in line for a promotion to sergeant major.

Rucker, who took over as the top non-commissioned officer in the battery last October, was mentioned in a January issue of Army Times as being on the first E-9 list for 1969.

In other Alpha Battery news, 1LT Philip G. Walker of Denver, Colo., is now the battery's fire direction officer. He was assigned to the 1/1 Cavalry for five months before being infused to the 1st Bn., 82d Artillery.

Walker worked as an announcer for the National Broadcasting Company before coming into the service.

His addition and other infusions have given Alpha Battery almost a 50 percent turnover in personnel since it arrived in country last July. Approximately 160 members of the original unit still remain.

and tell your battery clerk to send it to the battalion personnel office. You'll be helping "It's Happenin'" happen.

* * * *

It might be bad journalistic policy to open a new column on a serious note but we could not pass up this editorial by a former Tucson, Ariz. high school student named Jim Gossett who is serving a tour of duty here in Vietnam.

Gossett's editorial, judged one of the best of its kind, was written for high school newspaper last year and was recently reprinted in the School Press Review. In part it reads:

My God, how can it be that one boy lies rotting from malnutrition and torture in a jungle prison camp in Vietnam and another boy spits and tramples the flag of his country on the steps of a university in California.

That a boy lies sightless in a U.S. Naval hospital from Communist-inflicted face wounds and another boy uses a Communist flag to drape himself in defiance of the laws of his country.

That one man of medicine begins his 13th straight hour over the operating table in pursuit of life and another man of medicine implores groups of youths to refuse to serve their country.

That one boy lies in a coffin beneath the ground because he believed in duty to his country and another boy lies on a dirty cot giving blood to the enemies of his country.

That one man of God shi-

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BATTALION COMMANDER...LTC JOHN J. LUXEMBURGER JR.
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GI BILL - HOMEOWNER'S HELPER

(EDITOR'S NOTE—this is the second of two articles concerning the benefits of the GI Bill.)

Planning to build or buy a house?

If so, the Veterans Administration may guarantee loans for the purchase, construction, alteration, repair or improvement of your property.

It can also be used to help you purchase, construct or improve farm-houses or other farm buildings.

Direct loans from the VA may be used only for the purchase of a house or farmhouse because present laws do not authorize business loans through the GI Bill.

Each eligible veteran has a minimum of 10 years in which to apply for a VA loan or loan guaranty. An additional year is allowed for each three-month period spent on active duty up to the maximum of 20 years and disabled veterans are allowed the full 20 years in which to apply.

The VA loan guaranty is a promise by the Veterans Administration to pay a certain percentage of the loans made to the veterans should they default in the repayment.

This means that you have the government "vouching" for your credit and the result is a better chance for you to obtain favorable interest rates with little or no down payment.

The VA will guarantee a home loan up to \$12,500 or 60 percent of the total amount whichever is less. For farm real estate, the VA will guarantee \$4,000 or 50 percent; for non-real estate farm loans, \$2,000 or 40 percent.

There are no limits imposed by the VA on how large a loan you may make from a private lender, however generally loans from the VA do not exceed \$17,500.

The GI Bill goes a little further than just education and the purchase or improvement of real estate.

The VA pays compensation to veterans who are disabled by injury or disease while in active service and in the line of duty. The monthly payments run from \$23 for a 10 percent disability up to \$400 for total disability.

For those whose disabilities involve the loss of hearing or the loss of the use of a leg or arm and those who need a nurse or attendant, payments can run up to \$950 per month.

Additional allowances for dependents are available for those with 50 percent or greater disability.

The VA also offers hospital or out-patient care for veterans with

service-connected medical conditions. This treatment will be given at one of the many VA hospitals or clinics or the VA may elect instead to pay for out-patient care by your own doctor.

Veterans whose disabilities are unrelated to their military service are also entitled to hospital care on a bed-available basis, provided they state that they could not otherwise afford such care.

Dental services are available through the VA on a one-time completion basis. These services are offered only for conditions which are service-connected and which were not connected during your term in the service.

To qualify for dental care, you must apply for treatment within one year of your separation or discharge from active duty.

It is also worth mentioning that your serviceman's group life insurance expires 120 days after your separation or discharge.

Should you desire to continue this coverage, you must make arrangements to convert your policy to a permanent form of insurance.

Such conversion is especially advantageous to veterans who might

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WORLD SCENE

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mediately, they would be subject to boarding and possible seizure.

The Russian ships then pulled back outside the limit.

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ATHENS—Eight Greek youths were captured as government forces moved to break up a sabotage ring that reportedly planned attacks on a series of military installations throughout Greece.

Government officials blamed the plot on leftists.

* * * *

CAPE KENNEDY, FLA.—A short circuit has delayed the launch of a Titan rocket scheduled to fire a radio relay device into orbit Saturday.

Space officials indicated that the trouble was pin-pointed quickly and it is hoped that the blast-off would not be delayed more than 48 hours.

* * * *

WASHINGTON—Auto industry critic Ralph Nader has charged that many used Volkswagens are being sold on the American market as new cars without the knowledge of their purchasers.

OT'S CHRONICLE

a wounded boy from an enemy bayonet with his body and another man of God uses the cloth as a shield to preach hate, dissension and lawlessness.

Jim Gossett minces no words in expressing his feelings and if nothing else, they provide us with a little food for thought.

* * * *

PEOPLE AND THINGS—Infusion, has brought a large group of new faces into the battalion and some of them have rather interesting backgrounds. Among them is PFC STEVEN LEASURE, the new battalion message center clerk who worked as a time study engineer after graduating from the University of West Virginia. Two new additions to the Fire Direction Control Center are PFCs DAVID HONYCHURCH and GEORGE GRAVEL JR. Honychurch of Trumbull, Conn., is a graduate of the University of Connecticut where he majored in economics, while Gravel, of Canadensis, Pa., majored in biology at King's College in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. You old-time rock-n-roll fans will remember JERRY LEE LEWIS who made a big name for himself during the middle '50s by dancing on pianos. The 1st of the 82d now has its own Jerry Lee Lewis. He is assigned to Bravo Battery, is 18 years old and is a native of Myersville, Md. You're right—he no relation to the singer. Alpha Battery's PFC KENNETH D. WOOLF can claim one of the most unusual pre-Army occupations in the battalion. Woolf (Ellington, Mo.) worked as a hook tender for the Fali

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Corp. of Orlean, Calif. before coming into the service. For those who don't know what a hook tender is (and we were among them), Woolf explained that it is a person who operates the grappling equipment used to pick up freshly cut logs. Okay?... Members of Bravo Battery might remember PFC DONALD R. FUGITT who joined the unit briefly during December before he was evacuated to Japan for medical treatment. This week the Lorrain, Ohio native is back with the battery after "an enjoyable vacation" in the hospital. CSM THOMAS M. VAN HORN returned from a seven-day R&R trip to Hawaii. The vacation turned out to be rather unrewarding for both Van Horn and his wife because both returned (she to the states; he to the unit) with serious colds. The sergeant major also noted that it rained throughout the week he spent in the Islands.

GI BILL

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otherwise have trouble obtaining a commercial policy because of some disability or condition not related to the service.

Veterans separated on or after April 25, 1951 with a service-connected disability can apply to the VA for special non-participating National Service Life Insurance policies.

The only requirements are that you be in good health except for the disability and that you apply within one year of the date on which the VA finds that the disability is service-connected.

