

TODAY'S WORLD SCENE

WASHINGTON—President Richard M. Nixon and his family helicoptered to Camp David, Md. for a brief weekend vacation.

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HAVANA—Cuban government officials announced that a mutual extradition treaty is being worked out between Mexico and Cuba for the return of air-line highjackers.

There was no indication that the treaty would be expanded to include the United States.

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ISTANBUL—Approximately 130 college

students were injured Saturday during an anti-American protest rally in Istanbul. The group was objecting to the presence of ships of the 6th Fleet which were docked in the Turkish city.

* * *

TAMPA—A series of savage tornadoes struck the Central Florida area causing major damage to a number of cities.

The tornadoes, which were especially prevalent in the Titusville section of the East Coast and the Tampa Bay area, apparently caused no deaths or serious injuries.

1ST BN.
82D ARTY.



UNDERTAKERS:

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MAINTENANCE FACILITY PROGRESSES

The 1st Bn., 82d Artillery's new motor pool complex began showing signs of progress last week when the cement foundation and floor were completed.

Spl. Donald J. Sabatini, who is handling much of the construction reports however that it might be "several months before we get the project completely finished."

The new facility, which will serve both the battalion and Headquarters Battery, will consolidate a large part of the battalion and battery maintenance shops and offices into one location.

The building will be equipped with four vehicle service bays—two for the battalion and two for the battery—which will have the capacity to hold everything from a jeep to a five-ton truck.

CLOTHING CHANGE

Effective last week, civilian clothes are now authorized for optional wear by all personnel on R&R aircraft flying out of the country.

The only exceptions to this are flights destined for Hong Kong or Taipei where the appropriate military uniform must still be worn.

Americal Division stresses that this civilian clothing must be suitable to the occasion and must not bring discredit upon the United States.

This change is effective only from Vietnam departure points.

In addition to the bays, the 100x39-foot structure will house offices for both maintenance sections, a supply room and a dispatch shack.

Sabatini, who was assisted with the cement-laying by Sp5s Andrew Davis, Harry Weaver and Gary Watson, said that that part of the project was completed in approximately a week.

'SWING' BATTERY MOVES AGAIN

The 1st Bn., 82d Artillery's own swing battery is on the move again.

Bravo Battery, which had been holding forth at LZ Gator, now finds itself in the middle of its third operation in seven months.

Four of its 155mm guns are now located at LZ Snoopy where they are serving as reinforcements for the 6/11th Artillery during the current Tet holiday season.

The latest operation is serving as a test of resourcefulness for Bravo which finds itself sharing a 20x40-foot postage-stamp-sized area with Co. C, 39th Combat Engineers.

Joining the artillerymen and the engineers in their close quarters are barrels of Permatex, road graders and 10,000 barrels of diesel fuel. The Fire Direction Control Center has set up shop in a series of conexes squeezed between the road and the engine-

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COMMANDER'S CORNER

LTC JOHN J. LUXEMBURGER

It seems that every two weeks I sit down and write about things that are wrong and need shaping up.

I guess that it's time I said a few words about some of the things that have been accomplished and are appreciated not only by myself but also by the other officers and men in the battalion.

I'll start off with Alpha Battery. I think you have done a fine job in your new battery area. It's been just over a month since you moved into your new location and I am impressed and pleased with the amount of work that's been accomplished.

To all of you, well done! Let's keep up the good work. Oh I can't resist saying that maybe one of the gun sections should show the FDC people how to build a bunker that doesn't leak.

I also hope that you can keep that new generator in good shape as it can make living a lot easier in many ways.

Bravo Battery has been improving in most ways. However the recent move put a crimp in some of their activities.

Delta Battery has put in some fine "projo" bunkers and a new gun platform. The 155 pits are shaping up. However it would make me rest easier if you could get the men from Bravo Battery in some living bunkers.

Headquarters Battery who, fortunately or unfortunately (depending upon whose eyes you see things through), I get to see more often has put out a great deal of hard work and effort.

We got rid of the swimming pool bunkers that served as beer can depositories and constructed new bunkers which will afford a great deal more protection for all of you.

The Battery and Battalion Maintenance people really humped to pour the foundation for the new motor maintenance facilities. In addition, the

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COMMOMEN HAVE SOMETHING IN COMMON

The Army brings together a lot of people with similar interest so it isn't strange that Sp4s George

E. Schwille and James S. Gibson wound up working side-by-side in the 1st Bn., 82d Artillery's Communications Section.

Both plan to become undertakers.

The duo—both residents of New York City—had some on-the-job training which helped them get interested in the world of caskets, embalming and hearses.

Schwille, 20, was working as a funeral director trainee with Walter B. Cooke Parkchester Inc. in the Bronx when the Army came calling last March.

Gibson, 19, was employed as a mortuary attendant with the New York State Medical Examiners Office before being inducted into the service two weeks after Schwille.

After that their paths crossed frequently. Both took advanced individual training at Ft. Jackson, S.C. and Ft. Gordon, Ga. before being sent to Chu Lai where they now share duties on the battalion radio teletype.

Schwille, who admits that he has always wanted to be an undertaker, thinks he got his inspiration from his father who runs his own undertaking establishment.

"It might sound a little silly,

but you know how boys go out on jobs with their fathers," he said. "I guess that's what got me interested in the business."

Gibson traces his interest to the fact that his uncle is an undertaker.

After getting out of the service (Schwille in November, 1969; Gibson in March, 1971) their plans will take slightly different directions.

Gibson expects to attend Bronx

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HEADQUARTERS NAMES EIGHT NEW SPECIALISTS

Eight members of Headquarters, Headquarters and Service Battery were promoted to Specialist 4 on Feb. 14 by Battery Commander Capt. David M. McAteer.

The eight included Donald E. Dzubin, a field radio mechanic; Martin W. Siler, a field wireman; Timothy J. Langness, a Personnel Section clerk, and Danny L. Soffner, driver for Battalion Commander Lt. Col. John J. Luxemburger Jr.

Also trading in their PFC stripes were Donald D. Smith, who is assigned to Battalion Maintenance; James S. Gibson, a radio teletype operator; and Henry J. Rios and Gerald W. Guest, both of whom work in the battalion Ammunition Section.

SERVICES OFFER VARIED SAVINGS PLANS

Most soldiers who travel to Vietnam arrive in country with good intentions when it comes to saving money for later use back in the states.

But it is a far smaller number who actually do anything about it.

Think of how many soldiers you know who do one of two things—either spend their money as fast as they can get it out of the pay officer's hand or they hoard it away in their pillows, radios, tape recorders, an old sock or even their wallet.

All of this seems rather silly when one considers how easy it is to save money while in Vietnam.

One of the most publicized programs of saving is the uniform services savings deposit program which gives you the opportunity to tuck your money away safely and at the same time earn 10 percent interest on your deposits.

Under the program, the funds you place into account with the government will earn 10 percent interest compounded quarterly up to a maximum of \$10,000 provided you are on a duty assignment of more than 90 days out-

side the United States and its possessions.

The money will continue to earn interest for 90 days after you return to the states if you desire.

You may deposit any part of your unallotted current pay and allowances in multiples of \$5— including a reenlistment bonus received while overseas. Your deposits can be made in cash or by allotment.

Under the plan, you can "salt away" any part of your basic pay, incentive pay, special sea duty or duty at certain places pay, proficiency pay, family separation allowance, hostile fire pay or reenlistment bonus. These deposits are exempt from liability for debts, including indebtedness to the United States.

You normally will not be able to withdraw deposits while overseas, however there are provisions on the books to make emergency withdrawals under joint regulations by the Service Secretaries.

These withdrawals will usually be handled by individual commanding officers.

When you return to the states, all deposits plus interest will be paid to you:

—by check at an address you designate before your departure from overseas or by payment to you directly shortly after your arrival depending on your service's procedures.

—upon separation from active duty.

—no later than 90 days after your return from overseas.

Remember that the longer you leave the money with the government, the more interest it will earn. With an early repayment, you may lose as much as 90 days worth of interest.

Another often-used method of saving money while overseas is by purchasing U.S. Savings Bonds through the payroll savings plan.

In this case, the money is deducted directly from your paycheck

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— UNDERTAKERS —

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Community College for two years before entering the American Academy McCallister Institute to obtain his mortician's license.

Schwille, who was within two weeks of entering McCallister when he was drafted, plans to pick up right where he left off. After completing the one-year course, he expects to work for his father.

During that year at McCallister, Schwille and Gibson will be exposed to a curriculum similar to that found at a regular four-year college. The courses include psychology, physiology, mortuary law and organic and inorganic chemistry.

"Undertaking isn't really as morbid as everyone makes it out to be," notes Schwille. "It's a job like anything else, and when you grow up with it in your family, you sort of condition yourself to the special demands it places on you."

"I liked the work from the time I started in the Medical Examiners Office and I doubt if I will change my mind," added Gibson who hopes to practice in the State of Delaware.



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CORNER

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Survey (Construction) Section deserves a great deal of credit for the battalion EM Club. They also ran a fire position area survey that checked out.

All of these things could not have been accomplished without the help of some people who get more hell than credit—the S-4 Section.

Charlie Battery has made considerable strides forward in the areas of gun pits, projo and powder bunkers and defensive positions.

In conclusion, I do see some things that are good and they don't go unnoticed.

Let's keep up the good work and your replacement may have a fine R&R center to move into.

So I'll use this column to thank all of you for your hard work on the above projects, and others not mentioned that help improve the unit's ability to live and fight.

LT. COL. JOHN J. LUKENBURGER JR.
Commander, 1/82d Artillery

— BRAVO BATTERY —

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eer's EM club.

The cramped area has also required slightly unorthodox living arrangements with the men using culvert halves and sandbags to construct high-rise, split-level caves that are, in effect, two-man studio apartments, complete with all the conveniences of home like a view, air-conditioning and radiant heating.

THREE CANNONEERS PROMOTED BY BRAVO

Three members of Bravo Battery were promoted to Specialist 4 last week by Battery Commander Capt. Robert Miehm.

The three are Gary L. Boelen, Johnny R. Yepes and Daniel Lalafarian. All are cannoneers.

— SAVINGS PLANS —

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each payday and is invested in Series E Savings Bonds which earn 4.25 percent interest and mature in seven years.

In connection with this, you can save more with increased interest through the purchase of Freedom Shares which pay five percent interest and mature in five years. However you must buy a regular Series E Bond before you can purchase the Freedom Share.

Two other plans are also used frequently. The first involves making an allotment to a savings institution in the United States for the amount of money you wish to save each payday. The money is automatically deducted from your pay and is sent directly to the institution you have designated.

The second is by taking less than full pay. By doing this, you always have extra money on the payroll ledger and you will have ready cash when you need it. The biggest disadvantage to this procedure is that it earns no interest for your savings.

