

WORLD NEWS SCENE

PARIS—President Nixon held a closed door meeting with French Premier Charles DeGaulle, Saturday, on matters "of mutual interest."

French sources noted that the meeting was "very cordial" and that another session is being planned for a future date in Washington.

* * *

CAPE KENNEDY—The three Apollo Nine astronauts went through the final stages of preparation for their space mission scheduled to blast off at 11 p.m. today, Vietnam time.

NEW YORK—New York Yankee great Mickey Mantle announced that he is retiring from baseball after 19 seasons with the former world champions.

Mantle, who compiled a .298 lifetime batting average, is currently third in career homeruns behind Babe Ruth and Willie Mays.

Mantle reportedly earned in excess of \$100,000 every season since 1962.

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1ST BN.
82D ARTY.



COMMANDER'S
CORNER
SEE PAGE 2

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ENEMY ATTACKS INJURE 14

Fourteen members of the 1st Bn., 82d Artillery line batteries were injured by shrapnel during the latest wave of enemy attacks that began Feb. 23.

In addition, two officers, including Alpha Battery's Capt. Barry A. Brinkley, were injured when the roof of a hootch collapsed on them.

Capt. Brinkley and 1Lt. Dennis A. Pyzyna, battalion ammunition officer, were hurt Feb. 26 when they were struck by parts of the falling roof at Alpha Battery's Fat City location.

Capt. Brinkley remains under treatment at the 27th Surgical Hospital in Chu Lai.

Fat City was the hardest hit of the line batteries with nine injuries

in two separate attacks.

The first came at 1:45 a.m. on Feb. 23 when five men were hurt in an enemy mortar attack.

Four more men were injured Feb. 26 when another mortar attack hit Fat City at 4 a.m. All nine men are recovering.

A pair of assaults on LZ Dottie resulted in injuries to five men. The attacks came at 2:05 a.m., Feb. 23, and 2:45 a.m., Feb. 26.

Most other batteries within the 1/82d Artillery reported at least some sniper fire during the nine-day period.

BATTALION LISTS E-5 PROMOTIONS

Seven soldiers were promoted to Sergeant and another to Specialist 5 by the 1st Bn., 82d Artillery last week.

Three members of Delta Battery—all of them cannoneers—were among the promotees to Sergeant. They were Roger L. Fuller, Larry Slaton and Paul I. Miller.

Three other cannoneers—Steven W. Bobb of Headquarters Battery and Robert E. Gartner and Larry W. Kinder of Charlie Battery, also received their third hard stripe. Jon S. Hall, a tactical communications chief with Bravo Battery, was also promoted to Sergeant.

Branslav Aritonovich, a Headquarters Battery medic, was elevated to Specialist 5.

WHAT IS THE 82D?

Since the 1st Bn., 82d Artillery came to Vietnam last July, more than 300 new faces have come into the unit.

Few of these men know much about the history of the 1/82d Artillery including its previous deployments to Asia, the Pacific and Europe.

With this in mind, today's Pan-Tell offers three stories on the background and experiences of the 1/82d. You'll find them on Pages 3 and 4.

COMMANDER'S CORNER

LTC JOHN J. LUXEMBURGER JR.

The most demanding and satisfying job in the Army is command. I am not only speaking of my level of command but all levels of command which range from that of the President of the United States down to and including the chief-of-section level.

During the tenure of my command a person experiences the full range of emotions....pride, anger, sorrow, satisfaction etc. The activites of the enemy during the past week against our fire bases have caused me to experience all of these emotions.

Under hostile fire, you, the members of the battalion, have performed your mission in an outstanding manner and lived up to the motto of the battalion, "Can and Will."

The performance of the battalion's mission was not accomplished without cost because each battery suffered casualties. Fortunately, none of these resulted in a fatality.

You have conducted yourselves in the best tradition of the artillery and in numerous instances have manned your weapons while under hostile fire. I am proud of the manner in which all of you have conducted yourselves and wish to thank each of you for your efforts.

We can all thank God that our efforts in field fortifications have minimized the number of casualties. None of your buddies are in critical condition. All will live and not suffer any permanent disability.

I know it is a lot of work to continually rebuild parapits but

this effort saved the lives of several gun crews. So let's get with the program and insure that all of our people have adequate protection.

The last thing I'll cover today is safety. We have started off the month like we intend to break all existing records in the number of accidents.

Most of these could have been avoided. Three people have been injured because projo storage areas were not level. We also experienced the collapse of a bunker. Bunkers must be properly constructed and we must use plumb bobs.

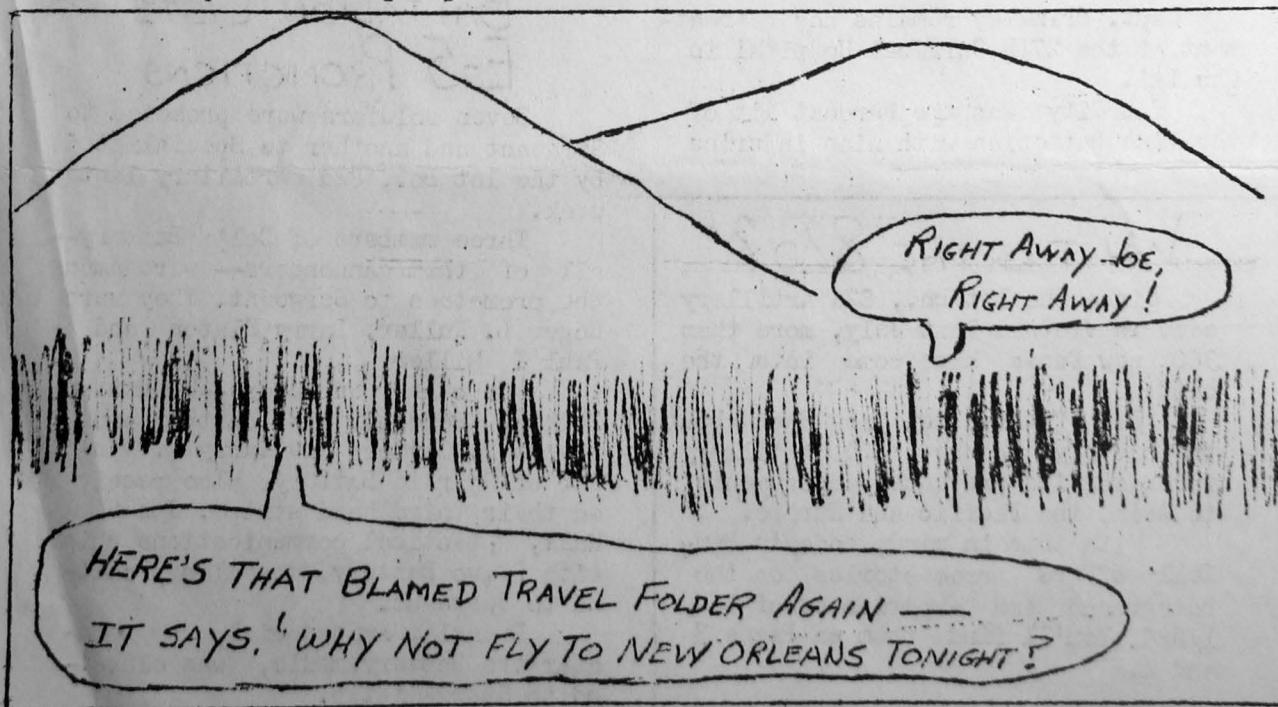
The plumb bob serves a useful purpose. If properly installed, it will tell you in advance that the bunker is shifting. Make sure each bunker has plumb bobs and that they are used and inspected daily.

We cannot afford to lose trained personnel due to needless injuries. We have enough problems with the enemy.

AMMO REPORT SHOWS 13,001 ROUNDS FIRED

Line batteries of the 1st Bn., 82d Artillery fired 13,001 rounds during the last reporting period according to a report by Sgt. Ernest W. Cathers of the Ammunition Section.

Cathers notes that the four batteries racked up that total during a one-month period which ended Feb. 24. The total cost of those 13,001 rounds was \$884,971.14.



A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE 82D

Tracing the history of the 1st Battalion, 82d Artillery is a little like following the course of American foreign policy through the 20th Century.

If there was a conflict, a stepped up holding action or a decline in military needs, the battalion was almost always affected in one way or another as it moved through its 52-year history to its present participation in the Vietnam war.

The unit breathed its first gasp of life on June 5, 1917 when it was organized and activated as Troops A and B, 24th Cavalry at Ft. D.A. Russell in Wyoming.

Five months later, those two infant troops were reorganized and consolidated into Battery A, 82d Field Artillery and was assigned to the 15th Cavalry Division (See additional story, Page 4).

The 15th Division didn't stay around long after the end of the war and the unit was renamed Battery A, 82d Artillery Bn., and assigned to the

1st Cavalry Division on Sept. 9, 1921. Within a short time after that the regiment, less the 1/82d Artillery, was inactivated.

Like every other unit in the military, the battalion saw extensive action during World War II when it served with the 1st Cavalry Division in the Pacific campaign.

During the war, the 82d used 75mm pack howitzers in its initial confrontations with the enemy.

It had the honor of firing the 1st Cav's initial artillery rounds in World War II from positions on the Momote Airstrip on the Los Negros Island in the Admiralty Group.

In October, 1944, the battalion received 105mm howitzers to replace the old pack howitzers which had served so well in the island-hopping campaigns on New Guinea, the Admiralties and the Bismarck Archipelago.

The 1/82d Artillery also played a key role in Korea during that conflict when it again served as a subordinate

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MAKING FRIENDS IN ITALY

To residents of the small Italian community of Marchesane (pop. 2,000) the 82d Artillery is one American fighting force that won't be quickly forgotten.

Back in 1963 when the unit was stationed in Italy as part of the 1st U.S. Army Missile Command it undertook a community project in Marchesane that affected the lives of the small town's inhabitants.

In an effort to keep the children off the streets, the community formed a sports association and with the help of a few local dignitaries, acquired an empty lot to use as an athletic field.

The lot left much to be desired. Most of the surface was lower than the surrounding ground meaning that every time it rained, the tract was under water. In addition, it was partially covered with undergrowth and large rocks—hardly the type of terrain needed for an athletic field.

Almost all of the adults in Marchesane volunteered to help convert it into an adequate field. Using their own equipment, they gathered tons of soil and dumped it on the field trying to produce a good playing surface.

But the work of grading the terrain was beyond their capabilities and the parish priest, the president of the new athletic club and the city councillor appealed to Col. James E. Davidoff, the commanding officer of the Vicenza Military Post for help.

After studying the

feasibility of the project it was turned over to the 82d Artillery Bn.

Under the direction of Sp5 William J. Mitchell the unit obtained several bulldozers, moved them into the area and graded and leveled the lot with the help of the townspeople.

When it was completed the new athletic field not only included facilities for soccer but also for basketball and other sports.

In a letter of thanks to Col. Robert E. Coffin of the 1st U.S. Army Mis-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

PAN-TELL

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82D JOINED FIGHT AGAINST VILLA

One of the most colorful and exciting portions of the 1st Bn., 82d Artillery's history came in the days immediately after World War I when the unit was assigned to Ft. Bliss, Tex.

In June, 1919, the 82d Field Artillery Regiment, under the command of Capt. R.D. Delehanty, was rushed into firing positions overlooking Juarez, Mexico, when followers of the fabled Pancho Villa started an uprising against the Mexican Government.

On the night of June 15, C and D Batteries provided artillery support across the Rio Grande River for Mexican and American ground forces who were trying to quell the Villista rebels.

It turned out Villa's followers had bivouacked near the Juarez Race Track but after a night of artillery fire from the 82d and continual harassment from the American and Mexican troops, the rebels fled into the heartland of Mexico at dawn.

The incident-- although little

82D HISTORY

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

unit of the 1st Cavalry Division.

A sudden change of scenery for the battalion came in late 1957 when it was relieved from assignment to the 1st Cav and moved to Europe where it was almost totally redesigned.

Under the new arrangement, A Battery became Headquarters Battery for the 1st Missile Bn., 82d Artillery, while B and C Batteries took over similar roles with the 2nd Missile Bn., and the 3rd Gun Bn.

The unit spent most of this European tour near Vicenza, Italy, where it was finally deactivated on April 20, 1964.

The current 1st Bn., 82d Artillery became a reality on Jan. 10, 1968 when it was attached to the Ft. Lewis (Wash.) Provisional Troop Command. Three months later it was reassigned to the 212th Field Artillery Group.

Lt. Col. Paul D. Cothem Jr. was named the first commander of the new battalion and assumed control on Jan. 30, 1968. He was succeeded last November by Lt. Col. John J. Luxemburger Jr., the present commander.

The unit began almost immediate preparations for deployment to Vietnam while at Ft. Lewis and on March 19, 1968, the unit fired its first round with Maj. Gen. William W. Beverly, Ft. Lewis' commanding general, doing the honors.

more than a brief skirmish-- has been a favorite tale of the old-timers who served with the unit at that time.

In addition, the incident is commemorated in the 82d crest by the projectile on the wavy white bar which signifies the first round fired by the 82d crossing the Rio Grande River.

82D IN ITALY

While Command, Christopher J. O'Toole, superior general of the Congregazione di Santa Croce expressed his appreciation for the "magnificent playing field at the school which will serve the students for many years to come."

HEADQUARTERS BATTERY GETS NEW 1SG

Conrad F. Lushbaugh of Staunton, Va. became the new first sergeant of Headquarters, Headquarters and Service Battery last week.

Lushbaugh replaces MSG John B. Roth of Fayetteville, N.C., who had been acting first sergeant since early January. Roth has returned to his regular assignment as Communications NCO after serving as an interim replacement for 1SG George Williams who was medivaced to Japan.

The new first sergeant is a veteran of six other overseas tours including two years in Vietnam from 1965-67. He also registered two tours of Korea (1950-51 and 1960-61), two tours of Germany (1961-64 and 1967-68) and a one-year stay in the Dominican Republic (1965).

Lushbaugh, a bachelor, is qualified as an Airborne Ranger. He was last assigned to the 1st Bn., 18th Cavalry at Ft. Lewis, Wash.

WORLD SCENE

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

WASHINGTON--Doctors reported the condition of former President Dwight D. Eisenhower to be slightly improved in his battle with pneumonia after surgery at Walter Reed Army Hospital.

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FT. LAUDERDALE--A jury in Ft. Lauderdale convicted Jack "Murphy the Surf" Murphy of murder and sentenced him to life imprisonment for his part in the death of two women found in a creek bed near here last year.

A companion of Murphy's was also convicted of the charge.