

1ST BN.
82D ARTY.



IT'S HAPPENIN'

SEE PAGE 3

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 23

CHU LAI, VIETNAM

JUNE 16, 1969

CHARLIE BLOCKS ASSAULT ON LIZ

The combined forces of C Battery, 1st Bn., 82d Artillery and Co. B, 1st Bn., 20th Infantry fought off an NVA ground and mortar attack on LZ Liz last week.

The battle, which included a four-hour firefight, preceded by a heavy 82mm bombardment, saw the artillerymen and infantrymen repel the attackers who were bent on overrunning the LZ.

"After the mortar attack, things were quiet for about two hours," com-

SERVICE NUMBERS DISAPPEAR SOON

On July 1, the military service number will become a collector's item.

On that date, the Social Security Account Number will replace all service numbers for members of the active military, in addition to retired and reserve personnel.

After June 30, service numbers will not be issued to new personnel coming into the military for the first time.

Your account number will become your single identifier for use by the Federal Government.

The Social Security Account Number has no prefix or suffix, meaning the familiar terms "US", "RA", "ER" and "NG" will be things of the past.

The first service numbers were issued to enlisted personnel in 1918 and the officers followed suit three years later.

MSG Arthur B. Crean became the first enlisted man with a service number while Gen. John J. Pershing had the honors for the officers.

Battalion mail clerk Daniel Plata also reminds personnel of the 1/82d that they should substitute their Social Security Account Number for their service number on any mail going back to the states that would be processed after July 1.

mented SGT John Thorpe of the 1/20th, "and all of a sudden three RPG rounds came in hitting one of the bunkers on the southeast slope.

"We popped flares," said Thorpe, "and spotted 20 NVA crawling up the slope and they had a .30-caliber machinegun about 300 meters out giving support."

CPT Gerald E. Dixon of Charlie Battery added:

"Two (NVA) actually succeeded in breaching the perimeter and were busy throwing grenades and satchel charges in the hootches when SGT John LaFavor (C Battery) and myself came around the corner of a building and saw them.

The two NVA tried to eliminate CPT Dixon and LaFavor but instead the two enemy troops were killed.

A police of the area showed 14 NVA killed and three rifles, one RPG launcher and 30 grenades were taken in.

BATTALION BRIEFS

NEW CHIEF OF SECTION: SSG Odell Kirk, a 16-year Army veteran, has become a new chief of section at Charlie Battery.

Kirk, who lives in Duncan, Okla., was last stationed with the 1/94th Artillery in Germany.

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SWIMMING CLASSES: Swimming instruction for poor and non-swimmers, will be offered in the battalion swimming pool daily from 4-5 p.m. During this period, the pool will be used to regular swimming activities (See ~~front~~ story, Page 2).

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FILM FARE: Gregory Peck's award winning performance in "To Kill a Mockingbird" will be the highlight of this week's battalion movie schedule.

Also on tap are "Tiger and Pussycat", "The Ballad of Josie", "The High Commissioner" and "Duffy".

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REPLACEMENTS ARRIVE: Twenty-four new E3s and E4s joined the battalion last week. Details on Page 4.

SUMMER SWIMMING SAFETY

Whether you are a swimmer or not, the lure of the water is often irresistible in summer, making summer months the peak periods for drownings.

In recent years, most drowning fatalities have occurred in the early months of summer with July rating the highest and June running a close second.

Even if you avoid entering the water this summer because you are a poor or non-swimmer, there is a chance of meeting trouble.

More than one-half of the thousands of drownings each year are labeled non-swimming fatalities--people who fell into the water from such spots as docks, bridges, shores and boats. These accidents have contributed to making drownings the fourth leading cause of accidents.

The National Safety Council advises that each person needs to learn:

How to hold or row to someone in trouble, how to stay afloat with clothes on, how to swim and how to use simple lifesaving skills.

Often a simple stroke like a dog paddle will enable a floundering swimmer to reach shore. It has been estimated that half of all drownings occurred within 20 feet of safety.

Waterproof yourself for a safe summer in the water. (AFPS)



SAVING THE SMART WAY

Many American soldiers who come to Vietnam are faced with the pleasant problem of spending their money.

The question is where to spend it and on what?

One of the easiest answers is to spend it on the Vietnamese economy but a quick look shows that this can do more harm than good.

The influx of more than 600,000 Free World forces into Vietnam has drastically reduced the value of the piaster.

For example, many servicemen willingly pay 100 piasters for a taxi ride that previously cost the Vietnamese only 25 piasters, so cab drivers raise their rates and look for the big spenders.

In 1967 alone, the Free World forces spent an estimated 13.6 billion piasters, which is well over 100 million American dollars.

Rice, the mainstay of the Vietnamese diet, has shot up more than 200 percent in cost since 1966 and chicken, one of the few meats the Vietnamese can afford, is up 147 percent.

Because the income of the average Vietnamese has not kept pace with the drastic rise in prices, his purchasing power has been lessened. His ability to feed and clothe his family is being threatened.

So what does the American soldier do with his money?

Well one of the best answers is

to save it.

The Uniformed Services Savings Deposit at your finance office is all you need to get the ball moving. Your money will earn 10 per cent interest compounded quarterly.

Your money cannot be withdrawn until you return from overseas except in cases of emergency or special leave and you can keep the money in up to 90 days after your return from overseas to take advantage of an extra dividend period.

Then of course there are Savings Bonds which can be taken out by allotment and which pay you 4.25 per cent interest at maturity.

You also have the opportunity to purchase Freedom Shares which pay five per cent interest and mature in only four years.

Checking accounts have the advantage of offering the user cash when and where he needs it.

In Vietnam there is an added bonus because all checking accounts that maintain a balance of more than \$100 earn five per cent interest--and no matter what the balance there is no charge for personalized checks or service.

Remember, however, if you are in the market to buy something, use the facilities of the Vietnam Regional Exchange which offers prices far below those you would encounter in the states.

All and all, most will agree that putting the money aside for those days back home seems most practical.

IT'S MATTERIN'

BY SP4
Dick Shearer

RADIO AFFAIRS: The 1/82d Artillery received Vietnam-wide recognition last Saturday during a special program aired over AFVN Radio.

The program, which honored the diverse American assistance being provided in Vietnam, featured a five-minute segment taped at the Alpha Battery Fire Direction Center at Fat City.

During the broadcast, the listeners were able to sit in on a fire mission. A description of what was happening was provided by 1LT Tommy H. Carter and SSG Willie Caywood.

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ANOTHER WARNING: The Americal Division Daily Bulletin dated June 14 noted that the parking areas at the Americal Division Post Exchange and at the officers and enlisted men's clubs are considered "high risk" areas for the theft of unattended or unsecured vehicles.

The last time a similar warning was issued, division military police began a crackdown on offenders by removing vehicles and impounding them

until an officer of the unit involved would agree to claim it.

Why not save your commanding officer and yourself a lot of trouble? Lock your vehicle every time you have to leave it unattended.

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DEDICATION CEREMONY: The battalion swimming pool, which has been in operation for three weeks, is scheduled to be officially dedicated at a ceremony next Sunday (June 22).

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MAIL FROM HOME DEPARTMENT: This reporter recently received a letter from his wife which included a clipping from "Reader Digest".

It goes something like this:

In Vietnam, each serviceman is required to take a weekly pill to lessen his chance of getting malaria. On the last pill day before his rotation home, a gunnery sergeant wrote the following letter to his wife: "Dear Mary, Today I'm taking my last pill. It's time you started taking yours."

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HEADQUARTERS MAN BECOMES A SPECIALIST

Edward C. Collins Jr., a Headquarters Battery clerk was promoted to the rank of Specialist 4 by CPT Jerry D. Ford, battery commander, last week.

Collins, a native of Pasadena, Tex., has been a member of the 1/82d Artillery since March. He was last assigned to Ft. Bragg, N.C. before coming to Vietnam.

Collins was the only Specialist 4 promotee in the battalion so far this month.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

QUESTION: How long does one have to serve in Vietnam to be eligible for the G.I. Bill?

ANSWER: Actual service in Vietnam is not required for benefits under the G.I. Bill. The law requires 181 days active duty after Jan. 31, 1955.

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QUESTION: How much money does a married veteran with no children receive each month on the G.I. Bill?

ANSWER: For full time training you would receive \$155 monthly if you have one dependent.

A FIRST: The first warrant officers in the Army belonged to the Army Mine Planters Service.

PAN-TELL

LTC JOHN J. LUXEMBURGER JR....Battalion Commander
1LT ROGER L. CLOSE.....Information Officer
SP4 RICHARD D. SHEARER.....Editor

The PAN-TELL is published weekly under the supervision of the IO, 1st Battalion, 82d Artillery, APO San Francisco 96374, as an authorized publication. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily represent those of the Department of the Army.



NEW PERSONNEL

The following are new personnel who were assigned to the 1st Bn., 82d Artillery during the past week:

PFC NORBERT R. CORDEIRO: A new cannoneer at Charlie Battery, Cordeiro, of Kaneohe, Hawaii, was last stationed with the 1/487th Artillery in Hawaii. SP4 GEORGE R. KWAN: Another Charlie cannoneer from the 1/487th, Kwan is a native of Honolulu.

PFC STEVEN L. ELLIS: A former student at Miami Dade Junior College in Florida, Ellis (Oakland, N.J.) was last assigned to Fort Carson, Colo. He is also working on the guns at Charlie.

SP4 HENRY J. ELLIS: No relation to Steven Ellis, Henry (Springfield, Va.) joins the battalion survey section. He attended Old Dominion College and worked as a draftsman before entering the Army in May, 1968.

PFC ROY L. FALANA: Falana, a cannoneer assigned to B Battery, is a native of Mandarin, Fla., and was last assigned to the 1/35th Artillery in Germany.

SP4 JAMES P. WOODS: A resident of Lowell, Mass., Woods, a new cannoneer for Bravo, was a shoe salesman before entering the service.

PFC NATHANIEL ROLLINS: A former member of the 2/5th Artillery in Germany, Rollins hails from Robbins, Ill.

SP4 JAMES D. TAFF: Taff (Ocala, Fla.), who is also going to the Bravo guns, was with the 1/36th Artillery in Germany before coming to Vietnam.

PFC LARRY A. RUSSEAU: A Monroe, Mich. product, Russeau is also heading for Bravo as a cannoneer. He too was last assigned to Germany.

PFC PAUL J. MEDEIROS: An addition to the Delta gun sections, Medeiros (New Bedford, Mass.) comes to the 1/82d from Ft. Benning, Ga.

PFC JAMES M. MOORE: Another surveyor, Moore (Janbury, Conn.) was a truck driver before the Army came calling. PFC CHARLES D. LANE: Lane, an Urbana, Mo. native, is a cannoneer assigned to Bravo Battery.

PFC DAVID L. IRISH: Irish, a medic, assigned to Headquarters Battery, is a Lancaster, Wis. product and worked as a carpenter before entering the Army in April, 1968.

SP4 ROBERT T. STAS: Stas (Youngstown, Ohio) was a baker before coming into the service. He will carry on as a cook with Bravo Battery.

SP4 JAMES V. JAMEN: A former student at Penn State's Ogontz campus, Jamen (Philadelphia) is a welcome addition to the survey section.

SP4 DAVID M. DYLE: Dyle (Festus, Mo.) is another surveyor who was last assigned to Ft. Hood, Tex.

PFC DUANE A. KLAHR: A new cannoneer at Bravo Battery, Klahr (Wetmore, Kan.) was a farmer before entering the service.

PFC MICHAEL W. MILLS: An Alpha Battery cannoneer, Mills, who was a shipping and receiving clerk, hails from Greensboro, N.C.

PFC ROGER A. MCKELLIPS: A Coff, Kan. native, McKellips, a Bravo cannoneer, was formerly a route salesman.

PFC HERBERT E. LAMBERT: Another Bravo cannoneer, Lambert is a resident of Leona, Kan.

SP4 JIMMY T. GREGORY: A former warehouseman, Gregory, of Mobile, Ala., joins the guns at Charlie.

PFC JAMES J. LEGER: A former student at Mt. Wachusett Community College, Leger (Fitchburg, Mass.) is also reporting to Delta as a cannoneer.

PFC WILLIAM F. LEONARD: A new cannoneer for Charlie Battery, Leonard (Taunton, Mass.) worked as a correction officer at Norfolk (Mass.) State Prison before entering the Army.

PFC ANTHONY J. MARCUKAITIS: A student at Trinton (Ill.) Junior College before joining the Army, Marcukaitis, a new cannoneer for Delta, is a native of Villa Park, Ill.

THE HORSE MOVES OUT

During the 1930s, the U.S. Army Cavalry substituted the armored car, tank and jeep for the horse and this armored cavalry, supported by tactical air, has become the most powerful ground striking force in the world today.

LONG DRIVE

A golfer who drives a ball 300 yards on earth could propel it more than a mile on the moon says National Geographic.

