

# INDEPENDENCE DAY- 1969

"Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof."

These words were emblazoned on the Liberty Bell which pealed forth the glorious news July 4, 1776, when our Declaration of Independence was born.

During reflections as we celebrate this year let us remember that our Declaration of Independence is a living document which still challenges us and guides us as much on every day of the year as it does on our Fourth of July holiday.

There was a time in America when we celebrated the Fourth with a steady barrage of firecrackers, brass bands and orators from flag-draped stands.

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1ST BN.  
82d ARTY.



COMMANDER'S  
FAREWELL:  
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MONDAY, JUNE 30, 1969

CHU LAI, VIETNAM

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## COMMAND CHANGE THURSDAY

Command of the 1st Bn., 82d Artillery will change hands Thursday when LTC James McVey Compton becomes the third leader of the unit in Vietnam.

He will be replacing LTC John J. Luxemburger Jr., who has headed the battalion since last November.

Col. Compton moves to the battalion from Americal Division Artillery where he served as executive officer.

Col. Luxemburger will be reassigned to Division Artillery where he will become the assistant fire support coordinator.

He will be replacing LTC Paul D. Cothorn, the first commander of the 1/82d after the battalion was reactivated in January, 1968. Col. Cothorn will return to a stateside assignment next month.

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Col. Luxemburger, a 22-year Army veteran, began his military career in 1943 as an enlisted man. He rose to the rank of sergeant.

He left the service in 1946 and returned to LaSalle College in his native Philadelphia, where he received his bachelor's degree in accounting.

Col. Luxemburger reentered the service in 1950 and became an officer the following year.

In addition to his World War II (CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

## BATTALION BRIEFS

JULY FLOOR SHOWS: Two floor shows have been scheduled for the month of July in the Battalion Enlisted Men's Club.

On July 6, the D'Elrie Variety Show will appear at the club followed by a group called The Young Rebels on July 17. Both shows will begin at 7 p.m.

\* \* \* \*

NEW OFFICERS: CPTs Harold L. Smith and William D. Bryant were among the new officers to arrive at the 1/82d during the past two weeks.

CPT Smith, of Frederick, Okla., is assigned to Headquarters Battery as a liaison officer. He recently completed a tour with the 4/41st Artillery in Germany.

CPT Bryant, a new fire direction officer from Oklahoma City, Okla., served at 4th Armored Division Headquarters at Goeppingen, Germany.

Both officers attended Oklahoma State University.

# A FAREWELL MESSAGE

(EDITOR'S NOTE: On Thursday, LTC John J. Luxemburger Jr. will turn over command of the 1st Bn., 82d Artillery to LTC James M. Compton. The following is Col. Luxemburger's farewell column to the men of the 1/82d.)

As they say, all good things must come to an end and for me, the finest assignment of my life, that as commander of the 1st Bn., 82d Artillery (Construction) Battalion, will end on July 3, 1969.

As I will not be able to talk to each of you personally, I'll take this opportunity to thank each of you personally for the willing co-operation and fine support I have received, without which the battalion would not have been able to accomplish its mission and bring so many things into being.

When I came to this battalion, I said that my aim was to put "iron on the target" and up-grade living conditions. Together we have done all of this and more.

As I look back over the months I am proud of the memories of the battalion: Alpha's performance on LZ Sooner; Bravo's heroic stand at LZ Snoopy; Charlie's fire fights on LZ Liz; Delta's conduct while under attack, and Headquarters for its service to the rest of the battalion, for manning the best disciplined bunker line in Chu Lai and for building one of the finest battalion base camps in Vietnam.

As the battalion nears its first full year in Vietnam and many of you are preparing to leave Vietnam and go home, you can be proud to say you have served with the 1/82d--a unit that "put iron on the target," manned its howitzers while under fire, did an outstanding job of fighting as infantry, had one of the best maintenance records in Vietnam and still managed to live as human beings.

You have all lived up to the motto of the battalion, "Can and Will". Whatever the task has been, you have not only undertaken it, but you have excelled while accomplishing it.

In short, I'm proud to have been a member of and to have had the good fortune of commanding such a fine artillery battalion.

I will be replaced by LTC James McVey Compton, an outstanding officer and a fine artilleryman. In the

difficult days ahead, I'm sure you will continue to give him the fine support I have always received and you will continue to enhance the fine reputation that this battalion now enjoys.

In my remaining four months in Vietnam, I will be the Assistant Fire Support Coordinator of the Americal Division Artillery. While in this position, I expect to hear that you were outstanding in the USARV AGI (July 11) and that in spite of the massive July turnover of personnel, you will continue to be the finest of field artillery battalions.

Just live up to the battalion motto of "Can and Will". Approach all tasks with how can we do them and never with why we cannot accomplish them.

Goodbye, good luck and good shooting. It's been a ball.

LTC JOHN J. LUXEMBURGER JR.

## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

QUESTION: How many semester hours are required for full time training in graduate school?

ANSWER: An accredited graduate course will be considered full time when 14 semester hours or the equivalent are taken unless it is the established policy of the school to consider less. A school official must so certify.

\* \* \*

QUESTION: If a veteran has an annual income of \$1,576, how much VA monthly pension will he get under the new law?

ANSWER: A monthly pension of \$57 is payable to veterans who do not have any dependents and whose annual income ranges between \$1,500 and \$1,600.

\* \* \*

QUESTION: Under new increases on in-  
(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)



# IT'S HARRIN'

BY SP4

Dick Shearer

HI, LOVE!: Wednesday was one of those days when the men at Headquarters Battery wished they were out on the line for a few hours.

It wasn't a sudden splurge of patriotism or anything like that. But after all, they are red-blooded American men who like to look at well-endowed American girls.

Now line batteries at places like LZs Dottie, Snoopy and Liz hardly seem like possible locations to find one of these well-blessed women but sure enough, that's where one of them was holding forth last week.

Chris Noel, the sometimes actress, sometimes songstress and full-time host of "A Date with Chris" on Armed Forces Radio, took her travelling troupe to the Americal field last week and the men of the 1/82d were among the lucky audiences.

Miss Noel, who probably has a bigger following among American servicemen in Europe and Asia than she does among civilians back in the states, offered a number of songs and an amload of autographed pictures to the men at each stop.

Needless to say, it was a pleasant preview of things to come for the men who will be rotating back to the states next month. There were no complaints from the rest of the troops either. Thanks for coming, Love.

\* \* \* \* \*

NEW PERSONNEL: There was a tapering off of new personnel coming into the 1/82d last week—a trend that isn't likely to continue much longer.

The six new arrivals were:

PFC RICHARD W. BROWN: A truck driver assigned to Headquarters Battery, Brown, a native of Eveleth, Minn., was last stationed at Ft. Dix, N.J.

PFC JAMES E. RUSH: Rush, a field wireman from Indianapolis, is now a

member of the Headquarters Battery Communications Section.

PFC DALE F. BROWN: A supply clerk from Rose Creek, Minn., Brown will be joining Alpha Battery at Ft. City.

PFC KENNETH M. HILLMAN: Hillman, a new vehicle repairman for Headquarters Battery, is a native of Austin, Tex., where he worked as a freight clerk before entering the service.

SP4 WILLIAM E. DEITCH: Another mechanic assigned to Headquarters, Deitch (Lorain, Ohio) joins the 1/82d from Ft. Benning, Ga.

SP4 JEROME G. HORNSCHEMELER: The third new mechanic for Headquarters is a native of Cincinnati and was employed by a gas station before the Army came calling.

## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

terest for Savings Bonds, will my old Series E and H Bonds be affected?

ANSWER: Yes. Outstanding E and H Bonds will return comparably higher yields for the remaining time to next maturity.

\* \* \*

QUESTION: How will the Active Army 150-day early release program affect the individual Reservist who has been assigned as an individual replacement from STRAF to Vietnam?

ANSWER: All USAR/ARNGUS personnel returning from Vietnam after a normal tour of one year are authorized release upon their return.

\* \* \*

QUESTION: How would an enlisted man go about applying for a Service Prep School?

ANSWER: Personnel is responsible for handling applications and most installations furnish a special adviser solely for this program. (AFPS)



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