

1ST BN.
82D ARTY.



RAIN SLOWS
NETTERS:
SEE PAGE 4

MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1969

THU LAI, VIETNAM

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 36

ADJUTANT MOVES TO C BATTERY

CPT John L. Newton of Hartsville, Ala., will become the new commander of Charlie Battery later this week.

CPT Newton, who has been serving as the 1/82d's adjutant since early July, replaces CPT Gerald Dixon who

will be returning to the states later this month.

CPT Dixon has been in command of Charlie Battery since early March when he replaced CPT Larry S. Spinks.

The new commander is a 1967 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and served with the 3rd Bn., 37th Artillery at Dachau, Germany before coming to Vietnam. He arrived in country in May.

CPT Dixon, who spent his entire year with the 1/82d, has been reassigned to the Officer Student Bn. at Ft. Sill, Okla.

SSG RIVERA REUPS

SSG Miguel Rivera, a supply sergeant with the Battalion S-4 Office, reenlisted for another hitch in the Army last week.

Rivera, who is the Army's ranking E-6 (18 years in grade) first came into the service in 1942.

He is scheduled to leave Vietnam in November when he finishes his tour with the 1/82d.

WHAT'S CONSIDERED LOTS OF RAIN?

Just what do you consider a lot of rain?

That question isn't too easy to answer but men of the 1/82d will readily agree that the wet stuff coming out of the skies for the past eight days is enough for awhile.

For the record, the Americal Division Weather Center reports that 7.91 inches of rain fell during the first four days of October. This, of course, is an average of about two inches per day.

The rains are serving as the opening round of the 1969 monsoon season which will stretch into the early months of 1970.

Last year, Vietnam enjoyed a relatively mild monsoon, with the rainfall totals lower than in previous monsoon seasons.

Twenty-five inches are predicted for October.

TRIO PROMOTED TO SPECIALIST 5

Three members of the 1/82d Artillery were given Specialist 5 stripes last week to add to the list of E-5 promotees announced in last week's PAN-TILL.

Receiving the Specialist 5 promotions were John F. Napolitano, George E. Gill and Henry J. Ellis.

Napolitano is the Charlie Battery clerk, Gill is a cook at Delta Battery and Ellis is assigned to Headquarters Battery but is currently serving with the liaison team at the 1/14th Artillery.

Their promotions raised to 10 the total number of men to receive E-5 status during September.

IT'S WARRIOR

BY SP4

Dick Shearer

CONNIE'S LETTER: Last week we ran details of a letter from 16-year-old Connie Combs of Peyton, Colo. who was looking for a pen-pal among the men of the 1/82d.

We turned the correspondence over to two men--SP5 James Richardson, the Headquarters Battery clerk, and SP4 Donald Dzubin, a member of the battalion's Commo Section.

Both men promised they would write Connie and try to develop a pen-pal friendship. We'll see what happens.

* * * *

CHARLIE BROWN: It was bound to happen sooner or later and now live theater is blooming in Vietnam.

Special Services at Long Binh announces that a group called Armed Forces Theatre Vietnam is preparing to go on the road with its first production, "You're a Good Man, Charlie

Brown."

It is reportedly the first presentation of "Charlie Brown" outside the United States and Stephen Pokart, the director, is looking for rcr (obviously soldiers) from throughout Vietnam to take part in the show.

Anyone with acting experience who is interested in touring with the group is asked to contact Pokart at the Special Services Office, Long Binh Post, APO San Francisco 96491. Auditions are now being planned.

The group is planning a three-week rehearsal period at Long Binh, a week spent touring the post and a month on the road with the production, which will be presented throughout the Republic.

One little catch, you have to be releasable for a 60-day TDY.

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BATTALION BRIEFS

ON STAGE: A quiet week is expected on the Battalion Enlisted Men's Club stage with no floor shows scheduled for the next seven days. The next presentation is scheduled for October 14 at 7 p.m.

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NEW NCOs: The Battalion gained two new NCOs this week with the arrival of SSG Raymond E. Stamps and SSG Clarence W. Beverly. Stamps, of Oklahoma City, has been assigned to the Battalion Fire Direction Control Center. Beverly, of Ahsokie, N.C. will join C Battery. Both men came to Vietnam from assignments in Germany.

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FLIM FARE: Four full-length movies are scheduled to be shown to members of the 1/82d this week. Topping the list is the comedy "Enter

Laughing" which is joined by "Petula", "Better a Widow" and "Charge of the Light Brigade".

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BEACH SAFETY FLAGS: Members of the battalion are reminded colored flag codings are used at all Chu Lai Beaches. A red flag means the beach is closed. A black flag permits wading and a green one okays swimming.



WINNING 'OTHER WAR' IS IMPORTANT

The American soldier in Vietnam suddenly finds himself in very unfamiliar surroundings when he arrives in this country.

He is faced with a new climate, an unseen enemy and some potentially serious health problems. But he is also forced to adapt his ways to blend with those of the Vietnamese, and sometimes they are quite different.

For example, respect plays a very important part in the life of a Vietnamese. Therefore it is necessary for the American soldier to avoid putting a Vietnamese in a position where he might "lose face" by looking bad in the eyes of others.

Unskilled labor is considered honorable work, not a sign of inferiority or an indication of lack of intelligence.

Because their environment is half a world away from the one we were brought up in, the Vietnamese have many traits and customs that seem rather odd to the average American.

Some of these involve gestures. Crossing your fingers, for example, is considered obscene, and pointing the sole of your foot toward a Vietnamese is very bad manners.

The lifted forehand we use to motion someone toward us is used only to beckon animals in Vietnam. If you wish to call a Vietnamese to you, wave goodbye.

The Vietnamese are more reserved

than Americans or Europeans. It is bad manners for you to extend your hand when introduced. Wait for the Vietnamese to initiate the handshake.

Since Buddhism is the major religion in Vietnam, many of the customs of the Vietnamese are dictated by the tenants of the church.

One of the interesting and important aspects you will learn if you investigate Buddhism is that the head is considered sacred and should never be touched.

Many other customs of the Vietnamese are not unfamiliar to Americans and are dictated by common sense.

For example, the rice paddy is the economic staple for many Vietnamese. When a soldier chooses to take a short cut through one of these paddies, he is not likely to win any friends among the farmers who harvest it.

In war you cannot always avoid being on private property but you can be considerate of the owner's land and remember that the things you see there are not yours for the taking.

By watching the Vietnamese and taking a wholesome interest in their customs and traditions you can help America win that "other war".

INDIAN GAME

The game Lacrosse was originally played by the North American Indian who introduced it to the early American settlers.



"I THINK YOU'RE RIGHT... THAT BLUE LINE ON THE MAP ISN'T A ROAD AFTER ALL."

PAN-TELL

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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. American Forces Press Service materials are used.

RAIN DELAYS 1/82D NET STREAK

It took a week of rain to stop the 1/82d Volleyball Team, something none of the other teams in the Chu Lai Volleyball League have been able to do this season.

Last week's monsoon cooled the Artillerymen who have been idle for two weeks as a result of the rain and two forfeit victories.

The latest of these forfeits came when the NSAD-Enlisted Men dropped out of the league, giving the 1/82d clear sailing through its scheduled match last Sunday.

The win locked up the title for the Artillerymen who have only to

beat the 523rd Signal Battalion for a perfect first half record. The Signalmen are two games down in the loss column.

The squareoff between the 1/82d and the 523rd was originally set for last Wednesday night but rain postponed that match and the two teams are still waiting for clear weather and a dry court to complete the schedule.

LT WANKO, SGM RUCKER GIVEN BRONZE STARS

Former Delta Battery assistant executive officer 1LT Harry C. Wanko of Senaghticoke, N.Y. was one of two men to receive the Bronze Star for meritorious service last week.

LT Wanko, who had been with the unit since last October when he transferred to the 1/82d from the 3rd Bn., 16th Artillery, was presented his award by LTC James H. Compton, battalion commander.

Also receiving a Bronze Star was SGM Willie Rucker, the former first sergeant at Alpha Battery who is returning to his Denver, Colo. home before being reassigned to the U.S. Army Advance Group at Sacramento, Calif.

He had been a Battery's first sergeant for a year.

IT'S WARRENIN?

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

DRIVING TIP: Message Center and other drivers who stop by the Battalion S-1 Office have passed along the word that Military Police in the Chu Lai area are cracking down on the number of passengers riding in military vehicles in this area.

The MPs are stopping all vehicles which are obviously overloaded either with people or cargo.

They are also enforcing the regulation which states that only the driver and one passenger can ride in the front seat of 1/4 and 3/4-ton vehicles.

SFC DAVIS NAMED TO CAREER POST

SFC Martin J. Davis, the 1/82d's survey NCO, is now doubling as the battalion's career counselor.

SFC Davis, who joined the unit last month after being assigned to Americal Division Artillery, is a 27-year Army veteran.

A native of Riviera Beach, Fla., Davis succeeds SFC Thomas Cuthbertson who left the battalion in September.

David will be working in the new battalion reenlistment office located in the Headquarters Battery area near the Enlisted Men's Club.

