

THE CASTLE NEWSLETTER



Issue 12

July 2008

Heraldic Times



(Coat of Arms)



(Insignia)

Shield:

Gules, a conventionalized castle of Ehrenbreitstein with ramp or on mount proper, debriused by a bendlet argent bearing two ribbons of the field and azure with seventeen mullets of the last. A sinister canton bendy of eight ermine and of the field.

Crest:

On a wreath of the colors, or and gules, a mount argent garnished vert, bearing a linden leaf proper charged with a fleur-de-lis argent.

Motto:

In Time of Peace Prepare for War.

Symbolism:

The field of the shield is red, the artillery color. The principal charge is the castle of Ehrenbreitstein bedriused by a bendlet carrying the American colors and seventeen stars, to signify the occupation of the castle by the 17th Field Artillery. The canton alludes to the arms of the 8th Field Artillery from which men were transferred to organize the 17th Field Artillery. The crest commemorates the two most noteworthy battle incidents. The White Mountain is for Blanc Mont. The leaf is taken from Verte Feuille Farm, one of the positions occupied by the regiment in the Soissons offensive; the linden leaf was chosen as being very common in that region. The fleur-de-lis is from the arms of Soissons.

DISTINCTIVE INSIGNIA

The distinctive insignia is the shield of the coat of arms.

President's Comments

By: Jackie M. Stroud

This year we are headed to Washington D.C. for our tenth reunion. We will all be together again where we can sit around and swap stories and talk about all the new stuff that has happened to us in the past year. Some of us have new knees, heels, heart bypasses, new homes, and a number of other things that have transpired since our last reunion in San Antonio. I am looking forward to meeting you all again this year in DC and meeting members that have not been able to join us at our past reunions.

We have worked on getting some wonderful things set up for this year's reunion. The contract is signed, and plans have been made to make your stay at the reunion a pleasant one. There are many places to see and an awful lot of things to do again this year.

Thanks to all for your contribution this year to our scholarship program. The voting members of the selection committee were George W. (GW) Adkisson, Wallace L. Bates, Mike Burke, Richard J. Flowers, and Charles M. Garner. It has been a good year for us, and the selection committee did a great job again. There was a great number of application requests, but only a few returned to be judged. There is an article on our winners in the newsletter, and this will be posted on our website for everyone to see. I am lucky to have such dedication from our members. Thank you, voting members.

Registration for the reunion is included with this newsletter. Please make arrangements ASAP. I hope to see you all in Washington D.C.

Announcement!

As you all know, this year the 2008 reunion will be in Washington, DC. We hope for the largest turnout since our forming of the association in November 1999. Let's all attend and be part of the Veterans Day activities planned for the memorials. Please attend the memorial of your choice.

This year we will participate in the wreath laying ceremonies at the Vietnam Memorial Wall to honor those that we lost in Vietnam. Three veterans will be needed to lay the wreath. If you would like to volunteer for this honor, please contact the association president, Jack Stroud.

2008 Scholarship Grants

By: Jackie M. Stroud

During the association's annual general membership meeting held at the 2007 reunion, three scholarship grants for 2008 were voted on and authorized; one grant for one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1500) and two grants for one thousand dollars (\$1000) each.

There were eleven requests for scholarship application packets received, and only four applicants returned a completed packet. Each returned application was reviewed independently by the voting members of the committee and awarded points based on their best judgment using the information contained in the packet.

Once each voting members scoring form was returned to me, I established an Order of Merit List (OML) based on totaling the points awarded by all voting members. The 2008 voting committee members consisted of volunteers from our last reunion:

2008 Scholarship Selection Committee:

Chairman -----	Jackie M. Stroud
Secretary -----	Jack Picciolo
Treasurer -----	Rich Siebe
Voting Members -----	GW Adkisson
	Wallace Bates
	Mike Burke
	Jerry Cody
	Charles Garner

The 2008 winners of the association scholarship grants in order of merit:

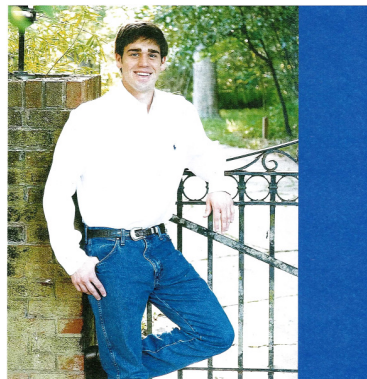


Craig R. Heuring
Graduated from Cardinal
Stitch
Oregon, Ohio
Pre-Business

\$1,500.00

Craig is the grandson of
Raymond J. Heuring, who

served with Battery A, 17th Artillery in Korea 1952-1953.

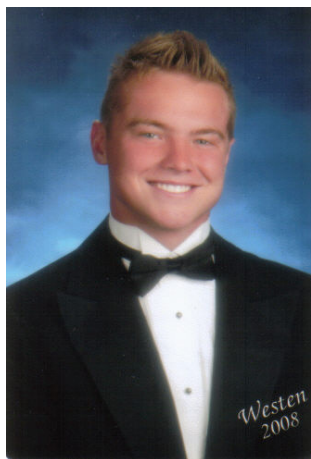


Andrew Gray
Graduated from
Lamar Magnet School
of Business
Administration
Houston, Texas
Business

\$1,000.00

Andrew is the
grandson of James R.

Graves who served with 17th Artillery Battalion, 8th Army,
I Corps, Korea 1953-1954.



Weston Norris
Graduated from Valley
Christian High School
San Jose, California
Business Education

\$1,000.00

Weston is son of Dietrich
W. Neckien who served in
Service Battery, 17th Field
Artillery Battalion at Fort
Sill Oklahoma 1958-1960.

2008 Scholarship Funding

By: Jackie M. Stroud

During our 2007 general membership meeting, a motion was made to have a scholarship awarded each year in the name of a highest bidder from an auction held during the annual reunions. This was one suggestion on raising funds for the scholarship program.

A point was raised that there are members who have made donations to the scholarship fund and do not or cannot attend the reunions who may feel slighted by not having a scholarship awarded in their name.

The motion was tabled until the 2008 reunion, with a recommendation to seek comments from all members of the association. If any member of the association would like to make a comment on the above motion, please forward them to the association president: Jack Stroud, 2461 Meadow Ridge Drive, Wheelersburg, OH 45694-9073; phone: (740) 574-1260; email: jack.stroud@roadrunner.com prior to November 1, 2008.

Life Membership Coins



(FRONT)

(BACK)

17th Artillery Regiment Association Life Members (New)

The following named 17th Artillery veterans have become Life Members of the 17th Artillery Regiment Association, since the January 2008 newsletter.

088 David P. Rush was assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Battery and Battery C, 2nd Battalion, 17th Artillery (1968-1969)

089 Francis (Fran) J. Roberts was assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 7th Battalion, 17th Artillery (1970-1971)

Annual Membership Dues (2008)

The following have paid their 2008 membership dues, since the January 2008 newsletter.

1. Morrison, Charles #
2. Keesling, Dennis
3. Davis, Donald
4. Cody, Jerry
5. Raymond, Paul
6. Popp, Alvin
7. Tracy, John
8. Jones, Tom
9. Bass, Robert
10. Lowery, Bobby
11. Yore, James
12. Ryan, Bert
13. Deno, James
14. Childs, Wayne
15. Zell, David
16. Nadeau, Roger
17. Dykes, Doyle
18. Steen, Gary
19. Price, Vincent*
20. Anderson, Mark
21. Wright, Jay L.*
22. Mohn, Charles A.*
23. Rowell, Dave
24. Barton, Norman L.*
25. Gillespie, Dave
26. Braband, Lloyd*
27. Tanner, George
28. Pulsifer, Robert
29. Rogers, Marvin

30. Mauer, Barry
31. Squadrille, Michael
32. DeTreville, John
33. Trudeau, Michael
34. Brace, Douglas
35. Gerhardt, Stephen
36. Sadler, Larry
37. Kasaback, James*
38. Simonet, Marcel
39. Stroud, Jackie
40. Lankford, Charles
41. Caiella, Jim
42. Richards, Robert E.
43. Runice, Raymond (Doug)
44. Armstrong, Buddy
45. Lupus, Lawrence
46. Retka, Eugene
47. Van Atta, Ralph E.*
48. Sugg, Richard H.*
49. Comeaux, Ray
50. Dirrane, Brian
51. Colgan, Deborah #
52. Smith, Philip
53. Skirvin, Ron
54. Melcher, Ralph
55. Higginson, Mark A.*
56. Brooks, Donald A.
57. Bolger, Francis W.
58. Klingeman, Michael G.
59. Bell, Mike
60. Garner, Charles
61. Mason, Ronald

* denotes new member

denotes associate member

Treasurer's Report (2008)

As always, the best part of my job as treasurer is to give away money for scholarships and veterans in need. In the first six months of this year, the 17th Artillery Regiment Association has been privileged to give out three scholarships for a total of \$3,500 to the children or grandchildren of 17th Artillery veterans. We also donated \$200 to the Fisher House Foundation designated for Brooke Fisher House at Brooke Army Medical Center at Ft. Sam Houston.

Currently, the association has a total of \$10,669.15 in the bank; \$7,361.17 in the scholarship fund and \$3,307.98 in the general fund.

Our 10th reunion is coming up in a couple of months in Washington DC. I hope to see all of there.

Rich Siebe
Treasurer
17th Artillery Regiment Association

The Institute of Heraldry to Modify Several Campaign and Service Medals

The Department of Defense announced on May 22, 2008 that The Institute of Heraldry (TIOH) will remove the word “medal” from four campaign and service medals in order to align their designs with heraldic protocols.

The word “medal” will be removed from the Global War on Terrorism Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Korean Defense Service Medal and Armed Forces Service Medal.

In addition, TIOH will resize eight campaign and service medals that were initially designed one-eighth of an inch larger in diameter than required by specification. The larger medals will be gradually replaced over the next several years as current stock levels are depleted. These medals will not be made obsolete and will remain authorized decorations. In addition, the applicable miniature medals will also be re-sized from eleven-sixteenths of an inch diameter to five-eighths of an inch.

The medals being resized are the: Kosovo Campaign Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Korean Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Service Medal and the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal.

Historically, campaign and service medals pendants are 1 ¼ inches in diameter, the only exceptions are the two victory medals commemorating the end of World War I and World War II; these medals were designed at 1 13/32 inches in diameter in order to enhance their heraldic stature have given the magnitude of the two world wars.

Campaign Stars to Adorn Afghanistan Campaign Medal (ACM) and Iraq Campaign Medals (ICM)

The three campaigns phases and associated dates established for the Afghanistan Campaign Medal (ACM)

1. Liberation of Afghanistan – September 11, 2001 to November 30, 2001
2. Consolidation I – December 1, 2001 to September 30, 2006
3. Consolidation II – October 1, 2006 to a date to be determined

The four campaigns phases and associated dates established for the Iraq Campaign Medal (ICM).

1. Liberation of Iraq – March 19, 2003 to May 1, 2003
2. Transition of Iraq – May 2, 2003 to June 28, 2004
3. Iraqi Governance – June 29, 2004 to December 15, 2005

4. National Resolution – December 16, 2005 to a date to be determined.

Vietnam: 2d Battalion, 17th Artillery (Persuaders)

Part Three: Release from the 41st Artillery Group and attachment to the 52d Artillery Group; release from 52d Artillery Group, attachment to the Provisional Artillery Group, and stand down.

On April 15, 1969 the battalion (-) was attached to the 52d Artillery Group with a General Support (GS) mission with the priority of fires to the 1st Battalion, 69th Armor, who replaced the 1st Battalion (Mech), 50th Infantry along Highway 19. In addition, on April 15, 1960, the 1st Brigade, 4th Infantry Division took over the mission of defense of Camp Radcliff and the Hines TAOR with 6th Battalion, 29th Artillery assuming the responsibilities of the Fire Support Coordination Center (FSCC). Battery C was temporarily attached to the 41st Artillery Group and further attached to 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery.

The battalion assumed command and control of the perimeter defense of Camp Radcliff on May 1, 1969 and established a Tactical Operation Center (TOC) and Fire Support Coordination Center (FSCC) for the “GREENLINE” TAOR. The Camp Radcliff Augmentation Security Detachment (Provisional) and the 54th Infantry Detachment (Ground Surveillance) was attached to the battalion effective June 10, 1969. The battalion’s priority of fires still continued for the security force along Highway 19.

On June 13, 1969 Battery A (Rear) departed Camp Radcliff for Ban Me Thout for further deployment in the vicinity of Duc Lap. The battery occupied LZ Francine, until June 28, 1969, in general support of the 3rd Battalion Mike Strike Force (MSF).

Battery C, 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery on July 22, 1969 was released from the attachment to the battalion.

On August 8, 1969 the battalion assumed operational control of one 175mm gum from Battery C, 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery, which was located at LZ Schueller. This gun moved from LZ Schueller to LZ Action on September 6, 1969

On August 28, 1969 the battalion assumed operational control of Battery C. Battery C moved from Ky Son and relocated to Camp Radcliff with 4 each 105mm Howitzers pending arrival of air transportation for a move to the Duc Lap area. Battery C departed An Khe on August 31, 1969, by C130, with 3 each 105mm Howitzers and command and fire control elements and came under the operational control of the Provisional Artillery Group. The remainder elements of Battery C departed An Khe on September 2, 1969 for Ban Me Thout.

The battalion assumed operational control of one platoon (155mm howitzers) from Battery B, 1st Battalion, 92d

Artillery on September 8, 1969. This platoon was air lifted to LZ Mattie on September 9, 1969. On September 25, 1969 the platoon returned to Camp Radcliff and departed the AO on September 26, 1969.

Battery A (Rear) moved to LZ Hardtimes on September 10, 1969, while there they integrated the one Civilian Irregular Defense Group (CIDG) howitzer into the firing platoon and begun providing fire direction training, howitzer crew training, and maintenance assistance of the CIDG Fire Direction Center (FDC) and howitzer crew. Battery A (Rear) returned to Camp Radcliff on September 21, 1969.

The one 175mm gun from Battery C, 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery located at LZ Action departed on September 23, 1969 for LZ Blackhawk and operational control was turned over to the 3rd Battalion, 6th Artillery.

One 8 inch howitzer from Battery C, 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery was placed under operational control of the battalion and located at LZ Action. The 8 inch howitzer departed LZ Action on October 18, 1969 and returned to LZ Blackhawk, where operational control was passed back to the 3rd Battalion, 6th Artillery.

A Battalion Light Command Post was dispatched on December 3, 1969 from Camp Radcliff to Nhon Co Special Forces Camp and assumed operational control of a platoon from Battery C at Bu Prang and Battery A, 1st Battalion, 92d Artillery (-). Its mission was to coordinate artillery fires and logistic support for US elements in Quan Duc Province. Due to decrease activity in the area and in anticipation of withdrawal of US Artillery elements, the Battalion Light Command Post terminated operations and returned to Camp Radcliff on December 21, 1969.

Battery A was reunited, on December 3, 1969, when Battery A (Rear) closed out at Camp Radcliff and moved to LZ Action. On December 26, 1969 a ten man advance party from Battery A departed An Khe by air to Nha Trang to set in motion the first move of Battery A under Operation "Metro Media". (Operation Metro Media was a re-stationing plan for US Artillery in the II Corps Tactical Zone (IICTZ)). In addition, on December 27, 1969 an eighteen man advance party from Headquarters Battery departed An Khe by air for Ban Me Thout and a twelve man advance party from Battery B also departed An Khe by air for Dalat.

The battalion assumed operational control of a platoon (175mm) from Battery C, 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery on January 3, 1970, with one gun arriving on January 3, 1970 and the second gun arriving on January 4, 1970. The platoon mission was to support 4th Infantry Division operations in the Hines TAOR, from Camp Radcliff. Battery C, 1st Battalion, 92d Artillery (-) (four 155mm howitzers) were placed under operational control of the battalion at Camp Radcliff on January 7, 1970.

The first elements (three howitzers section) of Battery A started their move, on January 7, 1970, from LZ Action to Quin Nhon by road, where they boarded a LST for their move to Nha Trang. The first element arrived in Nha Trang on January 9, 1970. The remainder of Battery A (-) moved from LZ Action on January 11, 1970 to Quin Nhon by road where they boarded LSTs for their move to Nha Trang. The second element of Battery A arrived in Nha Trang on January 13, 1970. Battery A on January 14, 1970 reverted to operational control First Field Forces Vietnam Artillery.

Battery A, 7th Battalion, 13th Artillery (105mm) was placed under operational control of the battalion on January 11, 1970. On January 12, 1970 Battery C, 1st Battalion, 92d Artillery (-) departed Camp Radcliff by road to LZ Emilia to support operations of the 1st Brigade, 4th Infantry Division in the Hines TAOR. They returned to Camp Radcliff on January 16, 1970.

Battery B began their two part movement from LZ Schueller to Dalat on January 18, 1970. Both elements travel by road to Camp Radcliff where they traveled by air to Dalat. The first element closed Dalat on January 19, 1970. The remainder of the battery departed LZ Schueller on January 19, 1970 and arrived in Dalat on January 20, 1970. The battery reverted to operational control of the Provisional Artillery Group with a mission of general support to Tuven Duc Province.

On January 19, 1970 the 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery relieved the battalion at Camp Radcliff and assumed operational control of the battalion's area of operations and all operational control of all attached units.

On January 21, 1970, Battalion Headquarters, Headquarters Battery and Service Battery began movement, by road, in two elements from Camp Radcliff to Ban Me Thout with an overnight stay at Pleiku. Each element consisted of two series. The first series departed Camp Radcliff on January 21, 1970 and arrived in Ban Me Thout on January 22, 1970. The second element departed Camp Radcliff on January 22, 1970 and arrived at Ban Me Thout on January 23, 1970. The battalion (-) was attached to the Provisional Artillery Group on January 22, 1970 with a mission of General Support of United States Armed Forces, Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces, and Free World Military Armed Forces in Darlat and Quang Duc Provinces, 2d Military Region.

On January 26, 1970 the battalion relieved the 5th Battalion, 22d Artillery and assumed operational control of the AO and Battery C (2/17), Battery B, 5th Battalion, 22d Artillery (8 inch) (Reinforcing 2/17(-)), Radar Detachment 253 and Radar Detachment 6, located in the Ban Me Thout area. With the relief of 5th Battalion, 22d Artillery the battalion's portion of Operation Metro Media was complete.

As of February 1, 1970 the battalion (-) was deployed with Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, Service Battery

and Battery C at Ban Me Thout East. Battery B was located at Dalat, with one howitzer at Duc Trong. Radar Detachments 253 (Q4) and 6 (Q10) and a composite automatic weapons platoon of four M42's, two M55's and one 23 inch searchlight (jeep mounted) remained under operational control of the battalion. Battery B, 5th Battalion, 22d Artillery was still attached with a reinforcing mission. One Liaison Team from the battalion was located the 23rd ARVN Division Tactical Operation Center/Fire Support Coordination Center. Battery A was located at Nha Trang under the operational control of 1FFV Artillery.

Battery C moved from Ban Me Thout East to Fire Base (FB) Doris K. on February 1, 1970. Then from February 14, 1970 to February 26, 1970 Battery C displaced one platoon by road to unnamed fire base to support operations by the 75th Rangers. The platoon returned to Fire Base Doris K upon completion of the mission. Battery C also displaced one platoon by road to Fire Base Dead Man's Hill to support Rome Plow operations along QL 14. The platoon returned to FB Doris K on February 26, 1970.

Battery A displaced one platoon to support operations of the Special Forces Group Recondo School from February 22, 1970 to February 25, 1970.

The battalion sent an assistance team consisting of one officer and two NCOs to the Trang Phuc CIDG Camp on March 9, 1970 to spend a week training the CIDG artillery. They returned March 14, 1970

Battery B moved one platoon on March 11, 1970 to Tam Mi replacing an ARVN platoon deployed to support an ARVN operation. This platoon returned to Dalat on March 27, 1970.

MET Section II, of the 8th Battalion, 26th Artillery, was placed under operational control of the battalion on March 20, 1970 and was emplaced at the Fire Base of Battery A, 6th Battalion, 32d Artillery at Ban Me Thout East.

Battery A, 6th Battalion, 32d Artillery (two 8 inch and two 175mm) moved to Ban Me Thout East on March 29, 1970 with a reinforcing mission of the battalion and to replaced Battery B, 5th Battalion, 22d Artillery, which departed for a new position at Song Mao on March 30, 1970.

Battery A moved one platoon by barge to Hon Tre Island on April 5, 1970 and the platoon returned to Nha Trang on April 9, 1970.

The battalion's assistance team conducted a one week of training of the CIDG Artillery at Tien Atar CIDG Camp from April 6, 1970 to April 11, 1970.

A platoon from Battery C moved by helicopter on April 10, 1970 to Buon Blech to support Rome Plow operations along the road from Cheo Reo to Buon Blech and returned on April 22, 1970.

On May 17, 1970 Battery B moved one platoon by fixed wing aircraft from Dalat (Fire Base Colgan) to Ban Me Thout and then moved by road to Fire Base Buon Ho to relieve ARVN artillery located there in place. The platoon returned to Ban Me Thout on July 2, 1970 and then moved by fixed wing aircraft back to Fire Base Colgan on July 3, 1970.

Battery C also moved one platoon by road on May 17, 1970, to Fire Base Quang Nhieu, to relieve ARVN Artillery in place. The platoon returned to Fire Base Doris K on July 2, 1970.

On May 19, 1970, one platoon of 8 inch and one 175mm gun from Battery A, 6th Battalion, 32d Artillery under the operational control of the battalion, moved to Fire Base Lem with the priority of fires to the 23d ARVN Division for Operation Binh Tay III, in Cambodia. At the same time a Liaison Section from the 17th Artillery, and a two man visual Metro team from 8th Battalion, 26th Artillery collocated with the 23d ARVN Division Forward Command Post at Duc Lap. All elements returned to home stations on June 11, 1970. The displace elements of Battery A, 6th Battalion, 32d Artillery were released from operational control of the battalion and assumed reinforcing mission to the battalion.

Battery A moved by road one platoon to Fire Base Chu Kuk to relieve Battery D, 320th Artillery, 101st Airborne Division in place. The platoon was placed under the operational control of the battalion during their stay at this position. Upon returning to Fire Base (FB NAAPT), Nha Trang the platoon reverted to operational control of 1FFV Artillery as of Jun 29, 1970.

On July 4, 1970 a small ceremony was held at the location of Battery B (Fire Base Colgan, Dalat), during which, Colonel Tuck, the Provisional Artillery Commander, fired the 1,000,000 round of the battalion since its arrival in Vietnam.

Battery B displaced one additional howitzer to Fire Base Apollo at Duc Trong on July 15, 1970. The section was placed under the operation control of the 5th Battalion, 22d Artillery.

The Q4 Radar, Detachment 6, departed Ban Me Thout on September 4, 1970 to Cam Ranh Bay. The detachment then moved to Duc Trong and was placed under operational control of the 5th Battalion, 22d Artillery.

Battery A displaced two platoons to Fire Base Windy to support operations of the 22d ARVN Rangers. The first platoon departed on September 7, 1970 with the second platoon departing on September 8, 1979. Both platoons returned to FB NAAPT on September 14, 1970.

One of the howitzers from Battery B under the operational control of the Battery A, 5th Battalion, 22d Artillery, at Fire Base Apollo, returned to its battery control at Fire Base Colgan for maintenance on September 14, 1970. The

other Battery B howitzer at Fire Base Apollo returned to Fire Base Colgan on October 7, 1970. Battery B also moved a platoon from Fire Base Colgan to Fire Base Warlock on October 7, 1970 to support operations of the 53d Regiment, 23d ARVN Division. The platoon was moved again on October 17, 1970 from Fire Base Warlock to Fire Base Andrea to continue its support of the 53d ARVN Regiment. The platoon returned to Fire Base Colgan on October 22, 1970.

On November 4, 1970 Radar Detachment 6 was again placed under the operational control of the battalion and arrived back at Ban Me Thout on November 8, 1970. The radar was placed at the 155th Aviation Company Compound in Ban Me Thout and became operational on November 9, 1970.

Battery A, 6th Battalion, 32d Artillery departed Fire Base Aquarius for Song Mao on November 9, 1970. A security force from the battalion assumed the security for Fire Base Aquarius.

1FFV Artillery released Battery A back to operational control of the battalion on November 20, 1970. Battery was still located at Fire Base NAAPT in Nha Trang.

Radar Detachment 253 (Q4) was moved from the compound of the 45th ARVN Regiment to Fire Base Aquarius. Also on November 28, 1970 one Engineer Platoon from Task Force Sierra arrived at Ban Me Thout and billeted at Fire Base Aquarius with a mission of working on QL 21 from Ban Me Thout to Knauh Dung.

Two howitzers from Battery C in a first part of a three part permanent movement were moved from Fire Base Doris K to Fire Base Aquarius on December 21, 1970. The second two howitzers moved Fire Base Aquarius on December 26, 1970 with the final two howitzers moved on January 3, 1971.

One platoon from Battery C departed Fire Base Aquarius on January 12, 1971 to support the 538th Land Clearing Company Rome Plow Operations from Duon Ho to Duon Blech. The 538th Land Clearing Company signed for Fire Base Doris K on January 13, 1971 and all security elements from the battalion were removed from Fire Base Doris K. The platoon supporting the Rome Plow operations returned to Fire Base Aquarius on February 6, 1971.

One day artillery raids were conducted on:
January 22, 1971 – Battery C (-) (Fired on 56 intelligence targets developed by G2, 23d ARVN Division)
January 24, 1971 – one platoon Battery B (Fired on 20 intelligence targets developed by Task Force South)
January 25, 1971 – Battery C (-) (Fired on 50 intelligence targets G2, 23d ARVN Division)
January 26, 1971 – one platoon Battery B (Fired on 20 intelligence targets developed by Task Force South)
January 28, 1971 – one platoon Battery B (Fired on 20 intelligence targets developed by Task Force South)

February 28, 1971 – one platoon Battery B (Fired on 26 intelligence targets developed by Task Force South)

On February 28, 1971 Met Section II, 8th Battalion, 26th Artillery was released from operational control of the battalion to begin a stand-down in preparation for inactivation.

Radar Detachment 253 was released from operational control of the battalion on March 2, 1971 and attached to the 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery

An advance party from the battalion on March 13, 1971, departed Ban Me Thout to Cam Ranch Bay to set up billets and marshalling areas. On March 14, 1971 the battalion received official notification for the stand-down of the battalion.

The stand down dates were:

Battery A – March 25, 1971

Battery B – April 1, 1971

Battery C – April 4, 1971

Headquarters and Headquarters Battery and Service Battery – April 4, 1971

One platoon from Battery B conducted a one-day artillery raid on March 15, 1971 firing on 52 targets developed by Task Force South

Two howitzers from Battery C were deployed to support operations of Task Force Sierra from March 22, 1971 to March 30, 1971.

On March 25, 1971 a forward command post, under command of the Battalion XO, was established at the old 566th Transportation Company area in Cam Ranh Bay.

With start of Battery A, on March 24, 1971, dismounting two howitzers sections from their primary firing positions at Nha Trang and being replaced by howitzers from Battery C, 5th Battalion, 22d Artillery, the stand down for the 2d Battalion, 17th Artillery in the Republic of South Vietnam started.

A platoon of Battery C fired the last rounds for the battalion on March 28, 1971 in the support of operations for Task Force Sierra. Battery C stood down on April 4, 1971. With the stand down of Headquarters and Service Batteries brought the end of the battalion service in the Republic of South Vietnam.

From the Saturday morning, in June 1965, when the battalion commander, LTC Harry O. Amos stood on a table in the Headquarters Battery Mess Hall, at Fort Sill, to inform the assembled battalion personnel that the unit would soon deploy. With the main body of the battalion departing from Fort Sill, on August 15, 1965; to its arrival at Quin Nhon Harbor, South Vietnam, aboard the USNS Gordon on September 3, 1965; to its stand down at Cam Ranh Bay, South Vietnam on April 4, 1971. The battalion had moved by land, air and sea to cover the central

highlands of the II Corps Tactical Zone, from the South China Sea, to the Cambodia Border. The battalion had fought in the rice paddies, dense jungles and the mountainous terrain of the central highlands; in weather ranging from tropical hot and humid or wet from seasonal monsoons. From the first round fired, by Battery B, on September 11, 1965 to the last rounds fired by Battery C on March 28, 1971 the battalion had fired a 1,000,000 (plus) rounds in support of the United States Armed Forces, Republic of South Vietnam Armed Forces and Free World Military Assistance Forces. With the battalion's stand down, at Cam Ranh Bay, its assignment in the Republic of South Vietnam came to an end and added another historical chapter to the heritage of the 17th Field Artillery Regiment and the United States Field Artillery.

Campaign Participation Credit (Vietnam)

- *Defense (March 8, 1965 – December 24, 1965)*
- *Counteroffensive (December 25, 1965 – June 30, 1966)*
- *Counteroffensive, Phase II (July 1, 1966 – May 31, 1967)*
- *Counteroffensive, Phase III (June 1, 1967 – January 29, 1968)*
- *Tet Counteroffensive (January 30, 1968 – April 1, 1968)*
- *Counteroffensive, Phase IV (April 2, 1968 – June 30, 1968)*
- *Counteroffensive, Phase V (July 1, 1968 – November 1, 1968)*
- *Counteroffensive, Phase VI (November 2, 1968 – February 22, 1969)*
- *Tet 69/Counteroffensive (February 23, 1969 – June 8, 1969)*
- *Summer – Fall 1969 (June 9, 1969 – October 31, 1969)*
- *Winter – Spring 1970 (November 1, 1969 – April 30, 1970)*
- *Sanctuary Counteroffensive (May 1, 1970 – June 30, 1970)*
- *Counteroffensive, Phase VII (July 1, 1970 – June 30, 1971)*

Decorations (Vietnam)

* *Presidential Unit Citation (Army), streamer embroidered PLEIKU PROVINCE (2nd Battalion, 17th Artillery cited; DA GO 40, 1967)*

* *Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm, streamer embroidered VIETNAM 1965-1971 (2nd Battalion, 17th Artillery, cited; DA GO 54, 1974)*

References:

1. Lineage and Honors, 17th Field Artillery Regiment, dated 1985

2. Lineage and Honors, 2d Battalion, 17th Field Artillery, dated 1985
3. Operational Reports of the 2d Battalion, 17th Artillery, dated July 1969 through April 1971

Receive "The Castle" by email:

To help defray the rising cost of postage and printing of the association's newsletter. Sign up to receive the "The Castle" by email. Your computer will need the "Microsoft Word" program.

To receive the electronic newsletter, notify the association's secretary: Jack Picciolo at: purrsfive@comcast.net with your current email address and receive the newsletter first.

We will continue to mail the newsletter to anyone who does not have Internet access or a program to open Microsoft Word program

Association Officers 2008

Jackie (Jack) M. Stroud ---- -President
 Thomas R. Kurtz----- 1st Vice President
 Mike Burke----- 2d Vice President
 John (Jack) Picciolo ---- Secretary *
 Richard (Rich) Siebe ----- Treasurer *
 Thomas R. Kurtz ----- Past President
 Norman (Richard) R. Jones Temporary Chaplain
 John (Jack) Picciolo ----- Historian
 Jackie (Jack) Stroud- ----- -Quartermaster
 Edward (Ed) Hitchner ----- -Webmaster

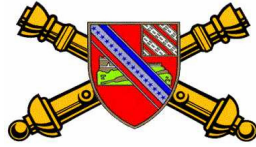
(* Indicates officer positions up for election at the next General Membership Meeting scheduled for November 12, 2008)

The 17th Artillery Regiment Association Board of Directors approved this newsletter, Castle # 12.



**Jackie M. Stroud
 Association President**

17th ARTILLERY REGIMENT ASSOCIATION



2008 ANNUAL REUNION ANNOUNCEMENT

Dear Veteran, Family and Friends of the 17th Artillery Regiment Association.

The 2008 Annual Reunion will be held at the Holiday Inn Gaithersburg, 2 Montgomery Village Ave, Gaithersburg, MD 20879: from November 9, 2008 thru November 12, 2008. If you are planning on staying at the motel, reservations can be made by calling 1-800-465-4329. Room rates are \$89.00 per night, plus tax (12%). These rates are good from November 8-12. When making your motel reservation and to receive their discounted rates, be sure to tell them you are with the 17th Artillery Regiment Association. Reservations must be made by October 25, 2008. The room rate includes free breakfast for two daily. There is plenty of free parking.

Bring your photo albums, snapshots, movies and slides to share with everyone. If you have slides or 8mm movies, you will have to furnish your own projector. There is plenty of time to get reacquainted with old comrades or even make some new ones. We would love to see your spouses, family members and friends in attendance too.

Association "gear" items will be available in the hospitality room. You can get them there or be an early bird and order them now. Items can be ordered thru the association President of whom is also the quartermaster.

Please use the attached sheet to register for the reunion (pg 3). There is a registration fee of \$ 35.00 per person to cover the cost of the annual banquet and the refreshments for the hospitality room. Please plan on attending; let's make this the biggest reunion to date.

ITINERARY:

Nov 9, 2008 - Veterans, spouses, family and friends check in. Please sign in at the hospitality room and pick up your name tags. Spend the remainder of the day touring on your own the numerous sites in and around Washington, DC. Brochures will be available in the hotel lobby to help you select your area of interest.

6:00 PM There will be a group mixer reception to meet old friends
To include those who are attending the reunion for the first time.

Nov 10, 2008 - 11:00AM Boat Tour cruise on the sprit of Washington. (Lunch buffet all you want) The cruise is approximately 2 hours on the Potomac River from Washington, DC to Alexandria, VA round trip. Lunch tour cost is \$45.00. Dress is casual. After the lunch cruise all can tour Washington, DC on your own. Service charges have been included.

Nov 11, 2008 - Veterans Day ceremonies at the tomb of the unknown and a Memorial ceremony at the Vietnam Memorial.

Nov 12, 2008 - 10:00AM to 11:00AM Association Annual General Membership meeting in the Hospitality Room

12:00PM to 3:00PM Annual Membership Banquet. (Buffet Lunch).

Please plan on attending; I'm hoping to see everyone there. If you have any questions about the reunion, contact me or any association officer. If you are unable to attend and would like to leave a message to your fellow veterans, please mail or email them to me.

Sincerely;

Jackie M. Stroud
Association President
2461 meadow Ridge Dr
Wheelersburg, OH 45694
(740) 574-1260
Jack.Stroud@roadrunner.com

17th ARTILLERY REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

REUNION # 10 - 2008

NOVEMBER 9-12

PLEASE USE THE REGISTRATION SLIP BELOW

Registration fee will cover the annual association banquet, also refreshments in the hospitality room. Please make check or money order payable to:
17th Artillery Regiment Association

Mail to the association treasurer at the following address:

MAIL TO: RICH SIEBE
5513 WHITFIELD WAY
CARMICHAEL, CA 95608-3038

CUT OR TEAR AND MAIL THE FOLLOWING TO OUR TREASURER
(with your check or money order)

NAME _____
(Please Print)

Battery _____ Battalion _____ Dates Served (From _____ to _____)

Name (s) of Spouse, Relatives, and Friends attending _____

Note: Nametags will be printed from the names
submitted

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Registration Fee: \$35.00 per person-X-number attending _____ = \$ _____

Boat Cruise: \$45.00 per person-X-number taking cruise _____ = \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____