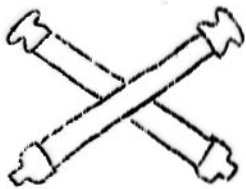


CHARGIN' CHARLIE CHATTER



By: SP4 Ron Frantz

THUNDER III--LZ JAKE--PHUOC VINH--????

In order to share the wealth with the 8-inch crews who were enjoying a change of scenery at Thunder III, the 175mm gun crews and all of the battery except for four moved to the dust bowl of Vietnam--LZ Jake. A week later the 175mm platoon rumbled back to good old Phuoc Vinh to discover that the battery area had been transformed into an R&R center for various other units. Already present was 2/13th Artillery who have since returned to Phu Loi (hats off to them). Utilizing #3's pad for a short time were three 155's from the 2/12th Arty. Making use of the area behind the orderly room is a mortar platoon from the 5/7th Cav.

FROM WATERING HOLE TO MOTOR HOLE

With the tactical happenings, certain domestic changes were almost inevitable. Sure enough, where beer cans once tipped, and many an EM drank away his sorrows--web gear and trip tickets are now drawn as Supply and the Motor Pool set up housekeeping in the once infamous "Eddy Lounge." The new EM club is presently in the former NCO Club. And the NCO's--well, they built themselves a new club--all by themselves (with some assistance from Papa Sen, the carpenter, of course).

SHORTTIMERS AND NEW GUYS

Those going back to the "WORLD" this month were: SP4 Burton Dodick, PFC Jeff Gahagan, SP4 "Pops" Booth, PFC Bill Baldwin, SP4 Gil Gilchrist, PFC Guy Dow, PFC Oney Hellens, and SP4 Greg Johnson. As always with the guys going home, there had logically got to be--replacements. Joining Charlie Battery from HNB were: 2LT Henry Cooke of Alabama, SP5 Yoland Rougeau, and PFC Frank Baumgardner. Fresh from the US were: PFC Lyle Boulware from Lynn Haven, Fla., PFC Keven Cabra of Hialeah, Fla., PFC Charles Hoke from Springfield, Mo., and PFC Raymond Eskeets Jr. from Chinle, Ariz. Chargin' Charlie Chatter takes time to welcome all of the new faces around the battery and thank those who have departed for a job well done.

