

# The way I see it

By Jim Koenig

"I didn't want to come to the 22nd"

When I first received orders for the 22nd Signal Brigade in June 1981 I was upset, as a matter of fact I was ticked-off big time.

A Signal Brigade? I asked myself, why me? I don't want to be associated with a bunch of rear echelon, weak-kneed wimps. I wanted to be assigned to a combat organization filled with tough combat-ready, gung-ho soldiers.

Arriving in Europe in September, I still had the same feelings, but kept them to myself and decided to drive on even though it meant being around signal types.

In the last 14 months I've changed my mind completely. I've seen men and women in sub-freezing winds, standing in snow erecting antennas, pounding hard steel stakes into frozen ground and moving tons of equipment throughout the mountains of Germany.

## Suggestions can earn you big dollars

Have you ever thought about making a suggestion but decided not to because you didn't think it would go anywhere? Well, if the suggestion you make is a legitimate idea, it will be considered, and you may even make some money. The suggestion cannot copy another nor be a gripe or complaint. To put a suggestion on paper, spell out what's needed, explaining the program. Be sure to answer these questions. Who is affected by the problem? Where does the problem exist, does a regulation require that it be done? You must include a solution to the problem. Don't forget to include when and how the idea can be used and why your remedy is better.

The form you should use for your suggestion is DA Form 1045. It is very



I've also observed 22nd soldiers in the miserable heat of summer working extremely long hours to get their communications "five by five".

I've watched strong capable leaders getting the job done in a professional manner. Their juniors willingly following in a way any leader would be proud of.

The men and women in this brigade are not weak-kneed, they are strong. They are not rear echelon soldiers, they are out there with the best of them. And wimps? No way - they are soldiers.

I'm proud of this brigade.

simple to complete. Once you've completed the suggestion form, deliver it to the Incentive Awards Coordinator in your unit or at Brigade S-1.

## 17th Re-Ups tops Bde

The 17th Signal Battalion topped the brigade in reenlistments for the 3rd and 4th quarter, FY '82, according to MSgt. Don Fields, Brigade Career Counselor.

Fields said the 17th also won the yearly competition as well. "As a brigade", the top counselor said, "The 22nd won the V Corps 3rd and 4th quarter competition and ended the year with a total of 122 percent of our objective." All three battalions exceeded their objectives, he said.