

# Was that a Cannon you heard at 7am?

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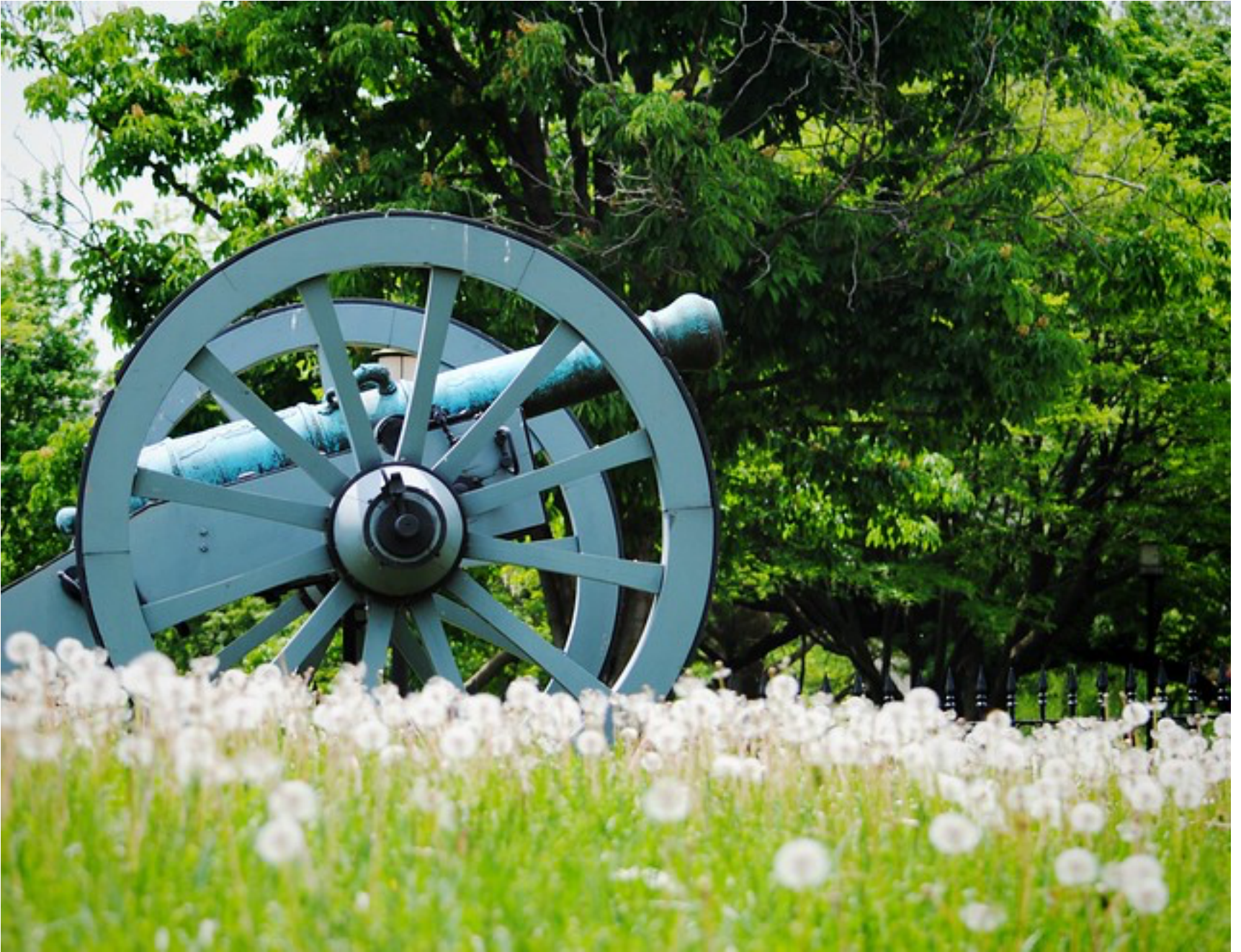


Photo by [Erin](#)

Art with the reasonable query: "WHO TF STARTS CANNON PRACTICE AT 0700???"

Our [last discussion](#) revealed by *old guard alum*:

"The Old Guard's Presidential Salute Battery conducts rehearsals (aka Blank-Fire Crew Drills)

on Thursday mornings starting at 0700 in Arlington National Cemetery and

on Ft. Myer. These drills are used to rehearse for upcoming ceremonies and certify new Soldiers on the ceremonial 105mm howitzer cannons. They do the drills before the cemetery opens for the day. The modified howitzers can only fire blank rounds; no projectiles.

During changes in the seasons (usually late spring or early fall), the sound from the blank shots tends to travel further and more residents hear it. Not sure if it has something to do with the changing temp... foliage... ?"

I know it's not Thursday but this is still my guess. Though one possible alternative *ppisano*: "Pile driving for HQ2 started at 7:00 here in Pentagon City. Minor reprieve atm, but it's sure to pick up again. Might as well be cannons"