Answer on Question # 83022, Physics / Mechanics | Relativity

Question 1. If the force that propels the cannonball forward is 500 N, how much force will move the cannon backward?

Solution. The Newton's third law states that all forces between two objects exist in equal magnitude and opposite direction: if one object A exerts a force F_A on a second object B, then B simultaneously exerts a force F_B on A, and the two forces are equal in magnitude and opposite in direction: $F_A = -F_B$. So, the force against the cannon will be the same as the force with which the cannonball is forced out and equal F = 500 N.