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### CLASSIFICATION CHANGES

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30 Nov 1979, DoDD 5200.10; AGO D/A ltr dtd 29 Apr 1980

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SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, II
Field Force Vietnam Artillery, Period Ending 31 Oct 1967 (U)

TO: SEE DISTRIBUTION

1. Subject report is forwarded for review and evaluation by
USACOM in accordance with paragraph 6f, AR 1-19 and by USCOMARC in
accordance with paragraph 6c and d, AR 1-19. Evaluations and cor-
rective actions should be reported to AGFOR OT within 90 days of re-
cipient of covering letter.

2. Information contained in this report is provided to insure
appropriate benefits in the future from Lessons Learned during current
operations, and may be adapted for use in developing training material.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

KENNETH G. WICKHAM
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

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II Field Force Vietnam Artillery
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HEADQUARTERS II FIELD FORCE VIETNAM ARTILLERY
APO San Francisco 96266

AVFB-FAC

15 NOV 1967

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned for Quarterly Period
Ending 31 October 1967 (RCS CSFOR-65) (UIC W-DHI-HS) (U)

THRU: Commanding General
II Field Force Vietnam
APO 96266

THRU: Commanding General
United States Army Vietnam
ATTN: AVHGC-DST
APO 96275

THRU: Commander in Chief
US Army Pacific
ATTN: GPOP-OT
APO 96558

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for
Force Development
Department of the Army
Washington D. C. 20310

In compliance with AR 1-19, dated 26 May 1966, Subject, Operational
Reports - Lessons Learned (RCS-CSFOR-65), this headquarters' Operational
Report - Lessons Learned for the period 1 August - 31 October 1967 is attached.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

CONSTANTINE C. CARANIKAS
Major, Artillery
Adjutant

1 Incl
as

FOR OT 20 674186

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS II FIELD FORCE VIETNAM ARTILLERY
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96266

OPERATIONAL REPORT - LESSONS LEARNED
QUARTERLY FOR PERIOD ENDING 31 OCTOBER 1967
(RCS CSFOR 65) (U)

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SECTION I - Significant Organizational Activities.

A. Administration/Personnel.

1. During this period there were no changes in the command of II FFORCEW Artillery nor was there a large rotation of assigned personnel. The morale of the unit continues to be outstanding. The following awards were presented to assigned and attached personnel:

   a. Bronze Star Medal 4
   b. Army Commendation Medal 8
   c. Air Medal 5

2. There were no administrative or tactical movements of II FFORCEW Artillery Headquarters during this period.

3. The current organizational structure of II FFORCEW Artillery is at Inclosure 1.
B. (S) Operations and Intelligence.

1. (C) General.

This headquarters' previous operational report indicated completion of the II FPERCEV Artillery Stationing Plan; however, continuous examination of current and future operational requirements have dictated additional restationing to provide adequate artillery support to US/FWMAF and ARVN Forces. Additional emphasis has also been directed towards assisting and improving the effectiveness of ARVN Artillery.

2. (S) Stationing and Missions of II FPERCEV Artillery Units.

The current base camp positioning of II FPERCEV Artillery units is at Inlosure 2. Heavy artillery coverage within III CTZ is at Inlosure 3. General missions are outlined in Inlosure 4. Specific missions will vary from time to time based on operational requirements.

a. The previous operational report outlined plans for positioning firing batteries of the 7th Bn, 6th Arty at BEN LUC (XS637766), DONG TAM (XS410443) and BEAR CAT (YT69995); however, operational requirements directed deployment of B and C Battery's to positions vicinity BIEN HOA (YT025147). On 14 September 67, Battery B was airlifted to SONG BE (YU138065), in northern PHUOC LONG Province. From this new position artillery support was provided for SP/GING camps, FP/FF outposts, and ARVN installations in the northern portion of III CTZ. This positioning will also provide support for US/FWMAF or ARVN Forces during any future operations in northern War Zone D.

b. Battery B, 6th Bn, 27th Arty, which had been attached to III MAF in I CTZ since September 1966, returned to III CTZ on 14 September 1967. After a refitting period at BIEN HOA the battery was flown to SONG BE on 14 October 1967 to replace Battery B, 7th Bn, 6th Arty. This repositioning lessened the problem of control of both heavy artillery battalions.

c. USARV General Order 5030 dated 2 October 67 attached Btry H (SIT), 29th Arty to the 13th Combat Aviation Battalion located at CAN THO (WS8608) in IV CTZ. This action eliminated administrative and transportation problems which previously existed with the battery attached to the 9th Infantry Division based at BEAR CAT.

d. On 13 October 1967, Battery A, 2d Bn, 32d Arty, located at CU CHI (XT6414), moved to TAY NHIE (XT160524). Battery C, 2d Bn, 32d Arty formerly positioned at TAY NHIE moved to DAI TIENG (XT495086). These deployments concentrated the firing capabilities of three heavy artillery batteries in the War Zone C area. Most of War Zone C can now be covered with overlapping heavy artillery coverage. The capability to weight any future US/FWMAF operation in War Zone C, while still retaining adequate coverage in the MICHELIN PLANTATION and BUI LOI WOODS illustrates the flexible deployment of heavy artillery.
a. On 14 October 1967, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery and Service Battery, 7th Bn, 6th Arty moved from Bear Cat to Bien Hoa. This move co-located the headquarters with two of the firing batteries.

3. (c) Assistance to ARVN.

a. II FORGEV Artillery continued to expand its program of providing assistance to ARVN Artillery, RF/PF and Special Forces/CIDG. During the reporting period, artillery of II FORGEV fired 16,014 missions expending 81,044 rounds in support of ARVN ground forces, Special Forces/CIDG, and RF/PF outposts.

b. On 21 September, II FORGEV Arty conducted a joint ARVN/US Artillery Seminar for senior artillery officers and artillery commanders. ARVN officers in attendance at the meeting included the Chief of ARVN Artillery, the Commandant of the ARVN Artillery School, the ARVN Corps Artillery Commanders of III and IV Corps, and the Division Artillery Commanders of the 5th, 18th and 25th ARVN Divisions. The US/USAF attendees included the 1st, 9th and 25th Division Artillery Commanders, the Commanders of the 2nd and 54th Artillery Groups, Battalion Commanders of 5th Bn (MV)(SP), 2d Arty, 2d Bn, 40th Arty, and a representative from the 4th Field Regiment, 1st Australian Task Force. Briefings were presented on: Functions of the ARVN Artillery Command; Current Employment of ARVN Artillery; US/USAF Artillery Organization and Deployment; Measures to Prevent Artillery Accidents and Incidents; US Assistance to ARVN Artillery Refresher Training; and Defense Against Rocket/Mortar Attacks. The results of the seminar were encouraging and future seminars are planned.

c. II FORGEV Arty units continued the program of assisting in development of defensive artillery support plans for RF/PF outposts. This program consists of presenting instruction on conduct and adjustment of artillery fire; use of direction locating devices; and firing in defensive targets where possible.

d. Artillery officers visited each Special Forces/CIDG Camp in III CTZ and presented instruction on artillery adjustment procedures; assisted camp commanders in planning defensive fires and insured that communications were established with all friendly artillery in range of the camp.

4. (c) Programs to Increase the Accuracy of Artillery.

a. One section of the 8th Bn, 25th Arty (TAB) located at Lang BiNH (TR051102) deployed with Battery B, 7th Bn, 6th Arty to Song Be (see paragraph 2a) to provide additional metro coverage for this area. To provide metro data for the central region of III CTZ, the 7th Bn, 8th Arty's metro section at Bien Luu was moved to Bien Hoa and co-located with its headquarters battery.

b. Calibration of Artillery Pieces.

Calibration was conducted for 344 of 428 US/USAF, and four
(4) ARVN artillery pieces during the reporting period. Pull-over gauge readings were made on 147 US/NVAF tubes.

o Survey.

The program to provide position area survey to all ARVN artillery positions has been completed. Emphasis is now being placed on extending survey to all SE/PP outposts. Priority will be given to outposts located in close proximity to heavily populated areas and to outposts supporting Revolutionary Development Teams. Defensive targets have been surveyed at eighteen (18) outposts during the reporting period. Other survey operations were completed to establish survey control for firing batteries and radars at Bien Hoa AFB, watch towers and radars at TAN SON NHUT AFB (K88198), and declination stations at Bien Hoa and Tan Son Nhut. The updated III CTZ Trig Supplement was finalized, published, and distributed during October. The current status of survey control in III CTZ is shown at Enclosure 6.

5. (C) Harassment and Interdiction (H&I) Program.

II FFORCEN Artillery has established a special H&I program emphasizing target planning in and around areas where enemy contact has occurred. Timely interdiction and neutralization is the main objective of this specialized program. An additional improvement in the regular H&I program has been the increased correlation of target data through intelligence inputs from G-2, II FFORCEN. These include imagery interpretation, spot intelligence reports and Combined Intelligence Center Vietnam reports facilitating detailed evaluation and analysis of target data, the results of which are used in targeting VC main forces and local forces throughout III CTZ.

6. (C) Aircraft for Artillery Units.

a. Insufficient aircraft and aviator support continues to have an adverse effect on artillery operations. The situation is aggravated by the movement of the heavy battery to SONG BE which expanded the required Visual Reconnaissance coverage by approximately 2,200 square kilometers.

b. The 54th Artillery Group has no aviators or aircraft assigned. The 23d Artillery Group has eleven helicopters and seven (7) 0-1 aircraft. This Group presently has nine (9) pilots available; however, within the next five (5) months, four (4) of these pilots will rotate.

c. Current Department of the Army policy is that neither aircraft nor aviators can be requisitioned specifically for artillery and other combat support type units. Therefore, no replacements are programmed at this time. Current USAV guidance indicates that aviation support will be provided from II FFORCEN assets.
7. (C) Field Artillery Digital Automatic Computer.

The issuance of FADAC was continued to include the 9th US Infantry Division Artillery, the direct support battalion (2d Battalion, 40th Artillery) of the 199th Light Infantry Brigade, all battalions of the 34th Artillery Group, and the Howitzer Batteries of the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment. An orientation in operation and maintenance was conducted by the FADAC Orientation Team for these units.

8. (C) MTOE for Artillery.

a. During August and September 1967, the TOE's for all division artillery and Force Artillery battalions were reviewed and standardized. The objective was to configure the battalions to meet Vietnam requirements. The significant changes included augmentation of battalion Fire Direction Centers and all battery Fire Direction Centers, provided organic morto capability to medium and heavy battalions, and added a two helicopter aviation section to each battalion.

b. The TOE of the Artillery Groups was reviewed and standardized with similar objectives as described in paragraph a, above. The primary changes were: additional personnel to staff Air Warning Control Centers, increases in liaison capabilities, and added aviation support to the Group Headquarters.
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SECTION II, PART 1 - OBSERVATIONS (Lessons Learned).

1. (U) Personnel: None.

2. (C) Operations:

FIRING PROCEDURES

Item: Simplification of Procedures for Clearing Fires.

Discussion: Prior to firing artillery or planning air strikes against a target, both RVN political and US/PAVAF clearances are required. If the commander obtains civil clearance in advance by getting an approved Specified Strike Zone in conjunction with his AO/TAZ, he can authorize all clearances to fire and has the flexibility to immediately engage targets of opportunity that are located in these areas.

Observation: Obtaining a Specified Strike Zone(s) in conjunction with a TADM or AO can expedite fire support reaction times.

3. (U) Training and Organization: None.

4. (C) Intelligence:

COUNTER MORTAR RADAR

Item: Deployment of Counter Mortar Radars.

Discussion: Additional AN/MPS-4A Radars arrived in country in September 1967. Six were allocated for employment in the III CTZ. These radars were stationed at TAM SON MHU, BHYL HOA, PHU LU and NHK RE in accordance with established priorities to provide a more nearly optimum defense for these installations. These radars were received minus the power units and Basic Issue Line Items (BILL). A subsequent proposal to deploy these radars to I CTZ has required the requisitioning of associated equipment since many of the items were not in country. These items are considered essential when new equipment is to be deployed in the field.

Observation: Procedures should be established in COMUS to ensure that basic issue line items are available before a major piece of equipment is issued to the field.

5. (U) Logistics: None.

6. (U) Other: None.
SECTION II, PART 2 - RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. (U) Personnel: None.

2. (U) Operations:
   Item: Meteorological Equipment.

   Discussion: Maintaining the operational readiness of artillery meteorological sections within II FORCEN is difficult. This results from the age of RAWIN Sets, AN/GD-1 (A or B), the shortage of spare parts and the marginal maintenance support provided by direct and general support units. The maintenance of float equipment by the II FORCEN Artillery Meteorological Quality Control Team would reduce downtime by providing immediate replacement equipment to units without the loss of time at direct support and general support units. Presently, this Meteorological Quality Control Team is not authorized float equipment; however, a letter was submitted to 1st Logistical Command in January 1967 requesting approval of this action. No action has been taken to date.

   Recommendation: That the II FORCEN Meteorological Quality Control Team be authorized to stock specified meteorological equipment as maintenance float items.

3. (U) Training and Organisation: None.

4. (U) Intelligence: None.

5. (C) Logistics:
   Item: Repair Parts for Deadlined Artillery Weapons.

   Discussion: The responsiveness of the current system in effect for obtaining repair parts for deadlined artillery weapons is causing extended periods of downtime. Current stock records for repair parts at in-country depots do not reflect accurate locations or quantities. In practice it has been found that information on these stock records does not correspond to the actual status of available repair parts.

   Recommendation: That maintenance support echelons establish procedures expediting flow of spare parts to deadlined equipment of supported units.

6. (U) Other: None.
AVFO-RE-H (15 Nov 67) 1st Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned for Quarterly Period Ending
31 October 1967 (RCS/CSFOR-65) (UIC-WDFU TO)

DA Hq II FFORCEV, APO San Francisco 96266 21 Nov 67/

THRU: Commanding General, USARV, ATTN: AVHQG-DH, APO 96370

Commander-In-Chief, US Army Pacific ATTN: GFOR-OT, APO 96556

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the
Army, Washington, D.C. 20310

1. Subject report is forwarded.

2. This command has reviewed the attached report and concurs with
the comments and recommendations with the following exceptions:

   Section I, p(4), par(6), Aircraft for Artillery Units. Action
has been taken by Hq II FFORCEV to provide II FFORCEV Arty with additional
aviators. Pending final action on MTOE, these aviators will be furnished
on TDU from within 12th Combat Aviation Group assets. A sufficient number
will be provided to maintain II FFORCEV Arty at 90% of requested MTOE
strength. This is in consonance with present DA policy that imposes a
90% aviator manning level on all units authorized aviation.

   Section II, p(7), par(2a), Operations. Concur in the recommenda-
tion that specified meteorological equipment be made available for main-
tenance float, but maintenance floats should be maintained by the DS
unit.

   Section II, p(7), par(5), New procedures for reporting deadlined
Artillery have recently been put into effect. This should expedite the
flow of spare parts for weapons.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

B. X. ft
CPT, AGC
Asst AG

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TO: Commander in Chief, United States Army, Pacific, ATTN: GPOP-DT, APO 96558

1. This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the quarterly period ending 31 October 1967 from Headquarters, II Field Force Vietnam Artillery (DHIH) as indorsed.

2. Pertinent comments follow:

a. Reference item concerning counter mortar radar, page 6, paragraph 4: Concur. A number of sets were shipped to RVN for use in cyclic overhaul exchange and were accepted less BIL (Basic Inventory List Items) for that reason. Because of tactical requirements these sets were issued to units, but this should not occur in the future.

b. Reference item concerning meteorological equipment, page 7, paragraph 2: Concur with the suggestion to establish a float at direct support level. Nonconcur in establishing one at organizational level. 1st Logistical Command is being advised to establish the float.

c. Reference item concerning repair parts for deadlined artillery weapons, page 7, paragraph 5: Concur with comments at 1st Indorsement, paragraph 2. This new procedure for reporting deadlined artillery will also permit placing redball requisitions earlier and at a lower level. As the maintenance units purify their records the existing system will provide adequate support.

3. A copy of this indorsement will be furnished to the reporting unit through channels.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

C. S. NAKATSUKASA
Captain, AGC
Assistant Adjutant General

cc: HQ, II FFORCEN Arty
    HQ, II FFORCEN

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GPOP-DT(15 Nov 67) 3d Ind (U)
SUBJECT: Operational Report for the Quarterly Period Ending 31 October 1967 from HQ, II Fld Force Vn, Arty (UIC: WMHMS) (RCS CSFOR-65) (U)

HQ, US ARMY, PACIFIC, APO San Francisco 96558 16 JAN 1968

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the Army, Washington, D. C. 20310

This headquarters has evaluated subject report and forwarding indorsements and concurs in the report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:

[Signature]

K. F. Osborn
MAJ, AGC
Asst AG

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ORGANIZATION OF II FFORCEV ARTILLERY

1. The following units are attached to Hq, II FFORCEV Artillery:
   a. Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 8th Target Acquisition Battalion.
   b. 19th AA Platoon, 2d Civil Affairs Company.

2. The following units are under the Operational Control of II FFORCEV Artillery:
   a. 23d Artillery Group.
      (1) 2d Battalion, 13th Artillery.
      (2) 1st Battalion, 27th Artillery.
      (3) 2d Battalion, 11th Artillery. (Presently attached Americal Div)
      (4) 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery.
      (5) 2d Battalion, 32d Artillery.
      (6) 17th AA Platoon, 2d Civil Affairs Company.
   b. 54th Artillery Group.
      (1) 7th Battalion, 9th Artillery.
      (2) 2d Battalion, 35th Artillery.
      (3) 3d Battalion, 16th Artillery. (Presently attached Americal Div)
      (4) 1st Battalion, 85d Artillery.
      (5) 7th Battalion, 8th Artillery.
      (6) 18th AA Platoon, 2d Civil Affairs Company.
   c. 5th Battalion (M) (SP), 2d Artillery.
      (1) Battery D (M), 71st Artillery.
      (2) Battery X (SP), 29th Artillery.

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<td>Btry B, 7th Bn, 8th Arty</td>
<td>BICH HOA</td>
<td>BICH HOA YT 025 147</td>
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<td>Btry C, 7th Bn, 8th Arty</td>
<td>BEN LUC</td>
<td>BEN LUC XS 637 766</td>
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<td>MHR, 5th Bn (AM) (SP), 2d Arty</td>
<td>LONG B†***</td>
<td>LONG BINH YT 128 114</td>
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<td>Btry A, 5th Bn, 2d Arty</td>
<td>PHU LOI</td>
<td>PHU LOI XT 810 220</td>
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<td>Btry B, 5th Bn, 2d Arty</td>
<td>CU CHI</td>
<td>CU CHI XT 650 170</td>
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<td>Btry C, 5th Bn, 2d Arty</td>
<td>BEAR CAT</td>
<td>BEAR CAT YT 160 000</td>
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<td>TAY NINH</td>
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<td>Btry D (MG), 71st Arty</td>
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<td>Hq Btry I (SIN), 29th Arty</td>
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<td>3rd Plt</td>
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ARTILLERY COVERAGE
AS OF 31 OCTOBER 1967

NOTE: The range capability circles shown are those of the 175 mm GUNS. The shorter range weapons circles are included within those of the 175 mm and therefore are not shown here.
SECRET

MISSIONS OF II FORCE ARTILLERY UNITS

1. 23d Artillery Group - General Support II FORCES and III ARVN Corps.
   a. 2d Bn, 13th Arty - GS-Reinf 1st Infantry Division Artillery.
   b. 2d Bn, 11th Arty - Attached Americal Division.
   c. 1st Bn, 27th Arty - GS.
      Btry A - GS-Reinf 1st Infantry Division Artillery.
   d. 6th Bn, 27th Arty - GS.
   e. 2d Bn, 32d Arty - GS.

2. 54th Artillery Group - General Support II FORCES and III ARVN Corps.
   a. 7th Bn, 9th Arty - GS-Reinf 9th Infantry Division Artillery.
   b. 2d Bn, 35th Arty - GS.
      (1) Btry A - GS-Reinf 1st Australian Task Force.
      (2) Btry B - GS-Reinf 18th ARVN Division.
      (3) Btry C - GS-Reinf 18th ARVN Division.
   c. 3d Bn, 16th Arty - Attached Americal Division.
   d. 1st Bn, 83d Arty - GS.
      (1) Btry A - GS-Reinf 1st Royal Australian Artillery.
      (2) Btry B - GS-Reinf 9th Infantry Division Artillery.
      (3) Btry C - GS-Reinf 18th ARVN Division.
   e. 7th Bn, 8th Arty - GS.
      (1) Btry A - GS-Reinf 9th Infantry Division Artillery, priority of
      fires to DONG NAI Sensitive Area.
      (2) Btry B - GS-Reinf 9th Infantry Division Artillery, priority of
      fires to DONG NAI Sensitive Area.
      (3) Btry C - GS-Reinf 9th Infantry Division Artillery

3. 5th Battalion (AW)(SP), 2d Artillery - General Support.
   Btry A - Attached 1st Infantry Division.
   Btry B - Attached 25th Infantry Division.
   Btry C - Attached 9th Infantry Division.
   Btry D - General Support.

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
DOD DR 5200.10

SECRET

Inclosure 4

MISSIONS
ARTY METRO COVERAGE
II FORCEV

Radius of each circle = 30 km
See app. 1 for unit location and broadcast times.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNIT</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>SCHEDULED BROADCAST TIMES</th>
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<td>Phuoc Vinh</td>
<td>0430--1030--1630--2230</td>
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<td>9th Inf Div Arty</td>
<td>Dong Tam</td>
<td>0200--0800--1400--2000</td>
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<tr>
<td>25th Inf Div Arty</td>
<td>Cu Chi</td>
<td>0230--0830--1430--2030</td>
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<td>Dau Tieng</td>
<td>0415--1015--1615--2215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th Bn, 27th Arty</td>
<td>Quan Loi</td>
<td>0200--0800--1400--2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th Bn, 8th Arty</td>
<td>Bien Hoa</td>
<td>0400--1000--1600--2200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th Bn, 25th Arty</td>
<td>Song Be</td>
<td>0215--0815--1415--2015</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

CONFIDENTIAL

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
DOD DIR 5200.10

APPENDIX 1 TO
Inclosure 5
Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, II Field Force Vietnam Artillery

Experiences of unit engaged in counterinsurgency operations, 1 Aug - 31 Oct 1967

CG, II Field Force Vietnam Artillery

15 November 1967

N/A

N/A

OACSFOR, DA, Washington, D.C. 20310