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**THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED**
SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery, Period Ending 30 April 1968 (U)

1. Subject report is forwarded for review and evaluation in accordance with paragraph 5b, AR 525-15. Evaluations and corrective actions should be reported to ACSFOR OT RD, Operational Reports Branch, within 90 days of receipt 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:

C. A. STANFIELD
Colonel, AG
Acting The Adjutant General

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2d Battalion, 138th Artillery
1st Squadron, 18th Air Cavalry (Sep)
3d Battalion, 6th Artillery
SUBJECT: Operational Report of 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery for Period
Ending 30 April 1968, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1)

See Distribution

Section 1, Operations: Significant Activities.

1. (U) General: The 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery (105mm SP) consists of
a headquarters and headquarters battery, service battery and three howitzer
batteries. (Incl 1)

2. (C) Intelligence: a. During the period 1 February through 30 April,
enemy activity in the western highlands remained at a high level. Battery
A, 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery responded to the threat of the 5th Battalion,
95th Regiment in the Mang Yang Pass (BR2252) area. This NVA unit had been
making a concentrated effort to harass convoys on highway 193 and take out
this vital supply line since December of 1967. To provide surveillance
over the critical pass area, an FO party was employed on the northern side
of the Mang Yang Pass from 10 March to 30 April. During the latter part
of the reporting period enemy activity in this area has markedly increased.
Battery B, 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery remained in the Pleiku area, moving
between Plei Krong and highway 509. They provided fire support against
elements of the 174th NVA Regiment which had been active in the mountains
near highway 111 north of Pleiku. Battery B, in direct support of 1st
Squadron, 10th Cavalry appeared to force this unit to move from the High-
way 111 to a base area to the west.

b. Battery C, 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery, in direct support of Task
Force 1/12 operated in AO Wainwright from 3 March to 22 April to search out
and destroy the 32nd and 33rd NVA Regiments. Reliable intelligence reports
indicated that these units had been planning to attack and take control of
the provincial capital of Ban Me Thout. The imposing threat of US artillery
more than likely arrested these plans. Other than a brief, but heavy con-
tact on 20 March, the enemy in this AO has not chosen to stand and fight.
They have consistently moved beyond the artillery range fans.

c. Target Information Center: Due to the great distances among units
of the battalion, one Target Information Center could not effectively handle
all batteries. An SF element consisting of the assistant S2 sergeant and
the S2 clerk operated at the Oasis (ZAl127) constructing and operating a Tar-
gent Information Center for that area of the highlands until the Ban Me Thuot
operation began on 3 March. At this time the battalion liaison officer
at the Oasis assumed targeting duties at that location while the assistant
S2 moved to Ban Me Thuot to construct another Target Information Center
and to coordinate aerial reconnaissance for the task force.
SUBJECT: Operational report of 3rd Battalion, 6th Artillery for Period ending 30 April 1968, RG 260-55 (P1)

It would have been extremely difficult for one battalion Target Information Center to provide targeting for units scattered in three provinces. For the period when the battalion was operating in such a wide area, the two Target Information Centers were most effective.

3. (C) Operations and Training Activities:

a. Operations:

(1) References:

(a) Artillery ITRIP 1 February to 30 April.

(b) Daily Staff Journal (Operations).

(2) Attachments: Battery C, 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery was temporarily attached to the battalion during the period 1 March to 23 April 1968. The 2d2d Radar Detachment, 6th Battalion, 26th Artillery, was attached to the battalion during the period 16 March to 23 April 1968. Metro Section s2, headquarters battery 6th Target Acquisition Battalion, 26th Artillery, was attached to the battalion during the period 5 March to 23 April 1968.

Attachments: Battery A, 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery was detached from the battalion and temporarily attached to the 2d Battalion, 17th Artillery during the period 9 March to 30 April 1968.

(3) The battalion was assigned the following missions for the periods indicated:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Feb to 30 Apr 68</td>
<td>Battalion GS 4th Infantry Division</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Feb to 19 Feb 68</td>
<td>Battery A GS 4th Infantry Division</td>
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<td>1 Feb to 3 Mar 68</td>
<td>Battery C GSR 4th Br, 42nd Arty, 4th Inf Div</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Feb to 12 Mar 68</td>
<td>Battery 3 GSR 4th Br, 42nd Arty, 4th Inf Div</td>
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<td>19 Feb to 9 Mar 68</td>
<td>Battery A GSR, 4th Br, 42nd Arty, 4th Inf Div</td>
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<td>4 Mar to 22 Apr 68</td>
<td>Battalion (-) DS Task Force 1/12, 4th Inf Div</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 Mar to 22 Apr 68</td>
<td>Battery C DS Task Force 1/12, 4th Inf Div</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 Mar to 30 Apr 68</td>
<td>Battery A temporarily attached to 2nd Br, 17th Arty</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 Mar to 30 Apr 68</td>
<td>Battery A DS 1st Br, 17th Cav, 4th Inf Div</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 Apr to 30 Apr 68</td>
<td>Battery C GSR 4th Br, 42nd Arty, 4th Inf Div</td>
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(b) From 1 to 19 February, Battery A occupied a position at
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SUBJECT: Operational Report of 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery for Period ending 30 April 1966, ROC CP FOR-05 (R1)

Artillery hill (Z42253). Mission: GS 4th Inf Div, supporting Plaiku defense activities. During this period, the battery conducted twelve one-day hip shoot operations from positions north of Plaiku as road security for resupply convoys moving on Highway 1H from Plaiku to Kontum, while displaced on 1 February to grid Z42057155. Battery A fired at an estimated IVA platoon in the open and was credited with two enemy KIA. During this period, the battery fired a number of counter-mortar and counterrocket missions, and fired from hip shoot positions at a number of intelligence targets, destroying many bunkers and foxholes and causing secondary explosions. The battery expended a total of 2305 rounds during this period.

(a) On 3 February, Battery A occupied a position at grid Z419669d, 1000 meters from this hip shoot position, the battery received sporadic small arms fire. The battery fired 33 rounds and the sniper fire ceased. The battery also fired at an estimated company-size enemy base camp and was credited with three enemy KIA in addition to five foxholes and four bunkers destroyed. On 6 February, Battery A received small arms fire at grid Z4195610, proceeding to a hip shoot location at grid Z4235705. A battalion air observer adjusted artillery fire and the sniper fire ceased.

(b) On 6 February, Battery A moved to a hip shoot/convoy security position at grid Z41975205. One of the battery's 105 howitzers hit a vine 50 meters south of this position. One road wheel was severed and the right track was broken. At the same time the battery received small arms fire from the side of the road and returned the fire with all organic weapons, less the 105mm howitzers. No personnel were injured, and the battery moved to a new position at grid Z41936663 before returning to Artillery Hill (Z42253).

(c) On 14 February, Battery A moved six howitzers to a hip shoot position at grid Z41151408. One of the battery's 105 howitzers hit a vine 50 meters south of this position. One road wheel was severed and the right track was broken. At the same time the battery received small arms fire from the side of the road and returned the fire with all organic weapons, less the 105mm howitzers. No personnel were injured, and the battery moved to a new position at grid Z41936663 before returning to Artillery Hill (Z42253).

(d) At 180015E February, Battery A fired the 150,000th round expended by the battalion since its arrival in the Republic of Vietnam. The round was fired by LTC Marvin K. Chase, battalion commander.

(e) On 8 February, Battery C moved from Duc Co (Z4182715) to grid Z42033115. Mission 04R 1st Battalion, 62nd Artillery. Three howitzers then proceeded to the Oasis (Z41053726) to support heavy 35 contact at grid Z4353755. On 7 February the remaining three howitzers joined the battery at the Oasis. The battery moved on 8 February to a hip shoot position at grid Z416203352 to support a 2nd Battalion, 8th Infantry sweep east of the Chatka tea plantation and then returned to the Oasis. The battery remained at the Oasis until 24 February, supporting the 2nd Battalion, 6th Infantry and 7th Battalion, 17th Cavalry. During this period Battery C fired a total of 1633 rounds. On 24 February, Battery C moved from grid Z410832726 to grid Z4228791.
(6) On 7 February Battery B moved from grid YA964439 to a new position at grid YA151009. From 6 to 12 February, the battery occupied a position at grid YA05903115. Mission: GSR 4th Battalion, 42nd Artillery. From 12 to 29 February, Battery B occupied a position at grid YA9624399. Mission: GSR 4th Battalion, 42nd Artillery. On 18 February, the battery moved five howitzers to a position at grid YA653565 for a one day operation in support of 1st squadron, 10th Cavalry elements returning to their base camp at grid YA9624399. During this period, the battery fired Red Haze missions, destruction missions, propaganda missions for leaflet dispersion, intelligence missions and interdiction fires. From 29 February to 12 March, Battery B occupied a position at grid YA123183. Mission: GSR 4th Battalion, 42nd Artillery. On 6 March, a helicopter received ground fire in the vicinity of grid YA354439. Battery B fired in support, and the ground fire ceased, three unconfirmed NVA KIA resulted. The battery also fired at an enemy base camp and one secondary explosion was reported during this mission.

(7) From 19 to 29 February, Battery A occupied a position at grid YA928706 (Cay hill). Mission: GSR 4th Battalion, 42nd Artillery. During this period the battery covered the Duc Co (YA84124) Special Forces camp and fired at bunker complexes, intelligence targets, and known and suspected enemy locations. From 29 February to 2 March, Battery A occupied a position at grid YA1200206. Mission: GSR 4th Battalion, 42nd Artillery. During this period the battery fired destruction missions, known enemy location missions, and interdiction fires. From 2 to 9 March, Battery A occupied a position at grid YA091116, relieving Battery C, 5th Battalion, 16th Artillery in place. Mission: GSR 4th Battalion, 42nd Artillery. During this period the battery fired in support of US elements in contact, intelligence missions, and interdiction missions.

(8) On 28 February, the battalion was alerted to establish a Battalion Forward Tactical Operations Center in the vicinity of San Ke Thoot to provide a tactical and technical fire direction center for an organic 105 SP battery (Battery C, 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery), a 155 SP battery (Battery B, 5th Battalion, 16th Artillery) and an 8 inch SP battery (Battery C, 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery).

(a) On 1 March, Battery C, 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery, was temporarily attached to the battalion. Battery C, 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery moved from An Khe (E458436) to Artillery Hill (Z42253). Mission: GSR Battery C, 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery, to support Task Force 1/12.

(b) On 2 March Battery C, 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery, Battery C, 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery and battalion (-) elements departed Artillery Hill and arrived at Camp Anari, 1st Inf Div base camp (WA0365), in preparation for convoy move to the San Ke Thoot area.

(c) On 3 March, elements of Headquarters and Service Batteries 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery, Battery C, 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery, Battery C, 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery and Battery B, 5th Battalion, 16th Artillery departed locations at Artillery Hill and Camp Anari (WA0365), by convoy and moved to a fire base location north of San Ke Thoot (AQ332857). The fire
base was collocated with elements of 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry. The missions of the elements were headquarters 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery (HQ 3d Battalion, 12th Infantry), Battery C, 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery (HQ 3d Battalion, 12th Infantry), Battery C, 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery (GSR Battery C, 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery) and Battery H, 5th Battalion, 16th Artillery (GSR Battery C, 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery). The Fire Support Base remained at this location until 13 March. On 7 and 9 March, Battery C moved on one-day operations to grids A083120 and A0896253 respectively. During this period, Battery C, 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery and Battery C, 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery fired contact missions in support of 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry elements in contact, destruction missions and a large number of intelligence missions. Battery C, 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery was credited with 1 NVA KIA on 7 March, in a mission fired at several enemy in a bunker complex. On 6 March, a battalion air observer in an O1 aircraft received ground fire while out of artillery range at A0891235. The pilot attacked with rockets which resulted in 1 NVA KIA confirmed and 1 NVA KIA unconfirmed.

(d) On 5 March, a battalion liaison team departed Artillery Hill (222653) to establish liaison with artillery elements of the 23d AVN Division in Ben He Thuot City.

(e) On 6 March, Metro Section #2, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 6th Target Acquisition Battery, 26th Artillery was designated OPON to the battalion at Ben He Thuot City to support elements of the battalion in the area.

(f) On 10 March, the Fire Support Base occupied by Battery C, 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery, Headquarters 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery (-), Battery H, 5th Battalion, 16th Artillery and Battery C, 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery received an unknown caliber mortar attack from 0055H to 0110H. No rounds landed inside the perimeter at grid A0896253. Task Force artillery immediately located the mortar flashes with aiming circles and brought artillery fire on target. The mortar fire ceased. At 102337H March, a battalion liaison officer reported incoming 82mm mortars and 75mm recoiless fire in Ben He Thuot City and Ben He Thuot East (46877015). Approximately 25 rounds landed at Ben He Thuot East where the battalion trains and Ammunition Supply Point were located. Negative casualties or damage to the battalion were reported from both locations.

(g) On 13 March, the battalion Forward Headquarters, Battery C, 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery and Battery C, 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery moved from grid A0932287 to establish a new fire support base at grid A0925109, to support a combined US-ARVN operation north of Ben He Thuot. The battalion Forward Tactical Operations Center remained at this location until 6 April. Battery C, 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery fired in support of Task Force elements in contact and was credited with 1 VC KIA on 2 April. Battery C, 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery remained at this location until 30 March, and fired during this period in support of US and ARVN elements in contact, a Vietnamese village under mortar attack (mortars silenced), and numerous intelligence missions.
On 16 March, the 22nd Radar Detachment, 6th Battalion, 26th Artillery, was made OPCON to the battalion and arrived at Ben To Thoat airfield (A805039) from Qui Nhon.

On 18 March, Battery C, 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery fired in defense of the village of Anom Sa Pur (A942014). Intelligence reports indicated 2 VC were KIA and 4 WIA.

On 20 March, Battery C, 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery displaced to A762129. At approximately 1100, Company A, 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry made contact with enemy units at A7226193, as both units were moving down a trail. Artillery was called in and the contact continued as Company B, 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry and Company C, 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry moved up to support, while the NVA attacked the companies. Continuous artillery fire was brought to bear on the enemy from Battery C, 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery, Battery C, 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery and Battery B, 5th Battalion, 16th Artillery. Contact was broken approximately 201330 on March when the enemy withdrew, although sporadic contact continued throughout the day. On 21 March, 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry received a short mortar and 81/0 rocket attack. All units fired in support and final police of the battlefield found 41 NVA KIA and 2 NVA WIA CIA with numerous equipment found on the battlefield. The Commanding Officer, Company A, 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry attributed a minimum of 12 KIA to artillery; indications are that 20 or more NVA were killed by artillery.

On 30 March, Battery C, 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery moved two howitzers to Ban Theut East (A887018). On 31 March, conversion of these two 8 inch howitzers to 175mm was completed and the howitzers returned to the battalion fire base at grid A92910.

On 5 April, Battery C, 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery occupied a position at Ben To Thoat East (A877018) with the mission of G.O.R Battery C, 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery (Fire Support Base), and support of Special Forces operations south of Ben To Thoat. From 6 to 22 April, the battery occupied a position at grid A78100117. During this period, the battery fired numerous intelligence targets in addition to moving two 6 inch howitzers on a two day operation at A780037 to support move of Task Force 12 elements to new fire base at grid A783177. On 16 April, the battery fired 60 rounds in a preparation for Special Forces personnel. A sweep of the area found 9 VC bodies killed by artillery.

From 6 to 11 April, the battalion forward headquarters and Battery C occupied a position at grid A835288, mission D: Task Force 12. On 8 April, 10-15 82mm mortar rounds were received. A forward observer from Battery C, 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery observed flashes and Battery C fired countermortar fires. Results: negative casualties or damage to the battalion. Enemy casualties unknown.

On several occasions between 30 March and 21 April Battery C, 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery, Battery D, 5th Battalion, 16th Artillery and Battery C, 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery fired in defense of the new life hamlet of Quang Nieu. Known results are 1 KIA. Two Chieu Koi turned themselves in to authorities in the area because they feared the artillery.
SUBJECT: Operational Report of 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery for Period Ending 30 April 1968

(o) From 11 to 22 April, the battalion (-) and Battery C occupied a position at grid A(2)1717. Mission: 1/12 Task Force 1/12. On 19 April, Battery C moved back to the fire base at grid A(2)3020 and fired a large number of intelligence missions. From 21 to 22 April, Battery C occupied a position at grid B(0)3023, where the battery fired additional intelligence targets.

(p) On 22 April, Task Force 1/12 departed from Thuot and all battalion artillery supporting the operation closed at Artillery Hill (4A:253). Battery C, 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery was detached from the battalion and departed Artillery Hill to Bien Hoa. The fire and radar from 8th Battalion, 26th Artillery were detached at this time and attached to Battery B, 5th Battalion, 22nd Artillery.

(9) An Artillery After Action Report for Task Force 1/12 was submitted to Commanding General 1st ARVN Artillery on 5 May 1968.

(10) On 9 March, Battery A, 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery was placed OPON to the 3d Battalion, 17th Artillery, and moved to a new location at grid BR12115372. At approximately 1100H, a 556 ammunition track vehicle caught fire at grid 24150338. The 556 was destroyed along with 111 rounds 556, 5 rounds 106, 3 rounds M5 and 100 7D fuzes. Cause of the explosion was a fire in the engine compartment. No personnel were injured. On 10 March, Headquarters Battery and Service Battery personnel made a ground sweep of the location of the destroyed 556 with 500 personnel to mark locations of unexploded ammunition. On 10 March, Battery A moved from grid BR12115322 to grid BR2624721 (Hai Yen Pass). The necessary security was not accomplished at the new location and Battery A returned to grid BR12115322 before dark. From 12 March to 30 March, Battery A occupied a position at grid BR262472, mission of OPON 2nd Battalion, 17th Artillery. During this period Battery A fired in support of U.S. forces in contact, intelligence missions, destruction and neutralization fires, and interdiction missions. On 11 April the battery received 10-20 82mm mortars with 6-7 rounds landing inside the perimeter. Three rounds landed within 5 meters of the base place with one round impacting directly on top of the self-propelled howitzer. No 7A was placed on the base place and all howitzers continued to fire during the mortar attack. Result: Five battery personnel lightly 7A, 3 of which were evacuated, and 1 pantal sight damaged.

(11) From 12 to 14 March, Battery B occupied a position at grid A2955396, mission of 1st Battalion, 10th Cavalry. During this period the battery fired intelligence and interdiction fires. From 14 to 21 March, Battery B occupied a position at grid VA183607, with no change of mission. During this period the battery fired in support of 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry elements in contact, intelligence and interdiction missions. From 21 to 24 March, Battery B, 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery occupied a position at grid AAO9572.2. On 25 March, the battery departed with A Troop, 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry and B Troop, 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry to a new position at grid TA99383. From 29 March to 7 April, Battery B occupied a position at grid AAO9572.5. During this period the battery fired at lights and movement believed to be an advance party trying to ford a river where the battery had destroyed a bridge. From 7 to 21 April, Battery B occupied
a position at grid ZA124480. From 18 to 24 April, two of the battery howitzers occupied a position at Artillery Hill (ZA2253) to support Pleiku area defense elements. From 21 to 25 April, Battery B occupied a position at grid ZA178222. From 25 to 27 April Battery C occupied a position at grid ZA88182. From 27 thru 30 April, Battery B occupied a position at grid ZA12572.

(12) From 23 to 25 April, Battery C occupied a position at grid ZA059311. Mission: GSR 4th Battalion, 6th Artillery. From 25 to 27 April, Battery C occupied a position at grid ZA078222. No change in mission, however, priority of fires to the 1st Battalion, 62nd Infantry (ARVN), conducting an operation to return villages to Doan Kheo. From 29 thru 30 April Battery C occupied a position at grid ZA059311. During this period the battery fired intelligence, contact and interdiction missions.

(13) On 5 February, all the battalion's FAALC computers were re-programmed and registrations were fired. Also, FLC classes were conducted for firing M114 ammunition (classes given by Operations Officer).

(14) From 7 to 10 February, all battalion M108 howitzers were calibrated with the exception of two Battery B howitzers which were discarded at the battalion base camp (ZA2253) and scheduled for tube change within 30 days.

(15) From 12 February to 14 February, the Battery Test and Evaluation Team conducted a test of all firing battery sections of Battery B, 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery.

(16) From 15 February to 18 February, the Battery Test and Evaluation Team conducted a test of all firing battery sections of C Battery, 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery.

(17) On 17 February, elements of headquarters battery and Service Battery moved to the Oasis (ZA1127) to begin construction of a battalion Forward Tactical Operations Center.

(18) On 20 February, a Service Battery tanker vehicle with trailer was traveling west on highway 509 to resupply Battery B when it came under small arms fire in the vicinity of grid YA995416. The driver lost control and the vehicle hit a ditch and overturned. The driver and assistant driver walked to Battery B fire base and the vehicle and trailer were recovered. Results: no friendly casualties, no enemy casualties, heavy damage to vehicle and trailer, two M-14 rifles missing. Five bullet holes were found in the POL vehicle.

(19) From 20 February to 22 February, the Battery Test and Evaluation Team conducted a test of all firing battery sections of Battery A, 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery.

(20) On 23 February, a revised battalion Tactical SOP was distributed to all elements within the battalion. The Battery Test and Evaluation Team conducted a test of sections in headquarters and Service Batteries.
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SUBJECT: Operational Report of 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery for Period Ending 30 April, 1968 (R1)

(21) On 1 March, battalion Change of Command ceremonies took place and LTC Alonzo S. Krotzer assumed command of the battalion from LTC Marvin K. Chase.

(22) From 20 to 22 March, the battalion received its Annual General Inspection. The inspection team inspected Headquarters Battery and Service Battery, the battalion forward elements and all firing batteries which were inspected in the field. The battalion received a rating of satisfactory.

(23) On 29 March, the battalion patrol was returning from a night location and were loading into a vehicle at grid 2A217545 when a fragmentation grenade detonated on the belt of one of the patrol members climbing into the vehicle. Results: 3 US KIA, 4 light WIA, minor damage to the vehicle.

(24) The battalion operated in MacArthur AO for 90 days, and in Wainwright AO (Operation Task Force 1/12) for 50 days. A total of 55 days of troop movement occurred during the reporting period. Training was conducted by elements of the battalion each day, 93 days of training was completed. 25,688 rounds were expended during the reporting period (see Inc 2).

b. Training:

(1) A total of ten newly assigned officers attended the I FORCE Artillery Fire Direction School.

(2) A total of five newly assigned officers attended the I FORCE Artillery Forward Observer School.

(3) A three-man instructor team conducted classes for Special Forces personnel on the 105mm howitzer. This training was for a period of three days.

(4) Direct fire exercises were conducted by the howitzer batteries using both E2 and Shaoivo ammunition during the reporting period.

(5) All sections in the battalion were evaluated during the reporting period.

(6) The battalion published a weekly training schedule during the reporting period.

Section 2, Lessons Learned: Commander's Observations, Evaluations, and Recommendations.

1. (0) Personnel: None

2. (C) Operations:

a. OBSERVATION. During the conduct of operations with Task Force 1/12, headquarters 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery exchanged liaison officers with the 23rd ARVN Division at DTNC in Ben Ha Thoat.

b. EVALUATION. On 5 March 1968, a liaison officer was placed with the ARVN headquarters to coordinate US and ARVN artillery fires in the Ben Ha

The Thuc area. He was responsible for clearing US artillery fires through ARVN headquarters, and province and district personnel. He had the added responsibility of arranging for ARVN artillery to fire in support of US units and the clearance of fires for US artillery to fire for ARVN units and installations. He coordinated the activities of the US artillery with local representatives to fire in defense of many of the villages in the Ban Me Thuot area. Defensive targets for ten villages were preplanned and fired in by US artillery. On three occasions during attacks on villages, the firing of their preplanned defensive targets helped the defenders ward off the attacks. The 23rd ARVN Division supplied a liaison officer to Task Force 11/12 artillery. He cleared fires in the task force AO and coordinated directly with ARVN FO's on the ground to support ARVN forces, thereby facilitating the clearance of all fires in support of US ground operations. Defensive targets in support of the Fire Support Base were fired using ARVN artillery.

c. RECOMMENDATION. On all subsequent operations a liaison officer should be provided to the supported ARVN artillery headquarters. For combined operations, an English speaking ARVN liaison officer should be requested to join the US artillery.

3. (U) Training: None

4. (U) Intelligence: None

5. (C) Logistics:
   a. Use of Armored Vehicle Launched Bridge.
      (1) OBSERVATION. Task Force 1/12, whose artillery support was self-propelled artillery, was not augmented by an AVLB.
      (2) EVALUATION. On several occasions during conduct of operations with Task Force 1/12, the courses of action available to the commander were limited because the artillery was unable to traverse the steep banked streams in the area. This restricted plans to move artillery closer to the enemy in the area. The task force commander could have moved without restriction in the Ban Me Thuot area with self-propelled artillery if he had had one AVLB.
      (3) RECOMMENDATIONS. Any task force, which has self-propelled howitzers as its primary artillery support should be augmented with an AVLB. AVLB's are available at Division level and the request should be submitted to the Division G3 as soon as possible upon receipt of an alert order.

b. Use of Bulldozer.
   (1) OBSERVATION. A bulldozer can be used effectively by an artillery unit to prepare positions.
   (2) EVALUATION. Task Force 1/12 had a bulldozer which was utilized in the construction of position areas. A bulldozer can clear fields of fire.
SUBJECT: Operational Report of 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery for period ending 30 April 196 _, RCS CSPOR-65 (T1)

rapidly, it can be used to remove site-to-ask obstacles, and it can get all weapons systems and ammunition dug in rapidly. It also can construct periscopes for observation, and can speed the construction of the operations center and personnel counters.

3) RECOMMENDATIONS. Bulldozers are available at brigade level through the supporting engineers. Immediately upon receipt of an alert order for movement the request for a bulldozer should be submitted to the supporting engineers so that it joins the column and is immediately available upon occupation of position.

6. (W) Organization: None

7. (W) Other: None

3 Incl
1. Organization
2. Ammunition Expenditure
3. CAAR Op--Bn--NE--THUD--
Withdrawn, Hqs, DA; pub sep as CAAR

DISTRIBUTION: 68X023
2 - CINCPAC
3 - USJFV
6 - CO, 52nd Arty Group
5 - CO, 3d Bn, 6th Arty

ALONZO S. KRETZER
LTC, Arty
Commanding

//

CONFIDENTIAL
AVGG-CO (2 May 68) 1st Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report of 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery for Period
Ending 30 April 1968, RCS CSFCR-65 (R1)

DA, HQ, 52d Artillery Group, APO 96318 12 May 1968

TO: Commanding General, IFFV Artillery, ATTN: ANFA-AT-D, APO 96350

1. Forwarded.

2. I concur in the contents of the basic report and the recommendations
found in Section 2, Lessons Learned.

Hal E. Halloran
Colonel, Artillery
Commanding
CONFIDENTIAL

AVFA-AT-D (2 May 1968) 2d Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report of 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery for Period
Ending 30 April 1968, (RG3: CSFOR-65) (R1)

DA, Headquarters, I Field Force Vietnam Artillery, APO 96350

TO: Commanding General, I Field Force Vietnam, ATTN: AVFA-GC-OT, APO 96350

1. (C) Reference paragraph 2(c), section 2, page 10, Operations. Concur.

2. (C) Reference paragraph 5(a)(3), section 2, page 10, Use of Armored
Vehicle Launched Bridge. Concur.

3. (C) Reference paragraph 5(b)(3), section 2, page 11, Use of Bulldozer.
Concur.

4. (C) Reference paragraph 4, ANNEX F (Logistics) to Combat After Action
Report. Concur. IFFV Q4 coordinates the establishment of a FSA. The
62d Maintenance Battalion, a unit of the 1st Logistical Command, provided
the Task Force support on a top priority basis.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

GERALD G. YOUNG
Major, Artillery
Adjutant

Downgraded at 3 year intervals
Declassified after 12 years
DOD DIR 5800.10
AVFA-GS-CT (2 May 68) 3d Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report of 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery for Period Ending 30 April 1968 RCS GSFOR-65 (R1)

DA, Headquarters, I Field Force Vietnam, APO 96350 29 May 1968

TO: Commanding General, United States Army Vietnam, ATTN: AVHGC-DST, APO 96350

Concur.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

[Signature]

Copy furnished: IFFORCEV Acty

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL.
AVHGC-DST (2 May 68) 4th Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report of 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery for Period Ending 30 April 1968, RCS CSFOR-65 (RL)

HEADQUARTERS, US ARMY VIETNAM, APO San Francisco 96375 2 JUN 1968

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 30 April 1968 from Headquarters, 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery as indorsed.

2. Concur with report as submitted.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

C. S. NAKATSUKASA
Captain, AGC
Assistant Adjutant General

Copy furn:
HQ I FFV
HQ 3-6 Arty
GPOP-DT (2 May 68) (U) 5th Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report of HQ 3d Bn, 6th Arty for Period Ending
30 April 1968, RCS CSPOR-65 (R1)
HQ, US Army, Pacific, APO San Francisco 96558 13 JUN 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 indorse-
ments and concurs in the report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:

[Signature]

K. F. OSBOURN
MAJ, AGC
Asst AG
ORGANIZATION

3D HOWITZER BATTALION 6TH ARTILLERY

TOE 6-465 G

FA HOW BTRY
105mm SP
OFF 38 WO 5 EN 162

1ST AND HQ BTRY
OFF 15 WO 2 EM 101

FA HOW BTRY
OFF 7 EM 93

SVC BTRY
OFF 2 WO 3 EM 82
# AMMUNITION EXPENDITURE

1. **Total ammunition expended by type:**
   - a. HE: 23,194
   - b. Illumination: 523
   - c. White Phosphorous: 1294
   - d. Smoke: 855
   - e. Beehive: 19
   - f. Propaganda: 3

2. **Ammunition expended by the mission by battery:**
   
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Battery A</th>
<th>Battery B</th>
<th>Battery C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Confirmed</td>
<td>2423</td>
<td>586</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquired</td>
<td>1104</td>
<td>1547</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counterbattery</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preparation</td>
<td>314</td>
<td>391</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interdiction</td>
<td>5893</td>
<td>2090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Purpose</td>
<td>1311</td>
<td>1213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. **Number of enemy killed and wounded by battery:**
   
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Battery A</th>
<th>Battery B</th>
<th>Battery C</th>
<th>Probable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Confirmed</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Incl. 2
Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Hqs, 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery (U)

Experiences of unit engaged in counterinsurgency operations, 1 Feb - 30 Apr 68

CO, 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery

2 May 1968

19

682073

N/A

N/A

OACSFOR, DA, Washington, D.C. 20310