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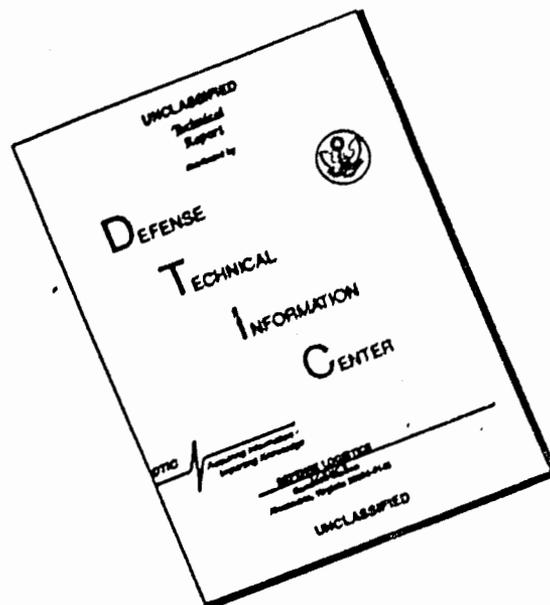
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**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310**



AD391294

IN REPLY REFER TO

AGAM-P (M)(25 June 68) FOR OT RD 682228

1 July 1968

**SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 6th
Battalion, 32d Artillery, Period Ending 30 April 1968 (U)**

SEE DISTRIBUTION

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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, AGC
Acting The Adjutant General**

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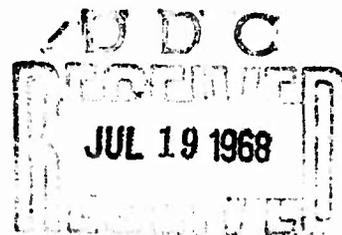
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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 6TH BATTALION, 32D ARTILLERY
APO San Francisco 96316

AVGR-AI-OP

6 May 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 6th Battalion, 32d Artillery
for Period Ending 30 April 1968 (MCS CSFCR-65) (U).

See Distribution

1. Section 1. Significant Organization or Unit Activities.

a. (C) General. (1) During the reporting period the battalion continued its mission of providing artillery support in the central coastal region of II Corps Tactical Zone. The battalion remains attached directly to I Field Force Vietnam Artillery. The battalion headquarters, headquarters battery, service battery, rear detachments of the three organic firing batteries, and units under the operational control of this headquarters, remain located near Phu Hiep, south of Tuy Hoa in Phu Yen Province. From this location, the battalion supervises, coordinates, and controls the operations of the units under its command. Elements of the battalion provide assistance and support as required to include, all classes of logistical supplies, tactical and technical fire direction, aerial observations, communications, survey, and medical support.

(2) In mid February the battalion assumed responsibility to provide fire support coordination for the 173d Airborne Brigade in Area of Operation Bolling, and coordinating and controlling the fires of batteries C and D, 3d Battalion, 319th Artillery, the direct support artillery of the brigade.

(3) The battalion continued to maintain liaison sections with the Ninth Republic of Korea Infantry Division Artillery, the 28th Regiment of the Ninth Republic of Korea Infantry Division, the 25th Regiment of the Capital Republic of Korea Infantry Division, the 47th Regiment of the 22d Army of Vietnam Infantry Division, and with fire support responsibility of Operation Bolling, established liaison with the 173d Airborne Brigade (separate). All liaison sections are manned and equipped from organic resources. In addition, the battalion provides both ground and air observers as required or requested by the supported units.

(4) Battery A, 6th Battalion, 32d Artillery, with attachments, located near Dong Tre, BQ905704, continues with the mission of general support of Free World Military Forces in the Dong Tre, Dong Luc, Tuy An and Song Cau areas. On 14 February 1968, the battery became a composite 8 inch/175mm battery when two 8" Howitzers were retubed to 175mm Guns. This made all three organic firing batteries of the 6th Battalion, 32d Artillery composite.

(5) Battery B, 6th Battalion, 32d Artillery, located south of Minh

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6 May 1966

SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 6th Battalion, 32d Artillery
for period ending 30 April 1966 (A.O. 6.1.1.15) (1).

Hoa, BP962766, continues with the mission of general support-reinforcing the fires of the Ninth Republic of Korea Infantry Division Artillery.

(6) Battery C, 6th Battalion, 32d Artillery, was located at North Airfield, Tuy Hoa, CQ152482, with the mission of general support Free World Military Forces in the Tuy Hoa area. On 21 March 1963, the battery displaced inland to a permanent position and collocated at a Republic of Korean Army fire support base in vicinity of Phuoc My, CQ118383 to more effectively use the full 6400 mil capability.

(7) During the reporting period, the firing batteries participated in long and short duration artillery raids which provided rapid artillery support in areas not covered from their fire bases. These operations proved very effective, and were often used by the maneuver/reinforced commanders to obtain mass, and achieve surprise on targets of opportunity and acquired targets.

(8) On 8 April 1966, the battalion had a Command Inspection conducted by I Field Force Vietnam Artillery, and received an overall satisfactory rating. Only satisfactory or unsatisfactory ratings are awarded.

b. (C) Intelligence. (1) During this reporting period this organization modified its categorizing of information for a 90 day evaluation. The basic area of interest remained the same but the 100,000 meter grid zones are subdivided into 10 kilometer squares instead of 20 kilometer strips running from east to west. This has resulted in a more selective area with only the information pertaining to the specific area recorded. This has eliminated unnecessary processing of information not in the zone of consideration. The old system is still being maintained for a comparative analysis at the end of the 90 day test period.

(2) Intelligence information is obtained from the following sources: I Field Force Vietnam Artillery Intelligence Summary, 26th Regiment, Capital Republic of Korea Infantry Division, 9th Republic of Korea Infantry Division, 173d Airborne Brigade, 47th Regiment, 22d Army Vietnam Division, 31st Tactical Fighter Intelligence Section, Combined Intelligence Center Vietnam studios, Military Assistance Command Vietnam Advisors, United States Special Forces units, 228th Aviation visual reconnaissance flights, and spot reports from all units. Because of the large volume of input, the information is separated into two major categories: immediate data and recorded data. Spot reports, agent reports not over 24 hours old, infrared photograph missions, Special Agent Reports and personnel detection (Snoopy) readings, constitute the immediate data. Recorded data includes all information obtained from INTSUNS, all agent reports over one day old, and all hard targets. Both categories of data, immediate and recorded are entered into the modified coordinate register and the card file.

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6 May 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 6th Battalion, 32d Artillery for Period Ending 30 April 1968 (RCS USARP-65) (U).

(3) **Coordinate Register:** A modified coordinate register was devised utilizing the 10 kilometer square of a 1:50,000 overprint of the one kilometer square blown up as described in FM 30-5. The coordinate register contains the following information: Incidents (friendly and enemy initiated), visual sightings, SPAR's, IN, Snoop, agent reports and hard targets. All of these are kept on an overlay for a period of one month. Each month a new overlay is started with the last month's overlay remaining in the coordinate register for continuous information. Each item is recorded in the coordinate register in an abbreviated form and is referred to the major intelligence report if more details are desired. When an overlay and recorded data are 60 days old they are removed from the coordinate register and filed for future reference in a card file.

(4) A card file with 3 major categories: unit identification, personalities, and hard targets were established. The hard target file was based on the same area as the coordinate register. It is further subdivided into types of fortifications: bunkers, foxholes with overhead cover, foxholes, trails, etc. A detailed description of each item is recorded for each sighting.

(5) **Photo File.** A photographic file is being established to perform accurate terrain analysis and target evaluation. Coordination was established to receive copies of all photo-reconnaissance missions in the area of interest. This provides a detailed description of the target area and specific or general intelligence can be obtained through comparative analysis with later flown missions. This file is also being used to determine possible landing zones for heliborne operations.

(6) The consolidated data is then evaluated to determine either acquired targets or interdiction targets which are more valid than a target used to deny the enemy's unrestricted use of the terrain.

(7) The S2 and S3 work closely in evaluating visual reconnaissance sightings, sensory detectors, agent reports, targets disseminated from supported units and ammunition expenditures. This evaluation has led to more effective employment of artillery and more efficient utilization of ammunition resources.

(8) On 16 April, this headquarters hosted the I Field Force Vietnam Artillery Intelligence Seminar and Workshop. The opening comments were presented by the Deputy Commanding Officer, I Field Force Vietnam Artillery. The following topics were presented to the S2's of I Field Force Vietnam: (1) Combined Intelligence Center Vietnam by the I Corps Tactical Zone Staff of Combined Intelligence Center Vietnam at Da Nang, (2) Targeting by the I Field Force Vietnam Fire Support Coordination Element, (3) Surveillance by First Military Intelligence Battalion.

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SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 6th Battalion, 32d Artillery
for Period Ending 30 April 1968 (RCS CSFOR-65) (U).

c. (C) Operations and Training activities. During the reporting period, the battalion spent 87 days in operations, one day in movement, and four days in training.

(1) Plans. The unit completed the relocation of its perimeter to improve the defense of its new base camp. The unit is presently repositioning its alternate defensive positions to provide continuous interlocking and grazing fields of fire from our alternate and primary defensive positions. A mine field was employed to augment the existing passive defenses. Permission to employ a mine field was received from Tuy Hoa Sub Area Command and charts of the mine field have been sent to appropriate agencies. Each defensive position and observation post has azimuth indicators which facilitate the locating of any ground position by intersection. This headquarters continuously strives to improve the passive defenses both in the base camp and in its organic batteries.

(2) Operations. (a) On 1 February 1968, the status of units organic, attached or under operational control (OPCON) of this headquarters was:

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>STATUS</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>MISSION</u>
6th Bn 32d Arty	Attached IFFV Arty	CQ254342	GS US/FMMAF II Corps Tactical Zone.
A/5/32 Arty	Organic	BQ905704	GS US/FMMAF
B/6/32 Arty	Organic	BP962768	GSR 9th ROK Div Arty
C/6/32 Arty	Organic	CQ118383	GS US/FMMAF
Hot Sec 6/32 Arty	Organic	BP962768	GS US/FMMAF Arty in Ninh Hoa area
A/4/60 Arty (-)(AH)	OPCON	BP962768	GS 6/32 Arty
3/B/29 Arty (SL)	OPCON	CQ254342	GS C/32 Arty
Hot Sec 8/26 Arty	OPCON	BQ905704	GS US/FMMAF Arty in Tuy Hoa area
Sec 210 A/4/60 Arty	OPCON	BP962768	DS B/6/32 Arty
Sec 220 A/4/60 Arty	OPCON	BQ905704	DS A/6/32 Arty
Sec 230 A/4/60 Arty	OPCON	BQ905704	DS A/6/32 Arty

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for Period Ending 30 April 1968 (RGS GSFOR-65) (U).

Sec 240 A/L/40 Arty	OPCON	CQ168383	DS C/6/32 Arty
Sec 861 3/B/29 Arty	Special Attachment	BQ905704	GS 9th ROK Div
Sec 871 3/B/29 Arty	Special Attachment	CQ118383	GS 9th ROK Div
Sec 880 3/B/29 Arty	Special Attachment	EP991853	GS 9th ROK Div
Sec 862 3/B/29 Arty	Special Attachment	CQ216327	GS 9th ROK Div
Sec 870 3/B/29 Arty	Special Attachment	CQ078345	GS 9th ROK Div
Sec 869 3/B/29 Arty	Special Attachment	EP962768	GS 9th ROK Div

(b) The following operational activities were conducted during the reporting period:

1. On 5 February 1968, Battery B displaced the 8 inch platoon to vicinity EP999856 to fire in support of the 9th Republic of Korea Division Artillery on known and suspect enemy locations developed by Republic of Korean intelligence sources. The platoon returned to fire base the same day.

2. On 8 February 1968, Metro Section 1, 6th Battalion, 26th Artillery under operational control of this headquarters, was diverted to displace to vicinity of BQ905704 in order to provide more favorable metro coverage. While enroute, one of the 2 1/2 ton truck carrying a COMEX container loaded with section equipment struck a pressure type mine destroying the vehicle. No casualties or other equipment damage resulted. The COMEX was helilifted to the new position area. The met section established operations and published their first message at 090200 February 1968.

3. On 11 February 1968, two additional searchlight sections from Battery B, 29th Artillery were placed under operational control of this headquarters, and were given the mission of general-support to Batteries A and C of this organization. Both batteries have the searchlights employed through their fire direction centers enabling their attached M42's (dusters) to mass on targets located by searchlight. Both Batteries have incorporated the searchlights into an extensive perimeter interdiction program.

4. On 14 February 1968, Battery A, this organization, was directed to retube two pieces to 175mm guns in order to provide increased coverage in their area of responsibility.

5. On 14 February 1968, Battery C, this organization, was

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6 May 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 6th Battalion, 32d Artillery for Period Ending 30 April 1968 (RCS CSFDR-65) (U).

given the mission of firing a preparation for maneuver elements of the 28th Regiment, 9th Republic of Korea Division. The 8 inch platoon displaced to vicinity CP257345 and the 175mm gun platoon remained in place in support of the assault.

6 On 17 February 1968, Battery B, this organization displaced the 175mm platoon to a position vicinity BP629870 to support a road opening and convoy movement operation on highway 21. The platoon closed back into its fire base the same day.

7 On 18 February 1968, Battery C, this organization, participated in a preparation by massing fires with two Republic of Korea artillery units in support of maneuver elements from the 28th Republic of Korea Infantry Regiment. The preparation terminated at 1155 hours with the insertion of helicopter assault units on the objectives. The versatility of the 8 inch/175mm composite battery was again demonstrated by the simultaneous engaging both near and far targets in support of the air assault without having to displace from the fire base.

8 On 20 February 1968, the battalion assumed fire support coordination responsibilities in the Bolling area of operation. This added task entailed establishing a fire support element at Headquarters, 173d Airborne Brigade equipped and manned from organic resources and providing a Fire Direction Center to control fires of the two 105mm Batteries supporting the brigade.

9 On 23 February 1968, Battery B, this organization displaced the 8 inch platoon to a firing position in vicinity BP986508 to mass fires with the organic 175mm gun platoon and Battery D, 5th Battalion, 27th Artillery on targets developed by I Field Force Vietnam Fire Support Element. Two 155mm howitzers from Battery E, 966th Artillery, Republic of Korea fired covering fires for the 8 inch platoon during displacement. The platoon returned to fire base the same day.

10 On 27 February 1968, a coordination meeting was held with the Naval Gun Fire Liaison team of Phu Yen Province, from Sub Unit 1, 1st Air and Naval Gun Fire Liaison section, Saigon. The utilization, limitations and capabilities of naval weapon systems were discussed and necessary operational codes were exchanged to facilitate rapid delivery of naval gun fires against enemy targets in the Bolling Area of Operation.

11 On 1 March 1968, Battery B, this organization displaced the 8 inch platoon to vicinity CP044678 to mass fires with a 155mm howitzer Republic of Korea battery on suspected infiltration routes and beach sites in vicinity CP1780. After firing acquired targets in support of the operation, the platoon returned to its fire base the same day.

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12 On 8 March 1968, Battery B, this organization displaced the 8 inch platoon to vicinity BP755877 and provided reinforcing fires for a 155mm Howitzer, Republic of Korea Battery. The missions fired included known and suspect enemy locations developed by G2, 9th Republic of Korea Division. The platoon returned to its base camp the same day.

13 On 14 March 1968, Battery C, this organization displaced the 8 inch platoon vicinity CQ257345 in support of a heliborne assault conducted by the 25th Republic of Korea Regiment. The battery (8 inch/175mm) participated in massing fires with direct support Republic of Korea artillery units on two preparation and numerous targets of opportunity. The platoon returned to its fire base the same day.

14 On 15 March 1968, the battalion fired its 100,000 round in support of Free World Military Assistance Forces (FWMF) since arrival in country.

15 On 21 March 1968, Battery C, this organization displaced to a new position area in vicinity of CQ118383 that afforded the unit greater security and provided more area coverage to support operations and defend Tuy Hoa. Both aims were achieved by the move, the unit is now co-located within a common perimeter defense scheme occupied by a Company (-) and a 155mm Howitzer Battery (-) of the 9th Republic of Korea Division. A greater area coverage is realized by having displaced further inland from the coast.

16 On 24 March 1968, Battery B, this organization, displaced the 8 inch platoon to vicinity CPO46694 to reinforce the fires of 9th Republic of Korean Division Artillery units engaging known and suspected enemy positions. The platoon returned to its fire base the same day.

17 On 24 March 1968, Battery A, this organization, was given the mission of supporting a search and destroy operation conducted by US Special Forces and CIDG elements in vicinity of BQ9474. The M42 duster normally in direct support of the battery was given the mission of direct support to the maneuver elements on road security. While so employed, the M42 hit a pressure type mine containing an estimated 100 pounds of TNT. Damage consisted of a blown right track, one idler arm, two road wheels, three torsion bars all broken and a cracked hull. The M42 was retrieved and evacuated to the ordnance support unit for repairs.

18 On 27 March 1968, the battalion was given the requirement to establish informal liaison with local Army Republic of Vietnam Artillery units and render any assistance necessary.

19 On 18 April 1968, Battery B, this organization, displaced

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for Period Ending 30 April 1968 (RCS CSFOR-65) (U).

the 8 inch platoon to a firing position west of Nha Trang vicinity EP898562 to fire on targets developed by I Field Force Fire Support Element. The platoon departed at 180800H Apr 68, and closed back into fire support base the same day.

20 On 19 April 1968 a visual metro team was dispatched to LZ Pony, vicinity BQ962768 to provide metro support to US artillery units in that area. The team was placed under operational control of the 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery.

21 On 27 April 1968, Battery C, this organization displaced the 8 inch platoon to CQ076345 in support of the 28th Republic of Korea Regiment combat assault operation. The platoon returned to its parent fire support base the same day.

(o) The battalion participated in the following operations:

CHIEN AN	1 Jan 68 - 31 Jan 68
JOON MA I	6 Jan 68 - 12 Jan 68
BAKJI VII	8 Jan 68
BAKJI VIII	19 Jan 68
BAKJI X	21 Jan 68
NINH HOA III	30 Jan 68 - 31 Jan 68
CHIEN BINH	1 Feb 68 - 29 Feb 68
CHOP CHAI	5 Feb 68 - 6 Feb 68
EUN MA I	11 Feb 68 - 13 Feb 68
BAKJI XI	11 Feb 68 - 14 Feb 68
YOUNG MA IX	17 Feb 68 - 24 Feb 68
EUN MA I-2	19 Feb 68 - 24 Feb 68
BAKJI XII	20 Feb 68 - 22 Feb 68
BAKJI IX	22 Feb 68 - 24 Feb 68
EUN MA I-3	27 Feb 68 - 1 Mar 68

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BAKJI XIII	28 Feb 68 - 1 Mar 68
CHIEN KOHI	1 Mar 68 - 31 Mar 68
BAKJI XIV	1 Mar 68 - 7 Mar 68
HYUN DA	3 Mar 68 - 6 Mar 68
TOKAEBI V	14 Mar 68 - 20 Mar 68
BAKJI XV	14 Mar 68 - 22 Mar 68
BAKJI XVI	22 Mar 68 - 2 Apr 68
CHIEN DAU	1 Apr 68 - present
TOKAEBI VI	5 Apr 68 - 7 Apr 68

(3) Training. Due to the large influx of replacements during the reporting period, the battalion training program has been revised to provide for rapid integration of all newly assigned personnel through on-the-job training. This method of training has proven effective in maintaining a high state of operational readiness, with minimum turbulence, allowing individual replacements to readily adapt themselves to the local environment, ground rules, and procedures. Annual mandatory and recurring training is accomplished at section/battery level as prescribed by pertinent regulations. Frequent, no notice, battery evaluation exercises are administered to insure that firing units maintain a high degree of proficiency, and to determine those areas that require additional command emphasis.

(a) The battalion continues to provide periods of instruction and assistance to local Army Republic of Vietnam, Regional Force, Popular Force, and Camp Strike Force elements, as requested.

1 Liaison visits were made with commanders of the Special Forces Camps at Dong Tre and Cung Son to provide the 105mm Howitzer platoons located at their camps all support and assistance necessary, and to inform them of all available fire support, and methods of requesting this support.

2 The following assistance and support was offered:

- a Forward observer instruction.
- b Fire direction instruction, with emphasis on

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AVCK-AI-OP

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SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 6th Battalion, 32d Artillery for Period Ending 30 April 1968 (RCS OFFER-65) (U).

computation of registrations and meteorological data, and establishment of an effective system of checks.

c Survey assistance as required, or instruction.

d Aerial observation support for registrations.

e Fire direction equipment, and expendables.

f Instruction on proper storage and protection of ammunition.

g Barrier and building material and technical assistance in constructing bunkers with overhead cover.

h Maintenance assistance to include spare parts, on and off carriage fire control equipment tests, bore sighting, and cleaning materials.

(b) Newly assigned lieutenants continue to attend the I Field Force Vietnam Artillery Forward Observer, and Fire Direction Officer courses conducted at An Khe and Pleiku respectively. To date these courses have proven beneficial and helpful in assisting the newly assigned officers to readily assume their duties and responsibilities.

(4) Chemical. None.

(5) PSYWAR. None.

(6) Other. During the reporting period, the battalion received aviation support from non-organic resources. Total aircraft utilization for the period was as follows:

<u>Type Aircraft</u>	<u>Missions</u>	<u>Hours Flown</u>
UH1D	65	356
01	103	351
CH47	89	133

d. Logistics.

(1) During the reporting period, the battalion continued to provide logistical and maintenance support to the organic and attached elements.

(2) The battalion operates a Central Issue Facility, and maintains a consolidated prescribed load list (PLL). A battalion maintenance

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inspection team assisted and inspected the batteries. A contact team from the 135th Light Maintenance Company has visited the batteries to provide assistance and perform repair beyond organic capabilities. The battalion S4 continues to support the batteries by delivering all classes of supplies, as required.

(3) During the reporting period, the battalion received adequate support from agencies indicated below:

(a) Class I: THSAC Class I Ration Breakdown/63d Maintenance Battalion.

(b) Class I & IV: USAD Cam Ranh Bay.

(c) Class II & IV: Barrier material
THSAC Class II & IV yard.

(d) Class III: THSAC POS Point/63d Maintenance Battalion.

(e) Maintenance Support: 135th Maintenance Company (LT).
135th Maintenance Company

(f) Class V: THSAC Ammunition Supply Point
CRSAC Ammunition Supply Point

c. (U) Civil Affairs.

(1) The civic action program within the Tuy Hoa area has been directed toward Hieu Xong District and especially the hamlet of Tho Lam on the western edge of our perimeter. Coordination with Province officials has continued and support given to various projects at this level. The THSAC Community Relations Council has also been kept informed of our activities and close coordination with the THSAC Civil Affairs Officer is maintained.

(2) With emphasis on a hamlet bordering on our perimeter establishment of sound relations and friendship should tend to increase the security of our base camp.

(3) Each battery continues an aggressive civic action program within its respective area. These programs have been coordinated with MACV in their area.

(4) The following is a resume of the various activities and projects undertaken in this command during the report period.

(a) The Battalion Surgeon rotated the first of March 1968

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6 May 1968

SISB: Operational Report of Headquarters, 6th Battalion, 32d Artillery
for Period Ending 30 April 1968 (RCS O&PDR-45) (U).

without a replacement. The MEDCAP program using aid personnel has been initiated in Tho Lam in conjunction with our increased efforts in this hamlet. It has been very successful and will continue on a weekly basis. Coordination was made with the 91st Evacuation Hospital and serious cases are sent to them.

(b) Within the Tho Lam hamlet, rebuilding of a school which was damaged during the TET offensive has been initiated. Also after the TET offensive building materials were provided to assist in repair of damaged homes.

(c) Projects have been initiated by the three batteries. Battery A has assisted in moving supplies for a refugee village, construction of a bridge near the Village of Phu Hoi. Battery A continues close coordination with Special Forces and MACV in Dong Tre to assist their civic action projects whenever possible. Vehicle support has been given to the Dong Xuan MACV Advisory Headquarters when requested. Battery B continues to assist two orphanages in the Minh Hoa area with foodstuffs and donated athletic equipment and games and giving instruction in their use. Battery B also assisted in the rebuilding on the living quarters of one of the orphanages. They also support MACV subsector, Ninh Hoa with vehicles when requested. Battery C has moved to a new location and is presently just initiating its civic action program.

(d) Summary of materials and supplies used during the period.

3000 bd ft lumber	20 sheets tin
1500 lbs cement	100 bars soap
225 lbs food	40 lbs candy
50 lbs clothing	

(5) Conclusion: Continuous liaison and coordination is maintained with Province, District and THSAC officials to improve the civic action program and emphasis is placed on the "self-help" aspect of the program.

f. (U) Personnel.

(1) During the reporting period, the Battalion achieved 98% participation in the Savings Bond program. There was also active participation in the Freedom Shares and Soldiers Deposit Programs. The rest and recuperation (R&R) program is a large contributor to the high morale of the Battalion. During this period 75 individuals went on R&R. The battalion has no organic chaplain, however religious services are provided by weekly visits of the chaplains from I Field Force Vietnam, 91st Evacuation Hospital, 577th Engineer Battalion, and the Tuy Hoa Sub Area Command.

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SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 6th Battalion, 32d Artillery for Period Ending 30 April 1968 (RGS 08500-65) (U).

(2) Members of the Battalion received: one Distinguished Service Cross, three Silver Stars, eight Bronze Stars for valor, one Army Commendation Medal for valor, fifteen Bronze Stars for service, three Air Medals, six Army Commendation Medals for meritorious service; and nineteen Purple Hearts.

(3) Personnel gains and losses were:

	<u>Gains</u>	<u>Losses</u>
officers	12	16
enlisted	221	154

(4) The battalion suffered one killed in action.

(5) Morale within the battalion remains very high.

g. (C) Artillery.

(1) Ammunition Expenditures for Period 1 February - 29 February 1968 by Unit, Caliber, and Type Mission: (nr of missions/nr of rounds)

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Confirmed</u>	<u>Acquired</u>	<u>Counter Battery</u>	<u>Prepa-ration</u>	<u>Inter-diction</u>	<u>Special Purpose</u>	<u>Other</u>
Battery A (8")	52/179	29/192	0/0	18/36	575/1407	5/51	1/4
Battery A (175)	3/12	7/74	0/0	4/22	28/52	4/15	0/0
Battery B (8")	63/252	487/1185	0/0	6/55	696/888	8/58	68/80
Battery B (175)	15/128	182/235	0/0	9/17	385/393	6/43	29/29
Battery C (8")	40/321	184/794	1/15	1/10	198/315	11/60	4/39
Battery C (175)	8/76	106/397	0/0	7/20	165/225	6/47	1/10
Total	181/963	995/2877	1/15	45/160	2047/3285	39/254	103/162

(2) Ammunition Expenditures for Period 1 March - 31 March 1968 by Unit, Caliber, and Type Mission: (nr of missions/nr of rounds)

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Unit	Confirmed	Acquired	Counter Battery	Preparation	Interdiction	Special Purpose	Other
Battery A (8")	38/427	47/310	0/0	0/0	603/1291	6/30	0/0
Battery A (175)	7/56	20/195	0/0	0/0	70/213	10/61	0/0
Battery B (8")	1/9	252/592	0/0	17/81	1251/1382	12/68	3/29
Battery B (175)	2/22	150/302	2/12	56/74	862/862	6/49	3/26
Battery C (8")	22/291	146/698	0/0	7/96	137/270	19/82	0/0
Battery C (175)	6/52	96/772	0/0	0/0	181/220	15/104	0/0
Total	76/857	121/2869	2/12	80/251	3104/4243	68/394	6/55

(3) Ammunition Expenditures for Period 1 April - 30 April 1968 by Unit, Caliber, and Type Mission: (nr of missions/ nr of rounds)

Unit	Confirmed	Acquired	Counter Battery	Preparation	Interdiction	Special Purpose	Other
Battery A (8")	15/169	42/273	0/0	7/90	584/825	19/120	0/0
Battery A (175)	8/66	46/265	0/0	6/102	36/53	5/31	0/0
Battery B (8")	10/76	177/608	0/0	2/18	1217/1321	15/100	0/0
Battery B (175)	10/53	86/436	3/14	1/3	172/172	7/55	2/3
Battery C (8")	6/113	116/687	0/0	7/136	266/558	21/123	2/5
Battery C (175)	3/33	169/731	0/0	4/79	44/96	9/58	1/1
Total	52/510	636/3000	3/14	27/428	2419/3025	76/477	5/9

(4) Total number of missions fired, and ammunition expended during the reporting period is: 10,196 missions fired, 23,854 rounds expended.

(5) Total number of rounds expended since arrival in country is: 108,811.

h. (U) Other. None.

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6 May 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 6th Battalion, 32d Artillery
for Period Ending 30 April 1968 (RCS G-OR-68) (U).

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

a. Personnel. None.

b. Operations.

(1) Method of Road Mining Employed by VC.

(a) OBSERVATION. Mines are being placed in friendly villages to reduce the suspicions of friendly convoys. Mines are also placed over metal culverts to reduce the possibility of being discovered by mine detectors.

(b) EVALUATION. All roads should be swept by two mine detectors preceding tactical convoys. Detection teams should be instructed to probe all metal culverts thoroughly before crossing, and use extreme caution when approaching areas that have wires along side of roads that could be used in conjunction with command detonated mines.

(c) RECOMMENDATION. That all roads be swept by two mine detectors preceding tactical convoys if possible. That the sides of road be checked for wires that could be used to command detonate a mine.

(2) Security for MEDIVAC Helicopters.

(a) OBSERVATION. A MEDIVAC helicopter was called in after a M42 Duster hit a mine on the road. Upon departure snipers opened fire at the helicopter from the side of a hill.

(b) EVALUATION. When MEDIVAC helicopters are called for to pick up personnel after an ambush or mining incident, all available personnel should be put on the perimeter to observe for snipers and/or to suppress sniper fires. If artillery fire is available, suppressive fires should be on call on either side of the road if sniper fire occurs. The pilots should be given instructions by the senior person present on which direction to depart after pickup.

(c) RECOMMENDATION. That personnel on the ground form a solid perimeter around the landing zone and be prepared to return fire of snipers and keep in contact with artillery support.

c. Training. None.

d. Intelligence. S2 visits to Combined Intelligence Center Vietnam.

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SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 6th Battalion, 32d Artillery
for Period Ending 30 April 1968 (Ref. GJRM-65) (U).

(a) **OBSERVATION.** Officers initially assigned duties as Battalion S2 are familiar with general intelligence duties but are not familiar with the special programs utilized by intelligence personnel in Vietnam.

(b) **EVALUATION.** During the I Field Force Vietnam Intelligence Seminar held on 16 April (Ref. Sec 1 para. 2h) it was suggested that officers assigned to duties as Battalion S2's visit the Combined Intelligence Center Vietnam (CICV) in Saigon. The information on any subject or area in SVN has been compiled at this computerized Center since 1965. General areas of interest to the S2's are as follows: (1) Enemy pattern analysis, (2) Order of battle and enemy unit histories, (3) Terrain analysis, (4) Logistics and infiltration routes, base camps, relay and communications stations, (5) General CICV studies that are available through distribution, (6) Specialized CICV studies which are available upon request.

(c) **RECOMMENDATION.** That Battalion S2's visit CICV for an orientation as soon as possible after being assigned duties as Battalion S2.

c. Logistics.

(1) Failure of water pumps on 3/4 ton vehicle engines.

(a) **OBSERVATION.** Insufficient lubrication of bearings in water pumps have caused excessive downtime of vehicles.

(b) **EVALUATION.** Waterpumps on 3/4 ton vehicles have failed due to insufficient lubrication. Inspection of new water pumps have indicated that there was a deficient amount of lubrication in the pumps.

(c) **RECOMMENDATION.** Remove the grease cup on the water-pump and insert a grease fitting. GAA must be pumped into the fitting until it shows around the pulley shaft. Once this is completed, the grease fitting is removed and the cup inserted. This should be accomplished on all new pumps and those in service.

(2) M107 and M110 Engine Assembly Housing Cracks.

(a) **OBSERVATION.** Mounting brackets and bolts are cracking on M107 and M110 artillery weapons.

(b) **EVALUATION.** The main engine mounting bolts become loose and result in the power pack to break loose and crack engine housing.

(c) **RECOMMENDATION.** That chief of section should check as frequent as possible to insure that all mounting bolts are properly torqued

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SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 6th Battalion, 32d Artillery
for Period Ending 30 April 1968 (RCS 04123-64) (E)

and tightened. When packs are pulled for other maintenance, bolts should be checked for proper torque. Also that the 12 bolts be safety wired to prevent further damage.

(3) Transfer case failure on M548 Cargo Carrier.

(a) OBSERVATION. Excess pressure builds up within the transfer case causing failure.

(b) EVALUATION. The transfer case on the M548 Cargo Carrier builds up excessive internal pressures causing it to lock-up. The cause of these excessive internal pressures is the oil pump inlet and outlet elbow fittings extend too far into the transfer case housing thereby blocking the flow of oil.

(c) RECOMMENDATION. That all M548's be inspected when issued to ascertain that a minimum of two threads and a maximum of three threads be exposed when the lock nut is tightened on the inlet and outlet fittings on the transfer case housing.

f. Organization: Assignment of Officers to Liaison duties.

(a) OBSERVATION. Officers assigned to Liaison duties are often unfamiliar with established principles, routes of communications, amount of fire available and fire planning as pertains to the Vietnam situation.

(b) EVALUATION. Officers assigned Liaison positions in Vietnam shortly after arrival in RVN are at once placed in the position requiring comprehensive knowledge of the tactical situation, the tact to deal with other units, often other nationalities, and the technical fields of gunnery, communication and fire-planning. After being in country a short time, officers are able to correlate the training received in service schools to the situation as it exists in RVN.

(c) RECOMMENDATION. That prior to assigning officers duties in Liaison positions they first be given experience at Battery level as FO's and FDO's and/or experience in Battalion Operations/FDC.

g. Other. None.

3. Section 3, Headquarters, Department of the Army Survey Information.

Omitted.

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AVGK-AI-OP

6 May 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 6th Battalion, 32d Artillery
for Period Ending 30 April 1968 (ROR (AFOR-65) (I)).

John R. Frankelinger
JOHN R. FRANKELINGER
ITC, Artillery
Commanding

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AVFA-AT-D (6 May 68) 1st Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 6th Battalion, 32d Artillery
for Period Ending 30 April 1968 (RCS: CSFOR-65) U

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(b)(1)(c), section 2, page 15, Method of Road Mining Employed by the VC. Concur.
2. (C) Reference paragraph 2(b)(2)(c), section 2, page 15, Security for MEDEVAC Helicopters. Concur.
3. (C) Reference paragraph 2(d)(c), section 2, page 16, S2 Visits to Combined Intelligence Center Vietnam. Concur. Battalion S2s are being encouraged to visit CICV for orientation.
4. (C) Reference paragraph 2(e)(1)(c), section 2, page 16, Failure of Water Pumps on 3/4 Ton Vehicle Engines. Concur. Units within IFFV Artillery will be informed of this method by separate action.
5. (C) Reference paragraph 2(e)(2)(c), section 2, page 16, M107 and M110 Engine Assembly Housing Cracks. Concur.
6. (C) Reference paragraph 2(e)(3)(c), section 2, page 17, Transfer Case Failure on M54S Cargo Carrier. Concur.
7. (C) Reference paragraph 2(f)(c), section 2, page 17, Assignment of Officers to Liaison Duties. Concur.

FOR THE COMMANDER:


GERALD C. YOUNG
Major, Artillery
Adjutant

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AVFA-GC-CT (6 May 68) 2d Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 6th Battalion, 32d
Artillery for Period Ending 30 April 1968 RCS CSFOR-65 (R1)

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

TO: Commanding General, United States Army Vietnam, ATTN: AVEGC-DST,
APO 96375

Concur.

FOR THE COMMANDER:


ROBERT C. GABBARD
MAJ GEN
ACTING ADJUTANT GENERAL

Copy furnished:
IFORCEV Arty

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12007

AVHGC-DST (6 May 68) 3d Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 6th Battalion, 32d Artillery
for Period Ending 30 April 1968 (RCS CSFOR-65) (U)

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,
6th Battalion, 32d Artillery as indorsed.

2. Concur with report as submitted.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

for full CC
C. S. NAKATSURASA
Capt. AGC

Assistant Adjutant General

Copy furn:
HQ I FFV
HQ 6-32 Arty

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GPOP-DT (6 May 68) 4th Ind (U)
SUBJECT: Operational Report of HQ 6th Bn, 32d Arty, for
Period Ending 30 April 1968, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1)

HQ, US Army, Pacific, APO San Francisco 96558 18 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
indorsements and concurs in the report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:

C.L. Shortt

C.L. SHORTT
CPT, AGC
Asst AG

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Inclosure 1 (Organizational Structure) to Operational Report of Headquarters, 6th Battalion, 32d Artillery for Period Ending 30 April 1953 (REF USFOR 55) (3)

OPERATIONAL STRUCTURE

6th Battalion, 32d Artillery (8 inch/175mm)

Organic Units

Headquarters and Headquarters Battery

Battery A (8 inch/175mm)

Battery B (8 inch/175mm)

Battery C (8 inch/175mm)

Service Battery

Units Under Operational Control (OPCON)

Battery A, 4th Battalion, 60th Artillery (AW)(40mm/.50 Cal)

(-), 3d Platoon, Battery B, 29th Artillery (Searchlight),

Metro 1, HEB, 8th Battalion, 26th Artillery (TAB).

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