<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AD NUMBER</th>
<th>AD503449</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**CLASSIFICATION CHANGES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TO:</th>
<th>UNCLASSIFIED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FROM:</td>
<td>CONFIDENTIAL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LIMITATION CHANGES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TO:</th>
<th>Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**FROM:**
Distribution authorized to U.S. Gov't. agencies and their contractors;
Administrative/Operational Use; 03 MAY 1969.
Other requests shall be referred to Office of the Adjutant General (Army), Washington, DC 20310.

**AUTHORITY**

AGO ltr 29 Apr 1980 ; AGO ltr 29 Apr 1980

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED
SECURITY MARKING

The classified or limited status of this report applies to each page, unless otherwise marked. Separate page printouts MUST be marked accordingly.

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE LAWS, TITLE 18, U.S.C., SECTIONS 793 AND 794. THE TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW.

NOTICE: When government or other drawings, specifications or other data are used for any purpose other than in connection with a definitely related government procurement operation, the U.S. Government thereby incurs no responsibility, nor any obligation whatsoever; and the fact that the Government may have formulated, furnished, or in any way supplied the said drawings, specifications, or other data is not to be regarded by implication or otherwise as in any manner licensing the holder or any other person or corporation, or conveying any rights or permission to manufacture, use or sell any patented invention that may in any way be related thereto.
Best Available Copy
IN REPLY REFER TO
ACAM-P (M) (18 Jul 69) FOR OT UT 692139

25 July 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 7th Battalion, 8th Artillery, Period Ending 30 April 1969 (U)

SEE DISTRIBUTION

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 UT, 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:

KENNETH G. WICKHAM
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

DISTRIBUTION:
Commanding Generals
US Continental Army Command
US Army Combat Developments Command
Commandants
US Army War College
US Army Command and General Staff College
US Army Armor School
US Army Combat Surveillance School
US Army Field Artillery School
US Army Infantry School
US Army Ordnance School

Copies furnished:
Office, Chief of Staff, US Army
Deputy Chiefs of Staff
Chief of Research and Development
Assistant Chiefs of Staff

Regraded unclassified when separated from classified inclosure.
CONFIDENTIAL

DISTRIBUTION (Cont'd)
Chief of Engineers
OSD(SA) Assistant for Southeast Asia Forces
Commandant of the Marine Corps
Senior Army Representative, Marine Corps Development & Education Command
Defense Documentation Center
Security Officer, Hudson Institute
Commanding Officers
  US Army Limited War Laboratory
  US Army Logistics, Doctrine Systems & Readiness Agency
  US Army Mobility Equipment Research & Development Center
  7th Battalion, 8th Artillery
AVGAC-CDG

3 Mar 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 7th Battalion 8th Artillery for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (U)

THRU: Commanding Officer
54th Field Artillery Group
APO 96491

Commanding General
II Field Force Vietnam Artillery
ATTN: AVFB-FAC
APO 96266

Commanding General
II Field Force Vietnam
APO 96266

Commanding General
United States Army Vietnam
ATTN: AVHGC-DH
APO 96375

Commander-In-Chief
United States Army Pacific
ATTN: GPOF-DT
APO 96558

TO: Department of the Army
ATTN: AC of S for Force Development
Washington, D.C. 20310

FOR OT UT
692139
Inclosure

CONFIDENTIAL

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS. 
DOD DIR 5200.10
1. (C) **Section I. Operations: Significant Activities.**

   a. Personnel.

   (1) The 7th Battalion, 8th Artillery remains assigned to the 54th Artillery Group. The mission of the Battalion is General Support II Field Force Vietnam.

   (2) At the close of the reporting period the base camps of the batteries were as follows:

   a) Headquarters Battery - Bien Hoa
   b) Service Battery - Bien Hoa
   c) Battery A - Ben Luc
   d) Battery B - Bien Hoa
   e) Battery C - Xuan Loc

   (3) During the reporting period the following command changes were made.

   a) CPT Dennis M. Meredith assumed command of Battery B on 6 February 1969.
   b) CPT Owen J. Murphy assumed command of Battery C on 2 March 1969.
   c) CPT James H. Jones assumed command of Battery A on 15 March 1969.
   d) CPT Paul E. Strauss assumed command of Headquarters Battery on 18 March 1969.
   e) CPT William Dickerson assumed command of Service Battery on 17 March 1969.

   (4) Normal S1 activities were conducted during the period 1 February 1969 to 30 April 1969. A one time Morning Report strength change was made in Battery C on 11 April 1969 correcting a shortage of 15 men.

   (5) During the reporting period the battalion did not infuse personnel to other battalions within 54th Group.

   (6) Personnel strength of the command as of 30 April 1969 was as follows:
SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 7th Battalion 8th Artillery
for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1969, RCS CSFCR-65 (U)

UNIT TOE AUTHORIZED ASSIGNED
OFF WO EM OFF WO EM
HQ 17 3 115 15 1 123
A 6 112 5 105
B 6 112 6 117
C 6 112 6 113
SVC 2 2 71 2 3 68
TOTAL 37 6 522 34 4 526

(7) Personnel changes during the reporting period include:

9 2 172 11 2 155

(8) Casualties:

TYPE NUMBER
Killed in Action 0
Wounded in Action 1
Missing in Action 0
Non-Battle Dead 0
Non-Battle Casualties 0

(9) Pertinent medical service statistics include:

Type Number
Total Patient Visits 1127
Hospital Admissions 24
IRHA 1
Non-Battle Injury 23
Malaria 1
Infectious Hepatitis 0
Evacuated out of country 4
KGHA 0

(10) The following awards were presented to members of this command:

Type Number
Bronze Star Medal w/"V" 0
Bronze Star Medal 15
Air Medal 2
Army Commendation Medal w/"V" 1
Army Commendation Medal 35
Purple Heart 1

3
Subject: Operational Report of Headquarters, 7th Battalion 8th Artillery
for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (U)

(11) The administration of judicial and non-judicial punishment
by units is summarized below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNIT</th>
<th>ARTICLE COURT</th>
<th>SUMMARY COURT</th>
<th>SPECIAL COURT</th>
<th>GENERAL COURT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HHB</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Btry A</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Btry B</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Btry C</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SVC Btry</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(12) Reportable accidents included:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNIT</th>
<th>VEHICLE</th>
<th>PERSONNEL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HHB</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Btry A</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Btry B</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Btry C</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SVC Btry</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(13) Rest and Recuperation and leaves were taken at the following
locales in the number indicated:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>NUMBER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a) In-Country</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) Out-of-Country</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Hawaii</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Singapore</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Hong Kong</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Sidney</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Bangkok</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Tokyo</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Taipei</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(14) Safety: Safety is still being stressed in all areas. Particu-
lar emphasis is being placed on artillery safety, through rules of engagement
test, classes, and a monthly Fire Direction course conducted at Battalion level.
Similar measures are being taken in the area of drivers training, in addition a driver of the month is selected each month.
AVGA-60


(a) During this reporting period there was continued emphasis on the construction program to improve the living conditions, working conditions and the safety of personnel in all battery areas.

(b) A new mess hall is 90% complete and is in use at Ben Luc.

(c) Construction of overhead bunkers for all ammunition storage areas at each firing battery has been completed.

b. Operations.

(1) During the reporting period this battalion destroyed 89 bunkers and damaged 27 more. Many trenchlines were destroyed. In addition, 5 sampans, 7 houses, 5 foxholes, 4 bridges, and 12 secondary explosions, were recorded, along with 85 VC KIA.

(2) Normal operations consistent with the battalion mission of General Support II Field Force were conducted.

(3) On 29 April 1969, "the Meritorious Unit Commendation" was awarded to the 7th Battalion 8th Artillery for distinguishing itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 July 1967 to 1 May 1968.

(4) During the reporting period the following units were located in the Bien Hoa area and had their fires controlled by this headquarters:

(a) Battery C, 7th Battalion, 8th Artillery from 19 November 1968, until 25 March 1969.

(b) Battery A, 7th Battalion, 8th Artillery from 25 March 1969, until 26 March 1969.

(c) Battery B, 7th Battalion, 8th Artillery from 26 March 1969, until present.

(d) Battery C, 7th Battalion, 9th Artillery from 29 November 1968, until 7 April 1969.

(e) Battery A, 1st Battalion, 5th Artillery from 13 February 1969, until 18 February 1969.

CONFIDENTIAL

AVGAO-CO

SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 7th Battalion 8th Artillery for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (U)

(g) Battery C, 1st Battalion, 27th Artillery from 18 December 1968, until 3 April 1969.

(h) Battery A, 2d Battalion, 35th Artillery from 3 April 1969, until present.

(i) Battery A(-), 5th Battalion, 42d Artillery, from 3 April 1969, until present.

(j) Battery A, 7th Battalion, 9th Artillery from 7 April 1969, until present.

(5) Battery A unit activities:

(a) Battery A was located at Xuan Loc from 17 October 1968 until 25 March 1969, with the mission of GSR, 18th ARVN Division Artillery until February 1969, when the mission was changed to GS II Field Force OPCON fires 2d Battalion, 35th Artillery. On 25 March 1969, Battery A moved to Bien Hoa and assumed the mission of GS II Field Force, priority of fires to Bien Hoa Tactical Area Command. On 26 March 1969, Battery A moved to Ben Luc and assumed the mission of GSR, 2d Battalion, 40th Artillery.

(b) Battery A conducted a Forward Observers class at Ben Luc for Navy personnel on 5 April 1969, with 20 persons attending.

(6) Battery B unit activities: Battery B was located at Bien Luc from 19 November until 26 March 1969, with the mission of GSR, 2d Battalion, 40th Artillery. On 26 March 1969 the battery moved to Bien Hoa and assumed the mission of GS II Field Force, priority of fires to Bien Hoa Tactical Area Command. At the end of the last reporting period the battery had one 8-inch howitzer section located at Nha Be supporting Rung Sat Special Zone, under Moon River Control (Nha Be Navy), the howitzer section returned to the battery location on 1 February 1969. On 27 February 1969, an 8-inch howitzer section was again moved to Nha Be to support the Rung Sat Special Zone under Moon River Control. On 6 March 1969, the sections mission was changed to GSR Battery C, 7th Battalion, 9th Artillery. On 11 March 1969 the howitzer section rejoined the battery at Ben Luc.

(7) Battery C unit activities: Battery C was located at Bien Hoa from 19 November 1968 until 25 March 1969 with the mission of GS II Field Force, priority of fires to Bien Hoa Tactical Area Command. Battery C moved to Xuan Loc on 25 March 1969 and assumed the mission of GS II Field force, OPCON of fires to 2d Battalion 35th Artillery.

(8) The following number of missions were fired with a total ammunition expenditure as listed below.

6

CONFIDENTIAL
3 May 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 7th Battalion 8th Artillery for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (U)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNIT</th>
<th>NUMBER OF MISSIONS FIRED</th>
<th>AMMUNITION EXPENDED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8&quot;</td>
<td>175mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Battery A</td>
<td>548</td>
<td>663</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Battery B</td>
<td>608</td>
<td>224</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Battery C</td>
<td>492</td>
<td>428</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>1645</td>
<td>1315</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FEBRUARY

MARCH

| Battery A | 518                      | 671                 | 1570              | 1996                |
| Battery B | 457                      | 252                 | 1509              | 753                 |
| Battery C | 600                      | 510                 | 2277              | 2465                |
| TOTAL    | 1375                     | 1433                | 5556              | 5214                |

APRIL

| Battery A | 203                      | 105                 | 1230              | 425                 |
| Battery B | 368                      | 359                 | 1349              | 2043                |
| Battery C | 582                      | 397                 | 1472              | 1258                |
| TOTAL    | 1153                     | 861                 | 4051              | 3726                |

c. Training.

(1) Due to the continuous turnover of experienced personnel and the battalion's increased emphasis on artillery safety and proficiency a series of battalion level schools have been established. These schools are in addition to our basic training vehicle of informal on-the-job training.

(2) Training records and schedules are being reviewed constantly and new procedures are being established, so as to reflect the training being accomplished and provide a more thorough means of scheduling.

(3) Fire Direction Test, Gunners Test and Artillery Clearance Procedures examinations are being administered on a monthly basis. Monthly gunnery inspections are being conducted to insure that the personnel have and are using proper gunnery procedures.

(4) During the reporting period several schools were held outside the battalion:

(a) Two Fire Direction Officers courses were held at 54th Group Headquarters from 27 January 1969 through 2 February 1969, and from 31
March 1969 through 5 April 1969, with two battalion officers attending each course.

(b) Five (5) enlisted men attended a projectionist course at USARV Projectionist School, conducted 20th through 22 February 1969.

(c) One TAERS Records Course was conducted at 54th Group Headquarters from 10 March 1969 through 14 March 1969, with six battalion officers attending.

(d) One Field Sanitation Course was conducted on 27 March 1969, with twelve (12) EM attending from this battalion.

(e) One Aerial Observers course was conducted at 54th Group Headquarters on 24 April 1969, with one enlisted man attending.

(f) Six AWCC classes were conducted by Bien Hoa Tactical Area Command on 18 February 1969, 21 April 1969, 22 April 1969, 23 April 1969, 24 April 1969, and 25 April 1969, with one enlisted man attending each class from this battalion.

(5) The following schools were held at Battalion level:

(a) Two Fire Direction Courses for officers, and three for enlisted men. The officer's courses were held on 23 February 1969 and on 30 March 1969, with two officers attending each class. The enlisted men's courses were conducted from 5 February 1969 until 8 February 1969, from 17 March 1969 until 22 March 1969 and 7 April 1969 until 12 April 1969 with five (5) men attending each class.

(b) Two Generator Operator courses were conducted, on 8 February 1969 with five (5) enlisted men attending, and on 10 April 1969, with ten (10) enlisted men attending.

(c) Three RTO procedures courses were conducted on 4 February 1969, 16 March 1969, and on 6 April 1969, with five (5) personnel attending each class.

(d) One Armorers course was conducted on 22 March 1969, with four (4) enlisted men attending.

(e) One Supply Administration course was conducted on 5 April 1969, with seven (7) enlisted men attending.

(f) One Battalion/Battery Administration course was conducted on 12 April 1969, with five (5) enlisted men attending.

8 CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

AVGAC CO

SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 7th Battalion 8th Artillery
for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (U)

(g) One OBR course was conducted on 13 April 1969, with ten (10) enlisted men attending.

(6) Replacement Training during the reporting period has been through the 199th Light Infantry Brigade Combat Training Center and the 101st Airborne Replacement Training School. All new replacements received during the reporting period, except those of pay grade E-6 or higher, attended a one week replacement school within one week of arriving in the battalion.

d. Intelligence: Target Acquisition.

(1) The battalion has daily use of an O-1E aircraft for visual reconnaissance purposes. The battalion has had the following visual reconnaissance areas during the reporting period:

(a) Parrots Beak to Angels Wing along Cambodian border for one week.

(b) Ben Luc, Tan An, and Duc Hoa area for one week.

(c) Bien Hoa, Long Binh, Bear Cat, and Xuan Loc area from 13–28 February 1969.

(2) On 13 February 1969 an effective night observation program was established utilizing an O-1E aircraft. During the period 13 February to 30 April 1969, 288 missions were flown in 376 hours. The following targets were detected and fired during the period:

(a) Suspected VC locations 112

(b) Rocket/mortar launch sites 23

(c) Base Camps 11

(d) Buildings 5

(e) Bunkers 14

(f) Supply Areas 2

(3) One hundred-twenty intelligence reports were received from the 525th MI Detachment, 179th MI Detachment and III Corps Headquarters, with 500 entries of which 117 were recorded in our intelligence files and 25 were fired on by units OFCON to the 7th Battalion 8th Artillery.
CONFIDENTIAL

AVGAO-CO

SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 7th Battalion 8th Artillery for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (U)

3 May 1969

During the period 21-31 March 1969, an H & I program was initiated for the perimeter defense. The M-79 grenade launcher was successfully used in this program by firing rounds at ranges from 150 meters to 300 meters.

AMF series two (2) maps (compiled from 1967 and 1968 data) of the Bien Hoa and Tan Uyen areas were made available and greatly aided in locating critical points for aerial observers.

e. Logistics.

Tracked vehicles for the period showed 245 down days out of 2,312 possible days for a 10.6% deadline rate. Wheeled vehicles showed 1,133 down days out of a possible 10,206 days for a 11.1% deadline rate. Of the total for tracked vehicles, 176 down days were for the M548 carrier. The 8" howitzer, 175mm gun and recovery vehicle showed 69 down days of the 245 days, 182 are chargeable to support maintenance and for 171 of their days the vehicles set awaiting parts. During the remaining time chargeable to organizational maintenance, two-thirds was spent awaiting parts.

Ammunition Resupply for the period:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TYPE</th>
<th>FEBRUARY</th>
<th>MARCH</th>
<th>APRIL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proj 8&quot; HE</td>
<td>5,856</td>
<td>5,012</td>
<td>4,053</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proj 175mm HE</td>
<td>3,296</td>
<td>5,449</td>
<td>3,921</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proj 8&quot; ICM</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CTG 40mm HEIT Short Range</td>
<td>6,016</td>
<td>6,016</td>
<td>1,536</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CTG 40mm HEIT Long Range</td>
<td>8,754</td>
<td>10,168</td>
<td>1,536</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CTG 5.56mm Ball (M-16)</td>
<td>70,826</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CTG 5.56mm Tracer</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CTG 7.62mm Linked (M-60)</td>
<td>79,200</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CTG .50 cal, Linked</td>
<td>2,600</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CTG 7.62mm Ball (M-14)</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CTG .45 cal, Ball</td>
<td>6,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Subject: Operational Report of Headquarters, 7th Battalion 8th Artillery for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1969, RDC CSFCC-65 (U)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>February</th>
<th>March</th>
<th>April</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sigillum L 312</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claymore</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grenade SMK Green</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grenade SMK Violet</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grenade C/S Riot</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(3) During the reporting period the ammunition train travelled 33,388 total miles.

(4) On 10 February 1969 construction of Sea-hut bunkerized mess hall for the Ben Luc compound was started; at the end of the reporting period the building was 90% complete and is being utilized as a mess hall.

(5) Material was received for the construction of overhead cover for the ammunition storage at all battery locations. Construction has been completed at the three FSB's. Due to the realignment of Camp Zinn area, the ammunition storage area for the battery located at FSB Echo and the battalion ammunition storage site have to be relocated and rebuilt. Expected completion, after relocation, in this area will be near the end of May.

(6) The two 12-man, Rose type, bunkers are still under construction, to be delivered to the fire support base at Luan Loc, to be used as ready bunkers for the howitzer and gun sections.

(7) Two additional 12-man, Rose type, bunkers are under construction to be delivered to the fire support base at Ben Luc to be used for an orderly room and a supply room.

(8) During the month of February 1969, March 1969, and April 1969, all staff sections visited each battery and inspected their area of responsibility, as a pre-AGI inspection. In addition, each staff section is preparing a briefing folder for their area of concern.

(9) Both a building drain and a bigger sump have been requisitioned for installation in the Headquarters and Service Battery Mess Hall. Expected day of completion is 10 May 1969.

(10) Due to realignment of Camp Zinn a vacant mess hall building has been obtained to compensate for the loss of other buildings. The
AVGA-O-00
SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 7th Battalion 8th Artillery for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (U)

realignment is to become effective on or about 17 May 1969 and will result in the loss of two buildings presently being utilized as BOQ's.

f. Organization: SEE ORGANIZATION ON FOLLOWING PAGE.

g. Others:

(1) The battalion continues to participate in III Corps (MACV) project of relocating displaced refugees.

(2) During the reporting period and as part of the above mentioned projects, the following materials and commodities were distributed to Vietnamese Nationals and/or used in their welfare at the cost and man days indicated:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity/Unit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Man days devoted</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of supplies from military resources</td>
<td>VN $70,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voluntary donations</td>
<td>VN $8,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numbers of patients treated by MEDCAP program</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tin sheets</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lumber</td>
<td>100 Board ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scrap lumber</td>
<td>1/4 ton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scrap metal</td>
<td>1 ton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clothing</td>
<td>5 lbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>1,000 lbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health items</td>
<td>10 lbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Candy and chewing gum</td>
<td>70 lbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual gifts</td>
<td>18 Gifts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(3) The Civic Action Program during this reporting period was very progressive in all areas. The overall effectiveness of the program can be noted by the obvious changes in the attitudes and actions of the local populations toward American personnel.
CONFIDENTIAL

3 May 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 7th Battalion 8th Artillery for Quarterly Period ending 30 April 1969, RCS, CSFOR-65 (U)

MTOE 6-435G
CONFIDENTIAL

AVGA-O-CO

SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 7th Battalion 8th Artillery
for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (U)

(4) Communication: Both AM and FM communication continued to improve
during this period. Other stations on the battalion command and fire nets
continue to be a serious problem.

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

a. Personnel: None

b. Operations: None

c. Training

(1) Meteorological Data:

(a) OBSERVATION: An effective metro program can be carried out
by continuous supervision and aggressiveness. The importance of a good
metro operation has been demonstrated by the continuous accuracy of artil-
lery fires using the met message obtained by this battalion.

(b) EVALUATION: A program of continuous supervision and aggressiv-
eness has been demonstrated by this units metro officer and non-commissioned
officer, resulting in a valid met every six (6) hours for the last nine (9)
months.

(c) RECOMMENDATION: A system of close and continuous supervision
and aggressiveness be required in each metro station to obtain accurate
and timely receipt of metro messages.

(2) Battalion Level Schools:

(a) OBSERVATION: Meaningful classroom training can be conducted
and is being conducted at Battalion level. Attendance within these classes
have consisted of both, personnel just arriving in country and personnel who
have been in country for a period of time. Personnel completing the battalion
level schools return to their units with greater proficiency and more job
knowledge.

(b) EVALUATION: A regularly scheduled program of several different
types of schools has been conducted at battalion level and showed that
individuals do need refreshing and that this can be obtained through class-
room type instruction. Classroom instruction should be in addition to the
on-the-job training programs.

(c) RECOMMENDATIONS: It is recommended that each battalion size
unit conduct a continuous program of recurring school courses as a method
of refreshing memories and teaching techniques. In addition, each lower
echelon should conduct periodic classes to maintain the knowledge of all
individuals.
AVGA-OCO

3 May 1969


d. Intelligence.

(1) OBSERVATION: The enemy normally moves at night. A means of observing his movement in areas not being observed by ground observers is necessary in order to deliver timely artillery fire. An aerial observer, controlled by an artillery control headquarters can engage a target instantaneously upon the slightest indication, e.g. detection of a light. The observer's control elements know the location of friendly elements, and the populace are under a curfew, resulting in less difficulty in distinguishing between enemy and friendly elements.

(2) EVALUATION: The night observation program has proven very effective. Since the beginning of the night observation program on 13 February 1969, 112 suspected VC locations, 23 rocket/mortar launch sites, 11 base camps, 5 buildings, 14 bunkers, and 2 supply areas have been detected and fired on. Having an observer on site has proven invaluable.

(3) RECOMMENDATION: That air assets be made available on a continuing basis to carry out the night observation program.

e. Logistics: None

f. Organization: None

g. Other:

Computations of met by use of circular slide rule.

(a) OBSERVATION: A member of the battalion has developed a circular type slide rule, with the purpose of converting non-standard weather conditions (met) into a deflection correction and total range corrections. If properly developed and constructed the circular slide rule could greatly reduce the time required to compute data for firing on targets outside of the transfer limits.

(b) EVALUATION: The circular slide rule for deflection corrections and met range correction can check the manual met solution within 2 mils in deflection and 30 meters in range, using rough drafting equipment for the construction of the slide. The normal time period required to compute the met, using the slide, is one (1) minute and 30 seconds. A highly trained computer using the TFT will take up to five (5) minutes on an average to compute a met to target out of transfer limits.
CONFIDENTIAL

AVGAQ-CO


(c) RECOMMENDATION: An application for a suggestion form has been forwarded to Office of Doctrine Development, Literature and Plans, Fort Sill, Oklahoma. With the circular slide rule being drafted to scale and using precision equipment the slide rule will be able to reduce the time of computing data out of transfer limits considerably and still provide accurate firing data.

ROBERT F. KESSLER
LTC, FA
Commanding
AVGA-30 (3 May 69) 1st Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report of 7th Battalion, 8th Field Artillery for Period Ending 30 April 1969, RCS CSFUR-65 (U)

DA, HEADQUARTERS, 54TH FIELD ARTILLERY GROUP, APO 96491

TO: Commanding Officer, II Field Force Vietnam Artillery, ATTN: AVFA-PAC, APO 96266

1. (U) The quarterly Operations Report — Lessons Learned from the 7th Battalion, 8th Field Artillery is considered adequate.

2. (C) Reference Section II, para c(1), Meteorological Data. The 54th Field Artillery Group concurs.

3. (C) Reference Section II, para c(2), Battalion Level Schools. Concur with recommendation. This same program has been initiated at Group level with effective results.

4. (C) Reference Section II, para d, Intelligence. Assets of the 54th Field Artillery Group are made available within priorities to carry out a night observation program. Aviation assets are limited and additional aircraft should be provided to the Group on a high priority basis to continue this program.

5. (C) Reference Section II, para g(1), Computations of met by use of circular slide rule. Concur with recommendation.

6. (U) Pen and ink corrections of errors in the report have been made.

RICHARD L. POWELL
Colonel, FA
Commanding
TO: Commanding General, II Field Force Vietnam, ATTN: AVFBC-R, APO 96266

The quarterly report of the 7th Battalion, 8th Artillery adequately reflects operations and lessons learned during the reporting period.

L.D. KINNARD
Brigadier General, USA
Commanding
AVFBC-RE-H (3 May 69) 3rd Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 7th Battalion, 8th Artillery for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1969, RCS CPFOR-65 (U)

DA, HQ II FFORCEN, APO San Francisco 96266 5 JUN 1969

THRU: Commanding General, US Army Vietnam, ATTN: AVHGC(DST), APO 96575

Commander-In-Chief, US Army Pacific, ATTN: GPDP-DT, APO 96598

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

This headquarters has reviewed and concurs with the Operational Report - Lessons Learned of Headquarters, 7th Battalion, 8th Artillery for the period ending 30 April 1969, as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

[Signature]

B. G. MACDONALD
IIT, AGC
Assi AG

19
TO: Commander in Chief, United States Army, Pacific, ATTN: GPOP-DT, APO 96558

This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the quarterly period ending 30 April 1969 from 7th Battalion 8th Artillery and concurs with the report as modified by the previous indorsements.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

C. D. Wilson

C. D. Wilson
7LT, AGC
Assistant Adjutant General
SUBJECT: Operational Report of H3, 7th Bn, 8th Arty for Period Ending 30 April 1969, RCS CSPOR-65 (RL)

HQ, US Army, Pacific, APO San Francisco 96558 7 JUL 69

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]
C. L. SHORT
CPY, AGC
Adj AG
Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Hq, 7th Battalion, 8th Artillery

Experiences of unit engaged in counterinsurgency operations, 1 Feb 69 to 30 Apr 69.

CO, 7th Battalion, 8th Artillery

N/A