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AD508755

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AGO ltr, 29 Apr 1980; AGO ltr, 29 Apr 1980

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

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IN REPLY REFER TO

AGDA (M) (7 Apr 70)

FOR OT UT 701109

20-April-1970

SUBJECT: ~~Operational Report~~ - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 1st Battalion, 44th Artillery, ~~Ending 31 January 1970~~

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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:

FILE COPY

① Operational Report for 1st Battalion, 44th Artillery, ending 31 Jan 70  
⑪ 5 Feb 70  
as ⑬ 23 p.

*Kenneth G. Wickham*  
KENNETH G. WICKHAM  
Major General, USA  
The Adjutant General

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
HEADQUARTERS 1ST BATTALION 44TH ARTILLERY  
APO San Francisco 96269

AVGLB-C

5 February 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, 1st Battalion (AW) (SP) 44th  
Artillery, Period Ending 31 January 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

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Attached is the ORLL Report for the 1st Battalion, 44th Artillery for the  
report period 1 November 1969 to 31 January 1970.

1 Incl  
1 Battalion Organizational Structure

  
RICHARD L. MYERS  
LTC, ADJ  
Commanding

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## 1. (C) Operations: Significant Activities

### a. Administration/Personnel

(1) The following awards were presented to assigned and attached Personnel:

AWARDS	PERS-NNEL
Bronze Star for Achievement	1
Bronze Star for Service	17
Army Commendation Medal for Valor	4
Army Commendation Medal for Achievement	3
Army Commendation Medal for Service	53
Purple Heart	29
Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry w/Silver Star	3
Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry w/Bronze Star	8
Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry	1
USARV Certificate of Achievement	90

(2) There were no administrative or tactical movements of Headquarters 1st Battalion (AW) (SP) 44th Artillery during this reporting period.

(3) Battalion Personnel statistics as of 31 January 1970 were:

#### (a) Current Strength

	Authorized			Assigned		
	OFF	WO	EM	OFF	WO	EM
1st Bn (AW) (SP) 44th Arty	37	2	653	36	2	605
G Btry (MI) 65th Arty	2	0	140	3	0	114
G Btry (SLT) 29th Arty	6	0	111	5	0	102

#### (b) Casualties 1 Nov 69 - 31 Jan 70

TYPE	NUMBER
KIA	0

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WIA	9
MIA	0
Died of Wounds	0
Non-battle Deaths	1

(c) R & R Experiences

	November	December	January
Hawaii	19	16	17
Bangkok	17	23	13
Hong Kong	9	12	3
Singapore	4	8	3
Taipei	7	7	5
Tokyo	0	3	4
Manila	2	0	1
Sydney	15	12	9
In-Country (Vung Tau)	8	10	11

(4) Current organizational structure of the 1st Bn (AV) (SP) 44th Arty is attached as Inclosure 1.

b. Intelligence.

(1) Primary sources of intelligence information for H<sub>1</sub>, A, B, C, and G/65 Batteries during the reporting period were S-2 Section 1st Brigade, 5th Infantry Division (Mech); S-2 Section 2nd ARVN Regiment, 1st ARVN Division Forward. Battery D received intelligence information from G-2 Section 101st Airborne Division (AMBL). Battery G, 29th Artillery received intelligence information from S-2 Section 11th USMC Regiment, 1st USMC Division. Supplementary information was received from XXIV Corps in the form of intelligence summaries and periodic intelligence reports and from intelligence information and estimates from field commanders of supported units.

(2) Temperatures during the reporting period ranged from a low of 54°F to a high of 85°F. Winds were moderate during the period, averaging 8 knots and gusting up to 25 knots. Frequent and heavy rains throughout the reporting period caused serious mud problems especially at outlying areas such as Camp Carroll and Strong Point A-4.

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### (3) Enemy Activity

(a) Mining incidents remained at a low level during the reporting period. The heaviest mining occurred on QL 1 from Dong Ha to Strong Point C-1, and along Route 561 from Cam Lo to Strong Points C-2 and A-4.

(b) Stand off attacks with rockets and mortars decreased over the reporting period overall, but have picked up significantly during January 1970. Battalion elements sustained 29 incoming attacks with a total of 161 rounds taken, to include 65 rockets and 96 mortars. Rockets were generally 122mm and 140mm type, while mortar rounds were generally 82mm type. Highest incident rates were at Strong Point A-2 (YD 213734) where 77 rounds were received in 12 attacks, at Strong Point A-4 (YD 118701) where 27 rounds were received in 8 attacks, and Camp Carroll (ID 063547) where 27 rounds were received in 4 attacks.

(c) There is continued evidence of infiltration through the eastern DMZ into South Vietnam along Jones Creek. More significant is the increase of infiltration from the Khe Sanh area. Elements of the 1st Bn 44th Arty, have fired and illuminated numerous targets acquired by AN/TPS - 25 radar.

### c. Operations

(1) General. The mission of the 1st Bn (AW)(SP) 44th Arty and Battery G, 65th Arty, continues to be general support of XXIV Corps. Battery G, 23rd Arty continues the mission of providing battlefield illumination to XXIV Corps (6 lights) and 1st USMC Division (18 lights).

### (2) Areas of operation during the reporting period:

- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| (a) Fulton Square | 1st Brigade, 5th Inf Div (Mech) Nov 69 - Present (L, C) |
| (b) Lamson 334    | 2nd ARVN Regiment Aug 69 - Nov 69 (L, E, G/65)          |
| (c) Lamson 338    | 2nd ARVN Regiment Aug 69 - Jan 70 (G/65, C)             |
| (d) Lamson 342    | 7th ARVN Cav Nov 69 - Jan 70 (A, B, G/65)               |
| (e) Lamson 350    | 2nd ARVN Regiment Jan 70 - Present (G/65, C)            |
| (f) Lamson 353    | 7th ARVN Cav Jan 70 - Present (A, B, G/65)              |
| (g) Randolph Glen | 101st Airborne Div Nov 69 - Present (D, G/65)           |
| (h) Lamson 352    | 54th ARVN Regiment Dec 69 - Present (D)                 |

### (3) Significant Events

(a) 1 Nov 69 C Btry, 1/44 (-) moved to Dong Ha Combat Base due to close out of Vinh Dai Combat Base. Move was completed in four phases without incident.

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(b) 7 Nov 69 C Btry, 65th Arty airlifted an M55 (Quad 50) to FSB Rifle. Operation was completed in three sorties without incident.

(c) 7 Nov 69 G Btry, 65th Arty airlifted an M55 (Quad 50) to FSB Pistol. Operation was completed in three sorties without incident. On 12 Dec 69, the M55 (Quad 50) was airlifted back to Dong Ha due to close out of FSB Pistol.

(d) 2100 10 Nov 69 An A Btry M42A1 Duster, while participating in a harassing and interdicting fire mission at Strong Point A-2 had one M42A1 gun blown up. The duster had fired 200 rounds prior to the explosion. A complete investigation of the incident revealed the cause to be faulty ammunition. Results of incident were 1 WIA (E), 3 WIA (N), one M42A1 gun destroyed.

(e) 15 Nov 69 Elements of Btry A, 1st Bn 44th Arty supported the 1st Bn, 61st Infantry (5th Mech) on an operation west of Strong Point C-2. The mission of the M42A1 Dusters was to provide a blocking force against the enemy being pushed from the northwest by the Infantry. The blocking force was attacked by an estimated NVA Company at 0615 hours on 18 Nov 69 while occupying a night defensive position. The contact lasted until 1100 hours, after which a sweep of the area produced negative results. A sweep of the area slightly to the north two days later produced a shallow grave with 22 NVA bodies in it. Friendly casualties were 3 WIA (E), 11 WIA (N).

(f) 16 Nov 69 Elements of C/1/44 occupied positions at Con. La Bridge in support of Regional/Popular Forces.

(g) 17 Nov 69 1st Bn (AW) (SP) 44th Arty held a change of command ceremony at Dong Ha Combat Base. LTC Richard L. Myers took command of the 1st Bn, 44th Arty replacing LTC Victor J. Hugo.

(h) 0230 27 Nov 69 At Hill 65, elements of G Btry (SLT), 29th Arty, while scanning with infrared, observed 3 NVA carrying unknown type weapons at a range of 300 meters. Elements of the 1st Marine Div fired 4 rounds of M79, killing 2 NVA while the 3rd escaped.

(i) 28 Nov 69 Elements of C/1/44 while performing perimeter defense security at OP #1 DHCB spotted movement to their right front. The M42A1 Duster fired 150 rounds. Recon by helicopter reported 3 NVA KIA, and 3 AK 47's. A sweep of the area in the morning had negative results.

(j) 3 Dec 69 Elements of C/1/44 supported elements of the 2nd ARVN Division and Troop C, 3rd Squadron 5th Cavalry, on a two day operation south-west of LZ Zulu. The mission of the M42A1 Dusters was to provide security, recon by fire, and harassing and interdicting fires.

(k) 4 Dec 69 Elements of C/1/44 moved two M42A1 dusters from Camp Carroll to OP 250 (Camanche Hill) which overlooks Camp Carroll. This move was made so as to enhance the defense of Camp Carroll by AW fire.

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(l) 5 Dec 69 Elements of A/1/44 supported the 2d Bn, 1st ARVN Regt and two companies from 7th ARVN Cav on a one day operation northeast of Strong Point A-1. The mission of the M42A1 Dusters was to provide security, counter mortar fire, and close supporting fires for advancing infantry. A/1/44 committed four M42A1 Dusters and a command APC. Results of the operation were 34 VC KIA, 3 AK 47's, 1 M16, and 1 82mm mortar tube. Friendly casualties were 3 WIA (M) ARVN.

(m) 8 Dec 69 G Btry, 65th Arty occupied a M55 (Quad 50) position at Camp Evans.

(n) 0150 11 Dec 69 At Camp Evans elements of Btry G, (SLT) 29th Arty provided illumination for an ambush patrol for about 3 hours. Results were 2 NVA KIA and 1 POW.

(o) 12 Dec 69 Elements of Btry A supported the 3d Bn, 1st ARVN Regt on an operation northeast of Strong Point A-1. The mission of the Dusters was to provide supporting fires to advancing Infantry from a pre-planned location. On the way to this location, the lead APC and one Duster detonated mines. Damage to both vehicles was heavy. Recovery attempts were made throughout the day, utilizing other Dusters and an M88 Recovery Vehicle. All efforts were futile. The terrain was soft sand with numerous sand dunes and the damaged vehicles dug deeper into the sand when attempts were made to drag them back to A-1. In early evening the damaged APC and Duster, both being considered combat losses due to damaged hulls, were destroyed. The remaining elements returned to Strong Point A-1.

(p) 13 Dec 69 A 2½-ton vehicle from B/1/44 while proceeding on QL 1 from Dong Ha to Strong Point C-1, hit an unknown type mine at YD 223631. Results were 2 WIA (M), vehicle heavily damaged.

(q) 14 Dec 69 B/1/44 occupied two M42A1 Duster positions at Strong Point C-1 in support of 1st ARVN Division Forward.

(r) 15 Dec 69 D/1/44 occupied one M42A1 Duster Position at FSB Anzio in support of the 54th ARVN Regiment. The Duster's mission was to provide AW's fire support on sensor readouts.

(s) 18 Dec 69 B/1/44 occupies two M42A1 Duster Positions, and G Btry, 65th Arty sent one additional M55 (Quad 50) to Camp Evans in support of the 101st ABN Div. After implacement at Camp Evans further deployment to LZ Jack was initiated. Mixed section deployment, that is, one Quad 50 and one Duster, were deployed on four day intervals on a continuous basis in support of operations conducted by the 101st ABN Div.

(t) 0425 20 Dec 69 At Camp Evans, elements of G Btry (SLT), 29th Arty supporting C Company, 3/187 Ambush Team, spotted enemy using infrared illumination. Results were 3 NVA KIA, and 3 POW.

(u) 22 Dec 69 An M42A1 Duster from B/1/44 while performing perimeter security at Camp Evans fired at confirmed movement. The Duster fire flushed out 30 NVA who ran into a Tiger Team ambush. Results were 3 NVA KIA, 1 WIA, 4 POW, and 1 Chieu Hoi. Negative friendly casualties.

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(v) 28 Dec 69 Elements of C/1/44, G/65, and G/29 supported elements of 2d Bn, 1st RVN Regiment, elements of 3d Squadron 5th Cav and 8/4 Arty on an artillery raid operating out of Elliot Combat Base. Two M42A1's, 2 M55's, and one searchlight were committed to the raid. The mission of these elements was to provide convoy security and perimeter security. The artillery raid ended on 29 Dec 69.

(w) 3 Jan 70 G Btry, 65th Arty airlifted an M55 (Quad 50) to LZ Sarge in support of 2d ARVN Regiment. Mission was completed in four Sorties.

(x) 5 Jan 70 Elements of B/1/44 supported B Btry, 2d Bn, 94th Arty on an artillery raid operating out of LZ Anne. The mission of the M42A1 Dusters was that of convoy security, and perimeter security of the firing positions. The artillery raid ended on 10 Jan 70 and all elements returned to their permanent bases.

(y) 14 Jan 70 Elements of C/1/44, G/65, and G/29 supported elements of 3/5 Cav, 8/4 Arty, 5/175 guns, 6/33 Arty, and 2/1 ARVN Infantry on an artillery raid. Staging area for the artillery raid was Elliot Combat Base. On 16 Jan 70 all elements proceeded to Ca Lu, where firing positions were established. Mission of the 1/44 elements was to provide convoy security, H & I fires, and perimeter security. The artillery raid ended on 18 Jan 70 and all elements returned to their permanent bases.

(z) 15 Jan 70 Elements of B/1/44 supported elements of the 2d Bn 94th Arty on an artillery raid operating out of LZ Anne. The M42A1 Dusters had the mission of convoy security and perimeter security of the firing positions. The artillery raid ended on 20 Jan 70 and all elements returned to their permanent bases.

(aa) 16 Jan 70 B/1/44 occupied two M42A1 Duster positions at FSB T-Bone in support of the 3d ARVN Regiment.

(bb) 21 Jan 70 Elements of B/1/44 supported elements of A/2/94 and 1st ARVN Division on an artillery raid operating out of LZ Nancy. The mission of the M42A1 Dusters was that of Convoy security and perimeter security of the firing positions. The artillery raid ended on 25 Jan 70 and all elements returned to their permanent bases.

(cc) 27 Jan 70 G Btry, 65th Arty occupied an M55 (Quad 50) position at LZ Sharon in support of 2d Bn, 94th Arty.

(dd) 27 Jan 70 Elements of C/1/44, G/65, and G/29 supported elements of 3/5 Cav, 5/175 guns, and 6/33 Arty, and 2/1 Infantry (ARVN) on an artillery raid in the vicinity of Ca Lu. The mission of the 1/44 elements was to provide convoy security, perimeter security, and illumination. The artillery raid ended on 31 Jan 70 and all elements returned to their permanent bases.

(4) Fire unit locations: At the end of the reporting period, 31 January 1970, the Battalion was tactically deployed as follows:

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UNIT	LOCATION	SUPPORTED UNIT
<u>(a) HEB</u>	Dong Ha Combat Base YD 233583	
<u>(b) Battery A (-)</u>	Dong Ha Combat Base* YD 233583	1st Bde, 5th Div (Mech)
(1) 5 Dusters	A-4 (YD 118701)	1st Bde, 5th Inf Div (Mech)
(2) 2 Dusters	A-2 (YD 213734)	2nd ARVN Regiment
(3) 2 Dusters	A-1 (YD 270734)	2nd ARVN Regiment
<u>(c) Btry B (-)</u>	Dong Ha Combat Base* YD 233583	1st Bde, 5th Inf Div (Mech)
(1) 4 Dusters	Quang Tri (YD 311557)	1st Bde, 5th Inf Div (Mech)
(2) 4 Dusters	Camp Eagle (YD 827137)	2nd Bde, 101st ABN Div
(3) 2 Dusters	C-1 (YD 213674)	7th ARVN Mech
(4) 2 Dusters	Camp Evans (YD 535214)	3rd Bde, 101st ABN Div
(5) 2 Dusters	FSB T-Bone (YD 659203)	3rd ARVN Regt
<u>(d) Btry C (-)</u>	Dong Ha Combat Base* YD 233583	1st Bde, 5th Inf Div (Mech)
(1) 2 Dusters	Nai Loc (YD 095515)	3IDG
(2) 2 Dusters	Khe Gio Bridge (YD 026562)	2nd ARVN Regt
(3) 2 Dusters	Commanche Hill (OP 250) (YD 064547)	2nd ARVN Regt
(4) 2 Dusters	Can Lo Bridge (YD 128671)	RF/PF
<u>(e) Btry D (-)</u>	Phu Bai (YD 880140)*	XXIV Corps
(1) 2 Dusters	FSB Bastogne (YD 620095)	101st ABN Div
(2) 2 Dusters	FSB Birmingham (YD 706102)	101st ABN Div
(3) 2 Dusters	Hai Van Pass (YD 039918)	1st Mar Div

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(4)	1 Duster	Lang Co Bridge (YD 886956)	1st Mar Div
(5)	1 Duster	FSB Anzio (YD 934072)	54th ARVN Regt
<u>(c)</u>	<u>C/65 (-)</u>	Dong H. Combat Base* (YD 233583)	1st Bde, 5th Inf Div (Mech)
(1)	2 M55	FSB Bastogne (YD 620095)	101st ABN Div
(2)	2 M55	Camp Evans (YD 539318)	101st ABN Div
(3)	2 M55	Phu Bai (YD 880140)	XXIV Corps
(4)	2 M55	A-2 (YD 213743)	2nd ARVN Regt
(5)	2 M55	A-1 (YD 270734)	2nd ARVN Regt
(6)	1 M55	Camp Eagle (YD806143)	101st ABN Div
(7)	1 M55	Pahl Bridge (YD 756134)	101st ABN Div
(8)	1 M55	FSB Rifle (YC 863488)	101st ABN Div
(9)	1 M55	LZ Sarge (YD 029478)	2nd ARVN Regt
(10)	1 M55	Camp Carroll (YD 063544)	2nd ARVN Regt
(11)	1 M55	LZ Sharon (YD 334493)	1st Bde, 5th Inf Div (Mech)
<u>(g)</u>	<u>G/29 (-)</u>	Dr. Heng (AT 957757)	III MAF
(1)	2	Phu Bai (YD 880140)	XXIV Corps
(2)	2	Nano Bridge (AT 926844)	1st Mar Div
(3)	1	Dong H. (YD 233583)	XXIV Corps
(4)	1	Hill 10 (AT 924691)	1st Mar Div
(5)	1	FSB Baldy (AT 133453)	1st Mar Div
(6)	1	Khe Gio Bridge (YD 026542)	2nd ARVN Regt
(7)	1	Camp Evans (YD 535314)	101st ABN Div

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- (8) 1 FSB Los Banes 1st Mar Div  
(T 832999)
- (9) 1 FSB Ross (AT 027342) 1st Mar Div
- (10) 1 Hill 55 (AT 970620) 1st Mar Div
- (11) 1 Hill 65 (AT 878577) 1st Mar Div
- (12) 1 Hill 37 (AT 916582) 1st Mar Div
- (13) 1 FSB Bastogne 101st ABN Div  
(YD 620095)
- (14) 1 Hill 327 (AT 973737) 1st Mar Div
- (15) 1 Hill 190 (AT 892823) 1st Mar Div
- (16) 1 Liberty Bridge 1st Mar Div  
(AT 892513)
- (17) 1 Caudo Bridge 1st Mar Div  
(AT 997705)
- (18) 1 (Roving Light) 1st Mar Div  
(Da Nang Base Defense)

\* M42's and M55's reported at Dong Ha and Phu Bai are committed to Base Defense, Reaction Force, minesweeps, convoy escort security, and artillery raid forces.

(5) Ammunition expenditures

	Reporting Period	Total
40mm	99,669	1,742,605
.50 cal	415,500	3,118,900

(6) Days spent for training, movement, operations were as follows:

(a) Training (OJT): 92 days

(b) Training (Replacement) 12 days (Instruction given newly assigned personnel for 2 full day periods, 6 times during reporting quarter)

(c) Movement: N/A

(d) Operations: 92 days

d. Logistics

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### (1) Property Books

(a) Property books remain established within this organization as follows:

- (1) 1st Bn 44th Arty for HHB, a, b, and C Btrys
- (2) Btry D, 1st Bn 44th Arty
- (3) Btry G (MG), 65 Arty
- (4) Btry G (SLT), 29th Arty
- (5) 3d Plt, Btry G (SLT), 29th Arty

(b) Request for special authorization of truck cargo 5-ton (24 each) approved by G-4 USARV for Btry G, 65th Arty on 23 Sep 69. Nineteen 5-tons have been received to date.

(c) The retrograde for M42A1 Dusters for overage and mileage has resulted in the receipt of 10 new Dusters during this reporting period.

(2) Significant equipment fills: The following major end items have been received over the past quarter:

#### (a) 1st Bn (AW) (SP) 44th Arty

- (1) Test set radio frequency AN/USM-161 - 1 ea
- (2) Truck cargo 5-ton 6 x 6 M54A2 - 2 ea
- (3) Truck utility 1/4 ton 4 x 4 M151A1 - 1 ea
- (4) Truck cargo 2½-ton 6 x 6 M34A2 - 1 ea (combat loss)
- (5) Carrier personnel FT M-113A1 - 1 ea (combat loss)
- (6) Gun SP FT 40mm M42A1 - 1 ea (combat loss)

#### (b) Btry G (MG), 65th Arty

- (1) Tool kit arty mach - 2 ea
- (2) Truck cargo 5-ton wo/w - 13 ea
- (3) Truck cargo 5-ton wo/w - 6 ea

(3) Significant equipment shortages: The following items are now on requisition and are considered critical for this unit's mission:

#### (a) 1st Bn (AW) (SP) 44th Arty

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- (1) Generator 1,5KW DC - 19
  - (2) Generator 3 KW AC - 1
  - (3) Night Vision Sights (Crew served) - 64
  - (4) Radio set AN/GRC 106 - 17
  - (5) Radio set AN/VRC 46 - 1
  - (6) Radio set AN/VRC 47 - 4
  - (7) Recovery Vehicle FT M578 - 2
  - (8) Trailer ammo M332 - 37
  - (9) Truck utility  $\frac{1}{2}$ -ton M151A1 - 5
  - (10) Night Observation Device (Individual) - 55
- (b) Btry G (MG), 65th Arty
- (1) Radio set AN/PRC -55 - 1
  - (2) Truck cargo 5-ton wo/w - 5
  - (3) Mount machine gun M55 - 16
  - (4) Machine gun .50 cal - 6
  - (5) Night observation device (Crew served) - 17
  - (6) Night observation device (Individual) - 24
- (c) Btry G (SLT), 29th Arty
- (1) Searchlight, visual/infra AN/MSS-3 - 4
  - (2) Switchboard SB-22AYPT - 1
  - (3) Truck utility  $\frac{1}{2}$ -ton M151A1 - 1
- (4) Relocation of Unit PLL's

(a) Unit PLL's were centrally located in the Battalion Maintenance area thereby achieving rapid cross leveling between all units. Each unit has its own building and PLL's.

(b) Selenium rectifiers are still a critical PLL item. The monsoon season has caused many electrical problems which effect the selenium rectifiers.

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### c. Religious Activities

(1) Memorial service was held for SP4 Benedict J. Linnen at Phu Bai on 19 November 1969 by the Battalion Chaplain. A second memorial service was held at Da Nang on 21 November 1969 by the senior Catholic Chaplain of the 1st Marine Division, in order to allow more of the personnel of Btry G (SLT), 29th Arty to attend.

(2) During the period 1 November 1969 to 21 January 1970, the Battalion conducted services as follows:

- (a) Base camp - 29
- (b) Field Locations - 31
- (c) Memorial - 1
- (d) Special Holidays services - 7

(3) The Battalion Chaplain, in cooperation with the office of the Group Chaplain, taught the character guidance classes for the month of December. A total of 9 classes were given. In addition the subject of January's character guidance was prepared by the Battalion Chaplain for distribution throughout 108th Arty Group.

### f. Medical

(1) During the reporting period, there were 535 out-patient visits to the Aid Station. There were also 1,935 immunizations given. The majority of these were given during an influenza program where entire Battalion was immunized.

(2) The most common and frequent diseases were skin diseases, acute respiratory infections, diseases of the ears, nose, throat, and various injuries, mostly minor. There have been no cases of typhus, cholera, or plague seen in the Battalion. There has been one case of malari during the reporting period. The man has returned to duty.

(3) Sanitary inspections are conducted by the Battalion Surgeon and other medical personnel twice monthly. Any discrepancies are corrected on the spot. All inspections have been satisfactory.

### g. Civil Affairs

(1) Medical. The Battalion Surgeon makes twice weekly trips to Dong Ho Village Hospital. There he treats an average of 40 to 50 outpatients. He also treats about 10 to 15 inpatients.

(2) Civic Actions. Construction of Bo De School in Dong Ho has been completed. The Battalion continues to support this school.

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### h. Education.

(1) 1st Bde, 5th Inf Div (Mech) Education Center, Quang Tri Combat Base, administers all courses and tests for personnel stationed in Dong Ha.

(2) 26th General Support Group, Phu Bai Combat Base administers all courses and tests for Btry D.

(3) 80th Support Group, Da Nang, administers all courses and tests for Btry G (SLT), 29th Arty.

2. (C) Lessons Learned: Commander's observations, evaluations, and recommendations. (U)

#### a. (U) Personnel:

##### (1) Shortage of MOS 16F10.

(a) OBSERVATION: Personnel with MOS 16F10 are not available to the Battalion in sufficient number to replace normal losses. Battalion has only 70% fill of MOS 16F.

(b) EVALUATION: 13A10 MOS, infused from field artillery units have been cross-trained to 16F10 MOS with minimum training required.

(c) RECOMMENDATION: That 13A10's be assigned to this battalion on a regular basis when 16F10's are not available to avoid serious under-strength condition to exist in that MOS in the Battalion.

#### b. (U) Intelligence: None

#### c. (C) Operations: (U)

##### (1) Jamming of M42A1 Automatic loader

(a) Observation: The square 40mm clip has a tendency to jam the M42-A1 automatic loader.

(b) Evaluation: The square ends of some 40mm clips catch on the ejection port on the automatic loader, thus preventing the clip from being fully ejected.

(c) Recommendations: Units having the square clip 40mm ammunition file down the corner of the ejection port of the automatic loader, thus allowing free travel of the empty clip.

##### (2) M42A1 Duster fire on sensor readouts.

(a) Observation: Response time to sensor readouts by the duster is comparatively faster than other supporting weapons. Recently, Dusters have achieved great success in response to calls for fire on sensor readouts.

(b) Evaluation: At FSB Anzio (La Son) two sets of sensor strings were emplaced. The Duster was registered (adjusted) on both strings by an aerial observer, and firing data was recorded for future use. The mission of

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the Duster at this FSB is to provide AW's fire support on sensor readouts. During the hours of darkness, when most movement occurs, the Duster is laid on the sensor string using the prerecorded data and crew personnel are at their battle stations. A quick fire channel between the TOC and the Duster is maintained on hot loop basis. Duster personnel have constantly delivered large volumes of fire on targets within 30 seconds of sensor detection and have completed saturation of the area within 1½ minutes.

(c) (c) Recommendation: That Dusters be utilized to fire when within range on sensor readouts.

(3) Teaming of automatic weapons, night observation devices and searchlights.

(a) OBSERVATION: During recent artillery raids and at some FSB's, elements of this Battalion have achieved tremendous results when teamed together.

(b) EVALUATION: The definition and field of vision of the NOD is greatly enhanced when scanning in areas where the searchlight is operating in the infra-red mode. The NOD in conjunction with the searchlight constantly scan their assigned sector and upon target detection inform the Duster or Quad 50 crew of the azimuth and estimated range. The Duster is reciprocally laid with the NOD and searchlight. The AW crew sets off their data, commands the searchlight to go to white light, and brings fire to bear on target. Care must be exercised to insure that the NOD is turned off prior to visible light illuminating the target.

(c) Recommendation: That AW's, NOD's and searchlights be teamed together where feasible.

(d) (U) Training: None

(e) (U) Logistics: None

(f) (U) Communications: None

(g) (U) Other: None

(h) (U) Materiel: None

AVGL-C (5 February 1970) 1st Ind  
SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, 1st Battalion, (AW)(SP)  
44th Artillery, Period Ending 31 January 1970, RCS CSFOR-67  
(R2) (U)

DA, HQ 108th Artillery Group, APO San Francisco 96269 19 February 1970

TO: Commanding General, XXIV Corps Artillery, ATTN: AVIL-ATC, APO San Francisco 96308

1. The ORLL of the 1st Battalion, 44th Artillery is forwarded in accordance with AR 525-15.
2. Concur with recommendations made in paragraph 2.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

*Kenneth E. Middlemist*  
KENNETH E. MIDDLEMIST  
CPT, FA  
Adjutant

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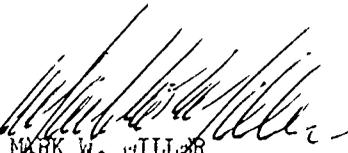
AVII-ATC (5 Feb 70) 2d Ind  
SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, 1st Battalion (AW) (SP),  
44th Artillery, Period Ending 31 January 1970, RCS CSFOR-65  
(R2) (U)

DA, HQ, XXIV Corps Artillery, APO San Francisco 96349

TO: Commanding General, XXIV Corps, ATTN: AVII-GCT, APO San Francisco  
96308

1. (U) The ORLL of the 1st Battalion, 44th Artillery is forwarded in accordance with USARV Reg 525-15.
2. (U) This headquarters has reviewed subject report and concurs.
3. (C) Reference paragraph 2c(2), page 13. Further recommend that the availability of dusters be considered by agencies emplacing sensors. When possible, sensors should be located to facilitate attack by dusters.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

  
MARK W. MILLER  
CPT, FA  
Adjutant

AVII-GCT (5 Feb 70) 3rd Ind  
SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, 1st Battalion (AW) (SP), 44th  
Artillery, Period Ending 31 January 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2) (U)

DA, HQ, XXIV Corps, APO San Francisco 96349

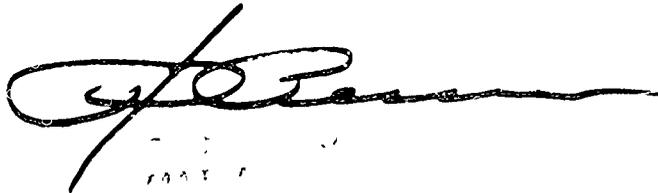
TO: Commanding General, United States Army, Vietnam, APO San Francisco 96375

1. The ORLL of the 1st Battalion, 44th Artillery has been reviewed and is forwarded in accordance with AR 525-15.
2. Except as noted below this headquarters concurs with the report as indorsed.

a. Reference paragraph 2a (1), page 13. Shortages in MOS 16F10 are USARV wide; therefore, assignment and cross-training of basic artillery personnel (13A10) is recommended.

b. Reference paragraph 2c (1), page 13. Nonconcur in the recommendation. If this problem is occurring at a frequent interval an equipment improvement report (EIR) should be submitted.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



AVHGC-DST (5 Feb 70) 4th Ind

25 MAR

SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned, 1st Battalion (AW)(SP)  
44th Artillery, Period Ending 31 January 1970, RCS CSFOR-67 (K2)

HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY, VIETNAM, APO San Francisco 96375

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 31 January 1970 from Headquarters, 1st Battalion (AW)(SP) 44th Artillery and concurs with the comments of indorsing headquarters.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

  
D. MURRAY  
LT

Cy furn:  
HQ, XXIV Corps  
1st Bn 44th Arty

GPOP-DT (5 Feb 70) 5th Ind (U)  
SUBJECT: Operational Report of HQ, 1st Bn (AW)(SP) 44th Artillery for Period  
Ending 31 January 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

HQ, US Army, Pacific, APO San Francisco 96558 31 MAR 1970

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

This headquarters concurs in subject report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:



C. L. SHORTT  
CPT, AGC  
Asst AG

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## ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

1. (C) Assigned
  - a. Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion (AW) (SP) 44th Artillery.
  - b. Battery A
  - c. Battery B
  - d. Battery C
  - e. Battery D
2. (C) Attached
  - a. Battery G (Machinegun), 65th Artillery
  - b. Battery G (Searchlight), 29th Artillery

UNCLASSIFIED

Security Classification

DOCUMENT CONTROL DATA - R & D

(Security classification of title, body of abstract and indexing annotation must be entered when the overall report is classified)

1. ORIGINATING ACTIVITY (Corporate author)		2a. REPORT SECURITY CLASSIFICATION	
HQ, OACSFOR, DA, Washington, D.C. 20310		CONFIDENTIAL	
3. REPORT TITLE		2b. GROUP	
Operational Report - Lessons Learned, HQ, 1st Battalion, 44th Artillery		4	
4. DESCRIPTIVE NOTES (Type of report and inclusive dates)			
Experiences of unit engaged in counterinsurgency operations, 1 Nov 69 to 31 Jan 70.			
5. AUTHOR(S) (First name, middle initial, last name)			
CO, 1st Battalion, 44th Artillery			
6. REPORT DATE		7a. TOTAL NO. OF PAGES	7b. NO. OF REFS
5 February 1970		24	
8a. CONTRACT OR GRANT NO.		9a. ORIGINATOR'S REPORT NUMBER(S)	
b. PROJECT NO N/A		701109	
c.		9b. OTHER REPORT NO(S) (Any other numbers that may be assigned this report)	
d.			
10. DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT			
11. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES		12. SPONSORING MILITARY ACTIVITY	
N/A		OACSFOR, DA, Washington, D.C. 20310	
13. ABSTRACT			

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