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**AD NUMBER**

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<th>AUTHORITY</th>
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<td>AGO D/A ltr, 29 Apr 1980</td>
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2. Information contained in this report is provided to the Commandants of the Service Schools to insure appropriate benefits in the future from lessons learned during current operations, and may be adapted for use in developing training material.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

KENNETH G. WICKHAM
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

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OPERATIONAL REPORT FOR QUARTERLY PERIOD ENDING 31 JULY 1966
(RCS CSFOR-65)(U)

TO: See Distribution

Section 1. SIGNIFICANT OPERATIONAL OR UNIT ACTIVITIES.

1. (U) At the start of the quarter the Battalion was located in base camp with the following exceptions:
   a. Btry D, 8" How, SF, was in position along Highway 19 east of Pleiku providing artillery support for a road opening operation. The battery departed base camp on 25 April.
   b. Three (3) NCOs were on TDY to Dau Co SF Camp to teach artillery fire direction procedures and cannoneer's duties to the CSG personnel. These NCOs departed 25 April for a tentative TDY period of two (2) to three (3) weeks and returned on 5 May.
   c. One (1) officer and three (3) NCOs who were sent TDY to Nui Xok SF Camp on 27 April for the same purpose as 1b, above, returned on 5 June.

2. (U) Btry D closed in base camp on 5 May. During the operation, Btry D fired 48 rounds in two (2) registrations and 16 H & I missions. There was negative enemy contact during the period.

3. (U) On 9 May, Btry B (175mm Gun), Btry D (8" How), and Command Elements from Hq Bty moved to Iloi Ho SF Camp to participate in operation "P. L. REVISE". On 17 May, Btry B (-) (-) moved to Dau Co. Effective 19 May, Bn (-) was attached to 3rd Bde, 25th Div for the duration of operation "P. L. REVISE".

4. (U) On 27 May, Btry B (-) fired 54 rounds in the vicinity of Iloi Ho SJ Camp to assist in the defense of the camp. Although no casualties were assessed, no enemy activity was observed after the firing was concluded.

5. (U) Btry A (-) replaced Btry B (-) at Dau Co on 28 May. The following day, the remainder of Btry A moved to Iloi Ho, after which two (2) howitzers from Btry D departed for Dau Co. The Bn Metro Section moved to the 3rd Bde, 25th Div gctl CP, and the remainder of Btry B closed at base station on 29 May. The Metro section moved to a position six (6) km north of Iloi Ho on 21 June with 3rd Bde, 25th Div CP, and rejoined the Operations Platoon at Iloi Ho on 15 July. The section returned to base station on 31 July. All moves were accomplished without incident. The units remained in those positions through the end of the period. As of 31 July the battalion has a composite battery consisting of two (2) 6" Howitzers and two (2) 175mm Guns at Dau Co under control of CO, Btry A, and a similar composite battery at Iloi Ho under control of CO, Btry D. In addition, the Bn Operations Platoon is at Iloi Ho. A service element has been stationed at the 3rd Bde FSB to expedite moving supplies to the field locations.

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6. (U) On 1 June, Btry A, at Duc Co, fired approximately 270 rounds of 8" and 175mm ammunition for protection of a Special Forces Mike Force. No body count of casualties was assessed, but the Mike Force, which had been surrounded by a superior VC force, escaped with very light casualties.

7. (U) Btry B was on operation with the 1st Air Cav Div between 10 June and 25 June. On this operation the battery moved first to Moi Bjerong SF Camp, then to Kontum, and finally was split with two (2) guns on the FDC element moving to a position approximately 15K south-southwest of Pleiku. Negative enemy contact was established on the operation. During this period base camp was occupied by Hq Btry(-) and 2nd Btry(-) only, with one (1) platoon of infantry from 3rd Mo, 25th Div for camp security.

8. (U) On 25 June, one (1) 175mm gun in Btry B malfunctioned at 2340 hours. The gun was destroyed, three (3) EN killed and six (6) EN wounded, three (3) seriously. Replacement gun, US 179056 was received on 26 July.

9. (U) On 2 July, Btry L at Duc Co fired 12 rounds of 175mm ammunition in defense of Moi Bjerong SF Camp. The attack broke off when the first round impacted. No casualty assessment was obtained.

10. (U) The battalion was attached to the 52nd Artillery Group, effective 20 July, per General Order 287, HQ I Field Force Vietnam, dated 29 July. The same GO detached the 77th CM Radar Detachment from the battalion and attached it to the 52nd Artillery Group. The two (2) Searchlight sections of Btry D, 29th arty remained attached, by verbal order, to the battalion.

11. (U) During the period, the Battalion Ammunition Trains, with security elements from 3rd Mo, 25th Div, conducted ammunition and POL resupply runs to Duc Co six (6) times and to Moi No eight (8) times. All of the trips to Moi No were uneventful. On the trips to Duc Co, the security elements with the column hit land mines four (4) times, and battalion vehicles hit mines two (2) times. No American casualties were suffered on any of these incidents, but one (1) 5T truck was damaged on 30 June, and one (1) M110 Ammunition trailer was destroyed on 15 July. The 5T truck was repaired and completely serviceable by 9117CH July.

12. (U) The battalion has suffered 16 casualties during this period, eight (8) killed and ten (10) wounded. Casualties occurred as follows:

a. One (1) KIA self-inflicted accidentally via Duc Co SF Camp.

b. Ten (2) KIA via Duc Co by VC infiltrators who turned a Claymore mine around and destroyed it. The infiltrators had been at Duc Co SF Camp for several months prior to this incident.

c. Two (2) KIA and two (2) WIA at base camp while removing the perimeter mine field.

d. Three (3) KIA and six (6) WIA when the 175mm gun malfunctioned

Incl 1

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13. (U) During the period this unit has received confirmed credit for 40 killed, one (1) wounded as a result of our fires.

14. (U) During the period the following personnel actions occurred which influence unit morale:
   a. Personnel losses - 42
   b. Personnel gains - 146
   c. Present for duty strength close of period: 32 OIF, 4 40.

15. (U) During the period the battalion fired the following munitions:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEAPON</th>
<th>TYPE</th>
<th>FUSE</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
<th>TOTAL EXPENDED IN COUNTRY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8&quot; How</td>
<td>HE</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>5512</td>
<td>7345</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CVT</td>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HSQ</td>
<td></td>
<td>206</td>
<td>289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5729</td>
<td>7696</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>175mm Gun</td>
<td>HE</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>4980</td>
<td>8160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CVT</td>
<td></td>
<td>526</td>
<td>622</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5506</td>
<td>8782</td>
</tr>
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</table>

16. (U) The following logistics actions have taken place:

   a. Between 8 and 12 May logistical problems pertaining to operation "long range" were resolved. The initial problems involved water and ammunition resupply. The water problem was solved when the 3rd Bde, 25th Div arranged to deliver one (1) water trailer to each location daily utilizing CH-47 aircraft. After 12 May, problem in delivery of water and rations was occasioned only by inclement weather which precluded the use of aircraft, or by heavy tactical requirements involving large scale use of aircraft.

   b. Two (2) water trailers were borrowed from 9-4, 3rd Bde, 25th Div to facilitate the water resupply. On 4 July, one (1) of the battalion water trailers was dropped by a CH-47 during resupply and was completely demolished. Battalion is now short two (2) water trailers,
SUBJECT: Operational Report for quarterly period ending 31 July 66 (U) (contd)

one which became unserviceable on operation "LINCOLN" on 4 April and the present loss.

c. As sponsors for the 52nd Artillery Group and 3rd Bn, 6th Artillery, the S-4 submitted requisitions for bunker and barrier material, established account numbers, required and erected tentage for the advance parties. The battalion provided water, rations, and quarters for the advance parties from 8 through 18 June, and water and rations for Bn Strty 52nd Artillery Group from 18 Jun through 22 July.

d. Requisitions were placed for 105,606 sandbags to construct field fortifications for the positions at Dau Go and Tien Ho 65 Corps. To date those requisitions have not been filled. Follow-up action through supply channels indicates that none are available in this area at the present time.

17.(c) The following are critical supply shortages. Follow-up action has been initiated with negative response at the present time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>QUANTITY</th>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>REQUISITION DATE</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 ea</td>
<td>Truck, utility, 2T, H151</td>
<td>15 Nov 66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 ea</td>
<td>Truck, cargo, 2T</td>
<td>6 June 66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 ea</td>
<td>12V, 100A battery</td>
<td>2 Apr 66, 4 Jul 66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 sets</td>
<td>Fan bolts for 4T truck, H151</td>
<td>31 Jan, 17 Jun, 19 Jun, 21 Jun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56 ea</td>
<td>12V Automotive battery</td>
<td>27 Apr, 19 Jun, 22 Jun, 19 Jul</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 ea</td>
<td>Tank, liquid storage</td>
<td>10 Apr 66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Survey components (measuring tapes, range poles, tool repair sections, hand levels, and survey sets, 4th order)</td>
<td>30 May 66</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

18.(U) On 19 July, this unit was visited by Major General Anderson, CO Army Material Command. During his visit, the use of the Gun Direction Computer, H18 (ABN.C) in Vietnam was discussed. MG Anderson explained that AMC desired to have the Computer field tested in RVN on a reduced scale prior to issuing it to all units. The Commanding Officer, 6th Bn, 14th Arty, then stated that we would like to be one of the units selected to field test the equipment.

19.(U) During the period of this report, the battalion spent 69 days on combat operations.

Section 2. COMMANDER'S OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

Part 1. Observations (Lessons Learned)

1.(U) Communications:

a. FM: Difficulties in long range FM communications.

DISCUSSION: The increased range of the new series FM radios, and the large number of units in the area, causes communication problems. Units with frequencies 0.55 to 0.57 MHz apart cut out each other's transmissions and override the other unit's frequencies. Additionally, the problem of mutual interference appears to be increased, resulting in transmissions being cut out by other units. Also, when operating at or near maximum
ranged during the monsoon season, communications becomes virtually
impossible for several hours each day.

OBSERVATION: Communications officers at all levels must exercise close
supervision of assignment of frequencies. The use of AM radio
transmissions might serve to decrease the congestion on the AM
frequency bands. The issue, to selected units, of a suitable AM radio
on the basis of one (1) per firing battery and two (2) per battalion
operations center would provide satisfactory conditions to test this
possibility.

b. ITEM: Changing unit radio call signs.

DISCUSSION: When any unit changes its radio call signs, as should be
done periodically for security reasons, all units with which it normal-
ly works should be notified. However, the fluid situation, and
the difficulty of making distribution to all units requiring such inform-
ation, makes it extremely difficult to insure that all units have the
up-to-date items. Additionally, since a non-artillery battalion may work
with any unit in the area, a non-divisional GS battalion must maintain
current SOI's for all units in the appropriate corps area.

OBSERVATION: Unit radio call signs should not be changed once they are
assigned and it has been verified that no other unit has conflicting
radio call signs. Frequencies should be changed periodically on direction
from higher headquarters after screening to insure that the maximum
amount of frequency interference is eliminated.

2.(U) Logistics.

ITEM: Difficulty were encountered in providing potable
water to widely dispersed units.

DISCUSSION: Resupply by air becomes mandatory when units are widely
dispersed and the road network is not suitable for convey movement. When
the local water cannot be purified by chemical means, potable water must
be flown in daily. When approximately 150 to 250 personnel are in the
position, this requires at least one (1) water trailer or bladder per
day, thus tying up aircraft which could be utilized elsewhere.

OBSERVATION: The issue of three (3) CP-11 water purification systems
per battalion would greatly relieve the aircraft requirements for water
resupply.

Part 2. Recommendations.

1.(U) In the Operational Report on Lessons Learned for the period
ending 30 April 66, it was recommended that the H18 Gun Direction Com-
puter be issued to this unit as soon as possible. Based on the confer-
ence with Major General Anderson (para 17, sec 1 above), recommend
action be taken to obtain sufficient sets for this unit to field test
the computer in accordance with his desires.

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2. (U) Water purification System: Recommended changes in personnel and equipment which were submitted to I Field Force Vietnam Artillery on 26 July included the addition of personnel and equipment for two (2) 600 gallon per minute purification units. Subsequent resolution indicates that one (1) water purification unit per firing battery is more appropriate. Recommend that action be taken to expedite this item.

3. (U) The shortage of two (2) of the battalion's five (5) water trail- ers and the survey equipment (section 1, para 16 above) seriously hampers the operational capability of the unit. Recommend action be taken to expedite issue of these items.

CHARLES C. WILLIAMS
Lt Col, Artillery
Commanding

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1 = 6th Bn, 14th Artillery, ATTN: S-3

(6) DECLASSIFY ON 1 Jan 67

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SUBJECT: Operational report for quarterly period ending 31 July 1966
RC3(CSPR-65) (U)

HEADQUARTERS, 52D ARMY GROUP, APO 96290, 10 August 1966

TO: Headquarters, Department of the Army, ATTN: AGSFC, Washington, D.C. 20310

1. Forwarded.

2. Concur in Commander's observations. Report in considered adequate.

[Signature]

C.L. Thomas
O.R. TQCHLTH
Colonel, Artillery
Commanding

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