NEW LIMITATION CHANGE

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Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development [Army], Washington, DC 20310.

AUTHORITY
AGO D/A ltr, 29 Apr 1980
TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development
Department of the Army (AGSFOR, DA)
Washington, D. C. 20310

1. Section 1, Operations: Significant Activities.

   a. During the period 31 January to 4 February, the Tet Offensive, Battery "A", working in the Song Be area, was credited with 70 confirmed KIA.
During this same time frame, Platoon "B" of Battery "B", in support of Operation Muscatine north of Quang Ngai city, was credited with 125 confirmed enemy KIA.

b. On 5 February, two howitzers from Battery "A" were displaced by air lift from Song Be to Minh Be and were attached for operations to the 9th Infantry Division, supporting the 1st Battalion, 39th Infantry. Battery "A" (-) moved from Song Be to Phuoc Binh by road on the same date.

c. On 7 February, the 2nd Battalion, 11th Artillery minus Battery "B", was attached to the 101st Airborne Division. Battery "B" remained attached to the Americal Division, operating one platoon from Fire Support Base Dragon in Mo Duc, supporting the 11th Infantry Brigade, and one platoon at FSB Bottie supporting Task Force Barker, in support of Operation Muscatine. The 2nd Battalion, 11th Artillery remained assigned to the 23d Artillery Group, its mission was unchanged.

d. On 4 March, Battery "A" (-) at Phuoc Binh was air lifted to Phuoc Vinh and attached to the 161st Battalion, 27th Artillery, in support of the 3d Brigade, 101st Airborne Division.

e. On 9 March, Battery "C" was attached to the 2d Brigade, 101st Airborne Division and displaced by road from LZ June to FSB Nola.

f. On 14 March, Headquarters and Service Battery began the move from Bien Hoa to the forward position area of the 101st Airborne Division Headquarters at Camp Eagle near Hue; the two batteries closed Camp Eagle on 16 March.

g. On 16 March, Battery "D" was attached to the 101st Airborne Division Artillery and began the road march to Phu Bai.

h. On 18 March, two howitzers of Battery "A" (-) at Phuoc Vinh were deployed to Loc Ninh to support the 5th Special Forces in conjunction with Operation Vardon.

i. On 18 March, Battery "C" was split and three howitzers moved by road from FSB Nola to FSB Geronimo.

j. On 19 March, Battery "B" completed the three day road march from Mo Duc to Camp Eagle.

k. On 20 March, Battery "B" moved to FSB Birmingham, reinforcing the fires of the 2d Battalion, 320th Artillery.

l. On 20 March, Battery "C" (-) moved from FSB Nola to LZ Sally.

m. On 22 March, one platoon of Battery "A" deployed from Loc Ninh to Dong Ison to support Special Forces Operation Tamatta Shawnee.

n. On 28 March, with one hour notice, Battery "B" helilifted three
howitzers from FSB Birmingham to FSB Bastogne in support of the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division.

c. On 28 March, one howitzer from Battery "A" from Dong Loc and two howitzers from Zha Be converged at FSB Bastogne to support Special Forces Operation Rapid Fire VIII and the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment. The remaining howitzers at Dong Loc were air lifted to Phuoc Vinh.

d. On 1 April, Battery "A" (-) moved from LZ Sally back to LZ Jane.

e. On 11 April, Battery "C" (-) fired the first COMRAA round fired by this battalion.

f. On 14 April, Battery "C" (-) moved from LZ Jane to FSB Boyd in support of the 101st Airborne Division.

g. On 15 April, Battery "B" (-) displaced from FSB Birmingham to join the platoon at FSB Bastogne.

h. On 15 April, Battery C, 6th Battalion, 16th Artillery was attached to the 2d Battalion, 11th Artillery.

i. On 18 April, Battery C, 6th Battalion, 16th Artillery was assigned under the operational control of the battalion and closed a position vicinity Camp Eagles.

j. Battery "C", 6th Battalion, 16th Artillery was positioned at FSB Sally. During the period 23 - 26 April, one platoon from Battery "C", 6th Battalion, 16th Artillery was positioned at FSB Vulture to support the 2d Squadron, 17th Cavalry in clearing operations north of Hue. The platoon returned to FSB Sally on 27 April.

k. Presently, Battery "A" is located at Phuoc Vinh. Their mission is general support of 3rd Airborne Force Artillery, reinforcing the fires of the 2d Battalion, 319th Artillery, 101st Airborne Division. Battery "B" is located at FSB Bastogne; Battery "C" (-) at FSB Bastogne, and the first platoon of Battery "C" (-) is located at FSB Geromino. The Battalion minus retains the mission of general support of the 101st Airborne Division. Batteries have been given modified missions to reinforce the fires of particular direct support battalions of the Division Artillery as required by the tactical situation. Currently, the battalion is supporting both Operation Carentan II being conducted by the 101st Airborne Division east of FSB Bastogne, and Operation Delaware being conducted by the 101st Airborne Division and the 3d ARVN Airborne Brigade.

x. Organizational Structure. See Inclosure 1.

y. Number of days unit engaged in (1) Training - 0 (zero), (2) Troop movement - 8 days, (3) Operations - 90 days.

z. No major difficulties were experienced during movement.

aa. Effects of Logistical Support.

(1) Although this unit has moved to another location during the reporting period and is now supported by a different support activity, the anticipated problem of difficulty in obtaining repair parts and supplies has not occurred. This is due largely to not cancelling requisitions with support activities in the Long Dinh area. At Long Dinh a rear detachment receives supplies previously requisitioned and sends them to the forward location by air courier. This unit is also currently being supported by the DSO of the 101st Airborne Division and Task Force Lane of the 1st Log Command, which are co-located at Camp Eagle.

(2) Maintenance support during the reporting period has remained adequate.

(3) Difficulty is still being experienced in obtaining parts, i.e., spark plugs and points for the 1.5 KW generators. Parts for the 3 KW, 160 cycle generator, i.e., stator (field wiring) remain extremely difficult to obtain. Two of the latter type generators have remained deadlined throughout the entire reporting period due to the lack of availability of the stator. The part has been on redial acquisition for more than 90 days.

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

a. Personnel. None

b. Operations.

(1) Operations of Divided Battery.

(a) Observation. Artillery units arriving in Vietnam as well as those already in country are not authorized sufficient equipment under current TOE's to operate in two or more widely separated firing positions.

(b) Evaluation. It has been a common occurrence for the firing batteries of this battalion to divide into two or more firing elements to provide desired coverage within areas of operation. This situation requires each of the separate firing elements to perform all those functions that are normally required of a battery at full TOE strength. The primary problem area lies within those common areas where personnel and equipment are adequate when the battery operates from a single firing position, but which has proven far from adequate when operating from more than one firing position. The common areas contain communication equipment, fire control equipment, mess equipment, and sufficient available officer personnel for command and fire control, as well as sufficient enlisted fire direction personnel to support the battery in a divided configuration on a twenty four hour basis. Requests for modified TOE's are slow to be realized. In the case of this battalion a modified TOE was
requested more than a year ago. In the interim the battalion has functioned
with firing batteries divided a good percentage of the time.

(c) Recommendation. That the test results of objective
3 (Artillery Survivability) Troop East Frontier Shield, USARVUR, Aug-Sep
1966, be re-evaluated and that these results and recommendations be re-eval-
uated with reference to the combat requirements presented to artillery units
in the Republic of Vietnam.

(3) Training. None.

(4) Intelligence. None.

(5) Logistics.

(a) Commander's Observations. The current policy of
cancelling requisitions due to relocation of a unit presents unnecessary
resupply problems under the current system, CCESTAR.

(b) Evaluation. During the transition phase when a
unit changes from one support activity to a new support activity, the unit,
by policy, should be allowed to continue to receive supplies from the sup-
ply activity in the area departed, submit requisitions through the supply
activity in the new area, and close the account with the former activity
as soon as the new supply activity can provide for the needs of the unit.

(c) Recommendations. That an effective system be
developed so that during the transition phase of a unit which must transfer
from one supply activity to another, items are received by the displacing
unit without the currently experienced delays.

(6) Organization. Reference item 2b above.

(7) Medical. Malaria.

(a) Commander's Observation. Incidence of malaria in
this battalion has consisted of only one documented case in the last 17
month period.

(b) Evaluation. It is felt that this low incidence
is due to the fact that personnel of this battalion are required to take
the Doxycycline tablet daily and the Chloroquine - Primaquine tablet weekly,
regardless of the geographical area occupied within the Republic of Vietnam.
AVOE-VB 30 April 1968


(c) Recommendations. That all personnel within the Republic of Vietnam ingest both types of malaria tablets, regardless of geographical location within the Republic of Vietnam.


1 Incl

WALTER V. APPELGATE
LTC, Artillery
Commanding
1. Organic Units. 2d Battalion, 11th Artillery minus Battery "A" (Battery "A" is currently attached to the 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery) and minus the Meteorological Section (attached to the 1st Medical Division).

2. Attached Units. Battery C, 6th Battalion, 16th Artillery (155mm, towed).

**OPERATIONAL REPORT - LESSONS LEARNED**

HQ, 2d Battalion, 11th Artillery

**TITLE**: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, HQ, 2d Battalion, 11th Artillery

**DATE**: 30 April 1968

**AUTHOR**: CO, 2d Battalion, 11th Artillery

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**ABSTRACT**: Experiences of unit engaged in counterinsurgency operations, 1 Feb to 30 April 1968.