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

IN REPLY REFER TO

AGAM-P (M) (16 May 69) FOR OT UT 691090

23 May 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 1st Battalion
(AW) (SP) 44th Artillery, Period Ending 31 January 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

1 Incl
as

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1st Bn (AW) (SP) 44th Artillery

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 1ST BATTALION (AW) (SP) 44TH ARTILLERY
APO San Francisco 96269

AVGLEB-C

7 February 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report of 1st Battalion (AW) (SP) 44th Artillery
for Period Ending 31 January 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (RI) (U)

S.L. DISTRIBUTION

Section 1. Operations: Significant Activities. (C)

1. General.

a. The organizational structure of the Battalion is listed in Inclosure 1.

b. The primary mission of the Battalion continues to be that of general support, XXIV Corps Vietnam. The Battalion maintains a limited capability of performing its secondary mission of air defense.

c. A map of the DMZ area, representing a portion of the area in which the battalion is deployed, is included as Inclosure 3.

d. The ORLL for Battery G (Searchlight), 29th Artillery is attached as Inclosure 4.

2. Intelligence:

a. Primary sources of intelligence information were the following: XXIV Corps periodic intelligence report, 3d Marine Division daily briefings at Dong Ha and INTSUNS, and the S2 office of the 1st Brigade, 5th Mechanized Division. Secondary sources of information were MACV advisors at Mai Loc, Quang Tri, and 2d Regiment, 1st AAVN Division at Dong Ha. In addition battery officers and staff officers have successfully obtained and passed on information pertaining to their local areas of operation.

b. Two special intelligence presentations were made to officers of the Battalion. The senior intelligence advisor for Quang Tri Province compared the indicators which existed prior to last year's Tet Offensive with those present this year. The CS NCO from 1st Brigade, 5th Mechanized Division, discussed enemy units in the Hue-Quang Tri area, their capabilities, and most likely targets during the Tet season.

c. Temperatures ranged between 60° and 97° during the reported period. Rainfall has been surprisingly light, far less than expected during the monsoon season. An increase in colds and flu can be attributed to the sharp drops in temperature during one to five day rainy spells. Sweaters and field jackets were found necessary during the season, especially in outlying areas.

d. Contact has been light but reported enemy movement has been heavy, especially along known infiltration routes into Base Area 102 south of Quang Tri and in the mountains. Numerous bunkers and caches of food and equipment have been located throughout the DMZ and mountainous areas. There was occasional sniper fire along Route 9 west from Dong Ha, Route 561 north from Cam Lo, and Route 1 south of Phu Bai. There has been a sharp increase in the amount of ammunition found by mine sweep teams, to include artillery and mortar rounds, Chicom grenades, and Russian anti-tank mines along Route 1 north of Dong Ha.

3. Operations and Training Activities.

a. Plans: Continue the general support of combat forces in the area of operations of XXIV Corps, Vietnam.

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Inclosure

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AVGLB-C

7 February 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report of 1st Battalion (AW) (SP) 44th Artillery
for Period Ending 31 January 1969, RCS CSFOR-65, (RI) (U)

b. Historical:

(1) The 1st Battalion, 44th Artillery fired its millionth round of 40mm on 29 November 1968.

(2) On 12 January 1969 G Battery 65th Artillery fired its two millionth .50 caliber round.

c. Operations: The Battalion and elements of Battery G, 65th Artillery participated in the following area of operations through the dates indicated.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| (1) Kentucky (USMC) | 1 Nov 67 - present (Batteries A,B and G/65) |
| (2) Lancaster II (USMC) | 1 Nov 67 - 24 Nov 68 - present (Batteries A,B,C, and G/65) |
| (3) Houston (USMC) | 28 Feb 68 - present (Battery D) |
| (4) Nevada Eagle (USA) | Apr 68 - present (Batteries D and G/65) |
| (5) Neolean Saline | Mar 68 - 9 Dec 68 (Batteries A,B, and G/65) |
| (6) Marshall Mountain (USA) | 10 Dec 68 - 26 Jan 69 (Battery A) |
| (7) Scotland II | Apr 68 - present (Battery C) |

d. Significant Events: During the month of November the Battalion acquired the use of a helicopter (OH-6A) twice weekly from 108th Group. Over the reporting period this helicopter was used in the following manning: resupply, reconnaissance, and expeditious delivery of spare parts and technical personnel to remote positions. During the quarter there were two ambushes. On 010940 November 1968 one M42 Duster from C/1/44, while conducting mine sweep, received one RPG round at YDC41566. The M42 Duster was a combat loss but there were no personnel injuries. On 251945 November 1968 an M42 Duster from A/1/44, while travelling between C-2 and C-3, received one RPG and small arms fire in the vic YDL30631. Results were 4 WIA(E) and light damage to the M42 Duster.

e. Serious Incidents: On 23 November 1968 the gunner on an M55 .50 was firing a H & I mission at Lanco Bridge when the pins that control the vertical movement of the Quad .50 sheared. When this happened the tubes depressed and the weapon fired erratically, a soldier on guard duty in a bunker was wounded fatally by one of the erratic rounds. Special emphasis has been placed on inspecting and replacing these pins.

f. Non-self Destruct Ammunition. During the quarter the Battalion received its first shipment of non-self destruct ammunition. On 15 January 1500 rounds were delivered to A-2 and 1500 rounds to A-4. Techniques are being developed to take advantage of the 9000 meter effective range of this ammunition. Lack of FDC equipment and trained personnel precludes the establishment of adequate safety checks to fire indirect fire. Data for direct fire, however, can be computed using a standard firing chart with a range-deflection protractor.

g. Armor-Infantry Tactics. Two M42 Dusters from A/1/44 conducted a reconnaissance in force with a platoon of marines at Con Thien (A4) to train new crews and marines in armor-infantry tactics. Such training will continue throughout the next reporting period.

h. Relocation. On 15 December 1968 C/1/44 relocated its headquarters from Camp J.J. Carroll (YDC63551) to the Vinh Dai Rock Crusher site (YDL78579) near Cam Lo.

2

CONFIDENTIAL

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AVGLB-C

7 February 1969

SUBJECT: Operation 1 Report of 1st Battalion (AW) (SP) 44th Artillery
for Period Ending 31 January 1969, RCS CSFGR-65 (RI) (U)

i. Searchlight and M42 Duster. A searchlight was mounted in a tower at Gio Linh (A-2) and used in conjunction with an M42 Duster. On the first night of employment 17 December 1968 two Dusters fired approximately 2700 rounds at a suspected battalion movement and for interdiction fires. The light proved to be useful in illuminating a point target for direct fire and in illuminating nearby ridge lines to give a frame of reference for sweeping area coverage.

j. Daily Operations. The Battalion was engaged in tactical operations during the reporting period (92 days). Mine sweep teams were escorted daily along Route #9 between Dong Ha and Cam Lo. On the alternating days security was provided for sweep teams from Dong Ha to A-2. Batteries A and B provided security for these sweeps. Battery C escorted daily mine sweeps from Elliot Combat Base (Rockpile) to YD079570. Two M42 Dusters were employed on these missions. Battery G/65 escorted daily convoys from Dong Ha to Vandergrift Combat Base (LZ Stud) and from Dong Ha to A-2 utilizing up to six M55 Quad .50s.

k. Fire Missions. The Battalion fired 14 missions at known enemy positions with unknown results during the reporting period. Batteries continued firing harassing and interdiction fire during the reporting period. Fire missions with known results are listed in Inclosure 3.

l. Inclosure 3 lists other significant activities of the Battalion and of Battery G, 65th Artillery.

m. At the end of the quarterly period, 31 January 1969, the Battalion was tactically deployed as follows:

UNIT	LOCATION	UNIT SUPPORTED
HQB/1/44	Dong Ha YD233583	1st Battalion, 44th Artillery
A/1/44 (-)	Dong Ha YD233583	3d Marine Division
B/1/44 (-)	Dong Ha YD233583	3d Marine Division
C/1/44 (-)	Vinh Dai Rock Crusher YD178579	3d Marine Division
D/1/44 (-)	Phu Bai YD875148	XXIV Corps
G/65 (-)	Dong H. YD233583	3d Marine Division
A/1/44 3 Sqds	Con Thien YD113700	3d Marine Division
A/1/44 1 Section	C-2 YD132645	3d Marine Division
A/1/44 1 Section	Ocean View YD312732	3d Marine Division
B/1/44 2 Sections	LZ Sharon YD330490	3d Marine Division
B/1/44 1 Section	LZ Jack YD534316	101st Airborne
B/1/44 2 Sections	Quang Tri YD311557	3d Marine Division

CONFIDENTIAL

7 February 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report of 1st Battalion (AW)(SP) 44th Artillery
for Period Ending 31 January 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (RI) (U)

UNIT	LOCATION	UNIT SUPPORTED
C/1/44 2 Sections	Vandergrift (Stud)XD993488	3d Marine Division
C/1/44 3 Sqds	Elliot(Rockpile) XD983545	3d Marine Division
D/1/44 1 Section	Hai Van Pass AT939918	1st Marine Division
D/1/44 2 Sections	LZ Eagle YD813167	101st Airborne
D/1/44 1 Section	LZ Birmingham YD708101	101st Airborne
D/1/44 1 Sqd	Los Banos A7830001	101st Airborne
D/1/44 1 Sqd	Hill 88 AU808078	101st Airborne
G/65 2 Sqds	Phu Bai YD893150	XXIV Corps
G/65 2 Sqds	Lance Bridge AT884956	101st Airborne
G/65 1 Sqd	Nuoc Ngot Bridge ZD148010	101st Airborne
G/65 2 Sqds	Pohl Bridge YD755142	101st Airborne
G/65 1 Sqd	LZ Long YD577281	101st Airborne
G/65 1 Sqd	FB Tomahawk ZD115040	101st Airborne

m. Days spent in training, movement and operations were as follows:

(1) Training (OJT):	92 days
(2) Training (Replacement)	12 days
(3) Movement (C/1/44)	6 days
(4) Operations	9 days

o. Chemical. None.

p. Psy War. None.

q. Logistics. During the period the unit has received a stockage of B558, 40mm, Non-self-destruct ammunition. Some of this ammunition has been fired and found to be satisfactory. A major problem of insufficient stockage objective at Quang Tri ASP has been solved by an increase to over 42,000 rounds.

r. Civil Affairs.

(1) On Monday, 2 December 1968, a MEDCAP program was begun in Phu Lai Hamlet, between Dong Ha and Gio Linh. The battalion surgeon treated 75 to 85 Vietnamese each week with the major cases being skin rashes from poor sanitary conditions. The MEDCAP continued until the end of January 1969.

4 CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

AVGLE-C

7 February 1969

SUBJECT: Operation 1 Report of 1st Battalion (AW)(SP) 44th Artillery
for Period Ending 31 January 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (RI) (U)

(2) The Dong Ha Hospital was completed by the Seabees near the end of January and will begin operation after the first of February. There will be three doctors from the 108th Artillery Group, three from the 3d Marine Division and one nurse from Dong Ha village. The Battalion surgeon will be working in the hospital three days a week. The hospital will be equipped to handle only minor surgery and daily sick call.

(3) The Battalion also continues to support the piggery at Dai An Hamlet, with edible garbage.

(4) The Battalion's "Project Phung" to rehabilitate and have artificial legs fitted for an 8 year old girl and her grandmother was completed the first week of November. Both Phuong and her grandmother are back at Dong Ha village with their new legs.

s. Awards and Decorations. During the period 1 November 1968 to 31 January 1969, the Battalion and attached units sustained nine battle casualties, two of whom were killed in action. A total of 75 awards were presented during the reporting period as follows:

(1) Silver Star	1
(2) Bronze Star "V"	1
(3) ACM "V"	1
(4) Soldiers Medal	2
(5) Air Medal	1
(6) Bronze Star	20
(7) ACM	5
(8) Purple Heart	44

t. Religious Activities.

(1) Memorial services were conducted for two members of our Battalion who were killed near Chu Lai. These two men were from Battery G, 29th Artillery.

(2) During this quarter the Battalion Chaplain visited troops in the following locations: Hai Van Pass, Camp Eagle, Los Bueas, Hill 70, Phu Bai, Pohl Bridge, Lance Bridge, Nuoc Ngat Bridge, Birmingham, Gio Linh, Con Thien, LZ Sharon, Camp Evans, LZ Jack, Quang Tri, Ocean View, A-2, A-4, C-2, and most of the positions in the DaNang area where G/29 has searchlights.

(3) The scheduled services in the Battalion have been regular Sunday Morning services at 0930 hours at the Battalion Chapel, and at C Battery general protestant services were held the first and third Sundays; services were held at D Battery at Phu Bai on the second and fourth Sundays. Catholic Services were conducted at 1115 hours each Sunday morning.

u. R and R. Members of this Battalion have been participating in this program with enthusiasm, as seen by the numerical listing below:

<u>R & R Location</u>	<u>November</u>	<u>December</u>	<u>January</u>
Sidney	10	13	13
Bangkok	9	12	21
Hong Kong	8	6	10
Taipei	14	11	8
Ponang	3	2	2

CONFIDENTIAL

AVGLB-C

7 February 1969

SUBJECT: Operation 1 Report of 1st Battalion (AW) (SP) 44th Artillery
for Period Ending 31 January 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (RI) (U)

<u>R & R Location</u>	<u>November</u>	<u>December</u>	<u>January</u>
Kuala Lumpur	0	1	2
Singapore	3	2	4
Manilla	1	2	0
Hawaii	10	17	17
Tokyo	3	0	4
TOTALS	61	64	71

During this period nineteen personnel enjoyed in-country R&R leaves.

v. Education. Since the first of November 1968 twelve individuals have taken the High School GED tests. Seven individuals have applied for the College GED tests.

w. Artillery.

(1) Ammunition expended tactically from 1 November 1968 to 31 January 1969:

(a) 40mm	136,101
(b) .50 caliber	266,998

(2) Ammunition expended tactically since arrival in Vietnam:

(a) 40mm	1,100,382
(b) .50 caliber	2,021,518

x. Maintenance.

(1) Technical Inspections of wheel and track vehicles revealed scheduled maintenance services as well as operator's maintenance was not being performed. Battalion Maintenance has established a program of performing the 2d and 4th quarterly services on all track vehicles and the annual service on all wheel vehicles. Command emphasis has been placed on the performance of operator's maintenance.

(2) The improvement of the work economy and the development of the demand structure of the Prescribed Load List improved the status of maintenance during the last sixty days of this quarter. Work economy was achieved when a work bench was built to aid the clerks in processing requisitions. This bench put the work in front of the clerks and allowed them to complete the paper work in an assembly line fashion. This enabled the clerks to process twenty-five percent more requisitions during a normal workday. The demand structure of the PLL was increased as a direct result of preparation for the CMMI. The increase in the efficiency of the operation and the increase in demands raised the status of maintenance by making more repair parts readily available in the supply system.

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AVGL3-C

7 February 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report of 1st Battalion (AW) (SP) 44th Artillery
for Period Ending 31 January 1969, RCS CSECR-65 (RI) (U)

Section 2. Lessons Learned: Commanders Observations, Evaluations, and Recommendations.

1. Personnel. None.

2. Operations.

a. Positioning of Automatic Weapons.

(1) OBSERVATION. Automatic weapons emplaced to reinforce a defensive perimeter have often had occupied bunkers within the primary field of fire.

(2) EVALUATION. Needless casualties can be prevented by insuring the area to the front of automatic weapons is not occupied. To plan to withdraw personnel behind the weapon before firing is not an adequate solution.

(3) RECOMMENDATION. Supported unit commanders should be aware of this potential hazard and establish positioning priorities as appropriate.

b. Prime Mover for M55 Quad .50 Mount.

(1) OBSERVATION. The 2 1/2 ton truck being used as the prime mover for the M55 Quad .50 mount is overloaded.

(2) EVALUATION. The weight of the mount, sandbags, ammunition, crew, and section equipment exceeds the rated improved road capacity by 3000 pounds and the rated cross country capacity by 8000 pounds. Quad .50s, then, have no cross country capability. The effectiveness of the weapons system would be enhanced by increasing the load capacity and the cross country capability of the prime mover.

(3) RECOMMENDATION. The 2 1/2 ton truck should be replaced by a 5 ton truck as a prime mover for the M55 Quad .50 mount. An emergency MTOE requesting this change has been submitted by another unit. To increase cross country mobility and enhance flexibility it is recommended that four of the twenty-four M55 Quad .50 mounts be mounted on an M548 tracked cargo carrier and tested for effectiveness.

c. Log - periodic FM Antenna.

(1) OBSERVATION. A directional antenna is needed to insure reliable communications between battery headquarters and elements in remote locations.

(2) EVALUATION. Although the M42 Dusters are dispersed widely throughout ICZ, FM communications between the battery headquarters and elements in remote areas is feasible, especially if a directional type antenna is used at the remote location. For the past four months this battalion has tested an antenna in the Marine inventory with exceptionally good results. The antenna is a log - periodic type, AS-2236/GRC, manufactured by DCRE AND M. K. CLIP, INC, 2950 Veterans Memorial Highway, Bohemia, Long Island, New York. The square shaped antenna, mounted on its 35 foot mast, was emplaced at Hai Van Pass, north of DaNang. Reliable communications were maintained with the battery headquarters at Phu Bai, a linear distance of 53 KM. The manufacturer states that reliable communications can be maintained with the VRC-12 series radios up to 100 miles and up to 35 miles with the AN/PRC-25 radio. It is recognized that the headquarters antenna needs to be omni-directional in general. The advantage of the extended range using only one directional antenna, however, is evident.

(3) RECOMMENDATION. The Army should procure and issue a log-periodic type antenna. This recommendation has been discussed with signed officers and will be submitted through appropriate action channels.

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AVGLB-C

7 February 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report of 1st Battalion (AW) (SP) 44th Artillery
for Period Ending 31 January 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (RI) (U)

d. Radio Communications for M42 Duster.

(1) OBSERVATION. The AN/VRC 46 radio is not adequate for reconnaissance in force operations and employment of M42 Dusters as a reaction force.

(2) EVALUATION. MTOE 44-86G authorizes an AN/VRC-47 radio for each M42 Duster. None have been received in the past 3 months. Even the AN/VRC-47 is inadequate for the above missions, however, since the following nets must be readily available: battalion tactical net, supported unit net, platoon net, and Medivac.

(3) RECOMMENDATION. The RT 524 component of the AN/VRC-47 radio be replaced with an RT 246. The ten preset channels on the RT 246, with pushbutton frequency selection, in conjunction with the additional receiver would allow both rapid frequency selection and ability to monitor a second net. This configuration is standard for tanks. This recommendation will be included in an MTOE request.

3. Training. None.

4. Intelligence.

a. OBSERVATION. Intelligence gathering is everybody's job. All possible sources must be contacted.

b. EVALUATION. To rely solely on periodic INTSUMS and daily briefings by higher headquarters for intelligence is not adequate. Frequent visits to headquarters of supported units from battalion level up have resulted in an increased understanding of the general situation. Battery commanders and all staff officers have been encouraged to frequently contact the S2 of supported units, nearby MACV advisors and special forces units for information.

c. RECOMMENDATION. Units should seek and exploit all potential sources of information.

5. Logistics.

a. M55 Quad .50 torque tube drive pins.

(1) OBSERVATION. The torque tube drive pins are an essential link in the elevating system for the M55 Quad .50 mount (Ref fig 26, p. 77, TM 9-1005-209-20P). Frequent replacement is required.

(2) EVALUATION. The above pins must be checked frequently and replaced periodically, although the check is not listed in the before operation check list. A simple check is to push down on one gun. Excessive downward movement would imply that the pins are broken, allowing the torque tube gear to rotate freely on its shaft. Replacement of these tapered pins is a simple task, however the direct support unit must qualify and authorize the battery artillery mechanic to accomplish the work.

(3) RECOMMENDATION. Frequent inspection and periodic replacement of the above pins must be made. Battery artillery mechanics should obtain authority to make the replacement.

b. Repair and maintenance of exhaust clamps.

(1) OBSERVATION. The clamps which secure the exhaust stack to the engine exhaust manifold and exhaust muffler are frequently broken during the removal.

(2) EVALUATION. Unless repair work is closely supervised mechanics or crew members may attempt to reuse broken clamps by securing them with wire. As a result the exhaust stack may break loose during operation, causing a fire in the engine compartment.

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AVGLB-G
SUBJECT: Operational Report of 1st Battalion (AW) (SP) 44th Artillery 7 February 1969
for Period Ending 31 January 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (RI) (U)

(3) RECOMMENDATION. Extreme caution must be used in removing the clamps to avoid damaging the securing device. Should damage occur, however, the clamp can be repaired by removing the remaining parts of the old bolt; welding a $\frac{1}{4}$ X $3\frac{1}{2}$ inch bolt into position on one side of the clamp, and using a nut to tighten the clamp in position.

a. Location of M55 Quad .50 mounts in $2\frac{1}{2}$ ton truck.

(1) OBSERVATION. The M55 Quad .50 mounts are mounted almost directly over the rear wheels of the $2\frac{1}{2}$ ton truck used as a prime mover.

(2) EVALUATION. The above configuration, as recommended by the Air Defense School, is designed to allow for the use of the loading winch to move the mount onto and off of the truck. If a wrecker or VTR is utilized to emplace the mount, the load may be more centrally located and thereby be more evenly distributed.

(3) RECOMMENDATION. In locations where wrecker or VTRs are available the M55 Quad .50 mount should be centrally located in the bed of the $2\frac{1}{2}$ ton truck.

6. Organization. None.

7. Civic Action.

a. OBSERVATION. On the first visit to Phu Lii Hamlet to establish a MEDCAP program, presents were carried for the children.

b. EVALUATION. The presents were given directly to the children. The interpreter explained that the hamlet elders were displeased with this manner of giving presents. They preferred to make distribution themselves.

c. RECOMMENDATION. Although it is a natural impulse for American soldiers to give presents to Vietnamese children, old traditions, local customs, and desires of village elders must be understood and followed in giving of presents.

8. Survival, Escape, and Evasion. None.

4 Incls
1. Organization Chart
2. Significant Events
~~3. Map~~
~~4. ORL G/29~~
Incl 3 and 4 wd Hq DA

Douglas M. Eye
DOUGLAS M. EYE
LTC, ADA
Commanding

Distribution
2 cys CINCUSARPAC
3 cys CG, USARV
4 cys CG, XXIV Corps
7 cys CO, 108th Arty Gp

9

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AVGLCO (7 Feb 69) 1st Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report of 1st Battalion (AW) (SP) 44th Artillery
for Period Ending 31 January 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (RI) (U)

HEADQUARTERS, 108th Artillery Group, ATTN: AVGLC, APO San Francisco
96269, 12 February 1969

TO: Commanding General, XXIV Corps Artillery, ATTN: AVIT-AT, APO
San Francisco 96308

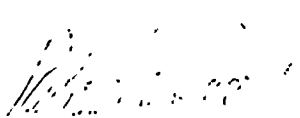
1. Concur with recommendations in Section 2 with the following comments
and exception of paragraph 2(d).

a. Paragraph 2(a). XXIV Corps Artillery has stated as policy that
occupied positions will not be in the field of fire of automatic weapons.
Also, the supporting command is responsible for informing the supported
unit of the dangers of employment of his weapons.

2. Paragraph 2(d). It is necessary to simultaneously monitor two (2)
frequencies. However, the medivac and platoon nets do not have to be
monitored at all times. The supported unit should have its own medivac
procedures and the platoon should be able to communicate in the supported
units net.

3. Paragraph 5(a), M55 Quad .50 torque tube drive pins. Concur with all
comments made by the unit concerned. Arrangements have been made with the
Direct Support Maintenance Unit to provide necessary training to the bat-
tery mechanics concerned in replacement of the torque drive pins. Upon
completion of training, mechanics are then authorized to replace the pins.

4. Inclosure 4: Operational Report Lessons Learned, G Btry, 29th Arty (SLT),
concur with the comments and recommendations made in Section 2 of Inclos-
ure 4.


ROBERT V. LEE JR.
Colonel, Field Artillery
Commanding

AVII-ATC (7 Feb 69) 2d Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report of 1st Battalion (AW) (SP) 44th Artillery
for period ending 31 January 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (RL) (U)

Headquarters, XXIV Corps Artillery, ATTN: AVII-ATC, APO San Francisco
96308, 7 February 1969.

TO: Headquarters, XXIV Corps ATTN: AVII-QCT, APO San Francisco 96308

1. (U) Concur with comments on 1st indorsement.
2. (U) Concur with comments and recommendations in Section 2 with additional comments included.

a. Reference item concerning prime mover for M55 Quad .50 mount, page 7, paragraph 2b; concur. This headquarters opposed this same recommendation on a previous ORLL because of faulty information. The idea is sound and should be implemented.

b. Reference item concerning log-periodic FM antenna, page 7, paragraph 2c; concur. The antenna was tested by the Corps Artillery Signal Section during a seven (7) day period and found to be very effective in increasing the operating range of the AN/VRC-12 series radios as well as the AN/PRC-25; this is due to the highly directional radiating capabilities of this antenna. The advantage of this antenna is that retransmission requirements are decreased, which will save personnel and equipment for other requirements. All units should request that this antenna be added to their MTOE to complement the RC-292.

c. Reference item concerning M-55 Quad .50 torque tube drive pins, page 8, paragraph 5a; concur. This headquarters concurs in both the proposal that frequent inspection and periodic replacement of the pins be made and that the DSU authorize unit artillery mechanics to accomplish the work. The unit should submit these recommended changes to the Command indicated in Chapter 1, Section 1 of TM 9-1005-209-20P.

d. Reference item concerning the repair and maintenance of exhaust clamps, page 8, paragraph 5b; concur. It is an excellent proposal that care be used in removing the clamp to avoid damaging the securing device, and in the expedient method of repairing. It appears that a more favorable clamp should be devised and the unit is encouraged to submit its ideas on an EIR.

e. Reference item concerning location of M-55 Quad .50 mounts in 2½ ton truck, page 9, paragraph 5c; concur. The wrecker or VTR to

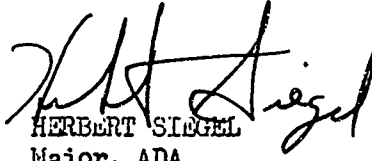
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AVII-ATC (7 Feb 69) 2d Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report of 1st Battalion (AW) (SP) 44th Artillery
for period ending 31 January 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (RL) (U)

centrally locate the mounts in the bed of the 2½ ton trucks rather than
use the local winch method, is a very sound suggestion.

FOR THE COMMANDER:


HERBERT SIEGEL
Major, ADA
Adjutant

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AVII-GCT (7 Feb 69) 3d Ind

MAJ Sanderson/dlp/2506

SUBJECT: Operational Report of 1st Battalion (AW) (SP) 44th Artillery for
Period Ending 31 January 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1) (U)

DA, Headquarters, XXIV Corps, APO 96308 4 APR 1969

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

1. (U) The ORLL of the 1st Battalion, 44th Artillery has been reviewed at HQ, XXIV Corps and is forwarded in accordance with USARV Reg 525-15.

2. (C) Comments on Section 2: Commander's Observations, Evaluations and Recommendations.

a. Reference item concerning positioning of automatic weapons, para 2a, page 7; and 1st Ind, para 1a. Concur with commander's recommendation as indorsed by 108th Artillery Group.

b. Reference item concerning prime mover for M55 Quad .50 mount, para 2b, page 7; and 2d Ind, para 2a. Concur with commander's recommendation as indorsed by XXIV Corps Artillery.

c. Reference item concerning log - periodic FM antenna, para 2c, page 7; and 2d Ind, para 2b. Concur with commander's recommendation as indorsed by XXIV Corps Artillery.

d. Reference item concerning radio communications in M42, para 2d, page 8; and 1st Ind, para 2. Concur with commander's recommendation as indorsed by 108th Artillery Group. The correct nomenclature of the desired radio component configuration is AN/VRC-12.

e. Concur with commander's recommendation at para 4 without further comment.

f. Reference item concerning M55 Quad .50 torque tube drive pins, para 5a, page 8; 1st Ind, para 3; and 2d Ind, para 2c. Concur with commander's recommendation as indorsed by 108th Artillery Group and XXIV Corps Artillery. The 1st Battalion, 44th Artillery will forward this lesson learned to HQ, WECOM, Rock Island Arsenal.

g. Reference item concerning repair and maintenance of exhaust clamps, para 5b, page 8; and 2d Ind, para 2d. Concur with commander's recommendation as indorsed by XXIV Corps Artillery. XXIV Corps Artillery has recommended the 1st Battalion, 44th Artillery submit an EIR for the exhaust clamps.

h. Reference item location of M55 Quad .50 mounts in 2½ ton truck, para 5c, page 9; and 2d Ind, para 2e. Concur with commander's recommendation as indorsed by XXIV Corps Artillery.

i. Reference item concerning civic action, para 7, page 9. Concur. The commander's evaluation and recommendation demonstrates the importance of coordinating with local advisors and hamlet chiefs before conducting civil affairs activities.

13

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DOD DIR 5200.10

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4 AP.

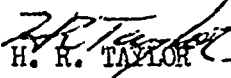
SUBJECT: Operational Report of 1st Battalion (AW) (SP) 44th Artillery for
Period Ending 31 January 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1) (U)

3. (U) Comments on Battery G, 29th Artillery ORLL (Incl 4):

a. Reference para 1c2(c), delete 3d Brigade, 82d Airborne as one of the unit's supported by the searchlight battery on 31 January 1969. The 3d Brigade, 82d Airborne moved to III Corps Tactical Zone closing there on 19 October 1968.

b. Concur with commander's recommendations, para 2b, 2bII and 2c without further comment.

FOR THE COMMANDER:


H. R. TAYLOR
CPT, AGC
Asst AG

Copy Furn:
CG, XXIV Corps Arty
CO, 108th Arty Gp
CO, 1/44 Arty

CONFIDENTIAL

24 APR 1969

AVHGC-DST (7 Feb 69) 4th Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 1st Battalion (AW) (SP)
44th Artillery for Period Ending 31 January 1969 (RCS CSFOR-65)
(R1) (U)

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

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 31 January 1969 from Headquarters, 1st Battalion (AW) (SP) 44th Artillery.

2. Comments follow:

a. Reference item concerning Prime Mover for M55 Quad .50 Mount, section II, page 7, paragraph 2b(3); 2d Indorsement, paragraph 2a; and 3d Indorsement, paragraph 2b. Concur with recommendation to replace 2½-ton trucks with 5-ton trucks as prime movers. This substitution would enhance the tactical mobility of the M55 system. Recommend a study be conducted in CONUS to determine the feasibility of utilizing truck cargo carriers as prime movers.

b. Reference item concerning Log-Periodic FM Antenna, section II, page 7, paragraph 2c(3); concur. This headquarters is initiating recommendation to Commanding General, USMACV to obtain the AS-2236/GRC for use in RVN.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



C. D. WILSON
1LT, AGC
Assistant Adjutant General

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

GPOP-DT (7 Feb 69) 5th Ind (U)

SUBJECT: Operational Report of HQ, 1st Bn (AW)(SP), 44th Arty for
Period Ending 31 January 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1)

HQ, US Army, Pacific, APO San Francisco 96558 8 MAY 1969

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

This headquarters has evaluated subject report and forwarding indorse-
ments and concurs in the report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:



G. E. HOVEYFIELD
MAJ, AGC
Asst AG

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ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

ASSIGNED

HQ & HQ Battery, 1st Battalion (AW) (SP) 44th Artillery
Battery A, 1st Battalion (AW) (SP) 44th Artillery
Battery B, 1st Battalion (AW) (SP) 44th Artillery
Battery C, 1st Battalion (AW) (SP) 44th Artillery
Battery D, 1st Battalion (AW) (SP) 44th Artillery

ATTACHED

Battery G (Machine Gun), 65th Artillery
Battery G (Searchlight), 29th Artillery

Incl 1

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10**

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SIGNIFICANT EVENTS (C)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>UNIT</u>	<u>EVENTS</u>
010600HNov68	D/1/44	Two M42 Dusters supported Co D/2/327 Airborne Infantry in a sweep operation vic AU 625011 for 4 days Expended 4467 rds 40mm. Results unk.
061440HNov68	G/65	Two M55 Quad .50's while escorting UMMC convoy to D-5, received enemy small arms fire vic YD 091498. Neg dam or cas. Expended 1200 rds .50 Caliber at sniper position. Results unk.
211200Nov68	D/1/44	A convoy was ambushed while passing through the Mai Van Pass. The ambush was silenced by 150 rounds of 40mm fire by an M42 Duster located at Mai Van Pass.
230800Nov68	B/1/44	Four M42 Dusters supported the 1/3 Marines for 3 days in Cordon operation north of C-1. Results unk.
251945HNov68	A/1/44	Two M42 Dusters while enroute to C-3 from C-2 received enemy RPG and small arms fire vic YD 130631. Four MED EVAC WIA. Damage to M42 was light.
262210HNov68	A/1/44	Two M42 Dusters at Ocean View expended 250 rds 40mm vic YD 289754 at unk size NVA force. Results - 1 NVA KIA confirmed.
281710HNov68	C/1/44	Two M42 Dusters at JJ Carroll expended 1370 rds 40mm at suspected enemy movement vic YD 0457 and YD 0659. Results 1 secondary explosion.
051030HDec68	C/1/44	75 rds counter battery fired by one M42 Duster at JJ Carroll silenced a 122mm rocket attack on a Sea Bee work party on Route 9.
151200HDec68	C/1/44	Battery Headquarters moved from JJ Carroll to new location at YD 178579.
27-31 Dec 68	C/1/44	Three M42 Dusters supported a platoon of marines in a reconnaissance in force operation in the Mai Loc Area. Reconnaissance by fire and interdiction missions were fired resulting in eight enemy KIA.
131830HJan69	D/1/44	LZ Birmingham stopped an attack. Fifty 75mm shell casings, five 75mm rds, 3 destroyed bunkers, and blood trails were found. 40mm tracers directed an air strike in the area.

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Inclosure 2

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UNCLASSIFIED

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